



# McLEOD NEWS

EDITION 6 MAY 2010

In this issue...

## OVERVIEW

**Victorian Transport Infrastructure Conference**  
P1

## WHATS NEW

**Other conference statistics**  
P2

**Hollee Hibberson Profiled**  
P2

**McLeod Rail Pty Ltd**  
4 Sunshine Road, West Footscray  
Victoria 3012 Australia  
P: 61 3 9619 5417 f: 61 3 9619 5418  
E: [admin@mcleodrail.com.au](mailto:admin@mcleodrail.com.au)

## OVERVIEW

### MESSAGE FROM THE OPERATIONS MANAGER

In this article we outline some recent facts and figures presented at the Victorian Transport Infrastructure Conference.

We spent some time at the Crown Conference Centre in Melbourne recently with another 500 or so people. We shared a common interest in the outlook for transport, and a common dislike for the overbrewed coffee you always get at these things (you would think that instead of handing out yet another pen or stress ball that someone would sponsor free cappuccinos!).

**Terry Garwood Executive Director of Freight, Logistics and Marine from Department of Transport** presented the following stats on Victorian Freight Mode Share:

|      |     |
|------|-----|
| Road | 89% |
| Sea  | 9%  |
| Rail | 2%  |

Terry believes that only 15 – 25% of the road freight is “contestable” by rail, but that would still obviously represent a significant increase if it were ever achieved. He reminded the audience that one 1,800m train replaces 120 to 150 trucks.

**Brad Smits of VicRoads** gave a very interesting presentation on the Springvale Road Rail Separation Project. Brad said 1,200 people were inducted onto the site over a 6 month period, highlighting the contractor numbers required to complete the project which has had significant benefits to both road and rail users.

**ARTC representative Angelo Demertzis** spoke about the North East Rail Revitalisation Project. He attributed the high production rates and low rail user impact to rail users to



using a fleet of high rail excavators plus teams of 3 which could get on and off track quickly. Angelo cited placement rates of 25 concrete sleepers per day per excavator and contrasted this approach with using larger track machinery which takes longer to relocate.

**Corey Hannett of the Department of Transport's Regional Rail Link Division** spoke about this significant project. Jointly funded by the State and Federal Governments (what a relief the funding is actually committed) the project will see 50km of new track built with capacity for 9,000 extra passengers across the network in peak hour. Corey explained that 29 expressions of interest from major contractors had been received, and the following alliance team had been put together to initiate the project:

Clients: V/Line, ARTC, MTM

Designers: KBR, Arup

Legal: Freehills, Phillips Fox

Commercial Advisers: Coffey, KPMG

Alliance facilitator: Alchimie

Negotiations with local authorities and land owners are underway, and planning changes will be required. The procurement model is still “under development”.

**Ian O'Brien**

McLeod Rail Operations Manager

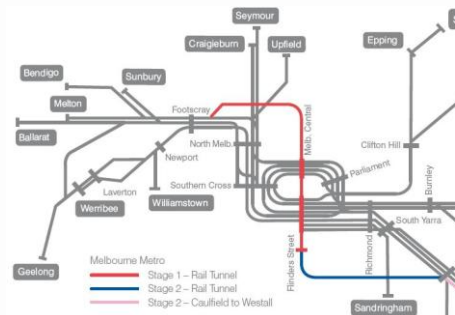
E: [ian.obrien@mcleodrail.com.au](mailto:ian.obrien@mcleodrail.com.au)

## Other conference statistics ...

- Planning for the underground “metro” project is underway. It is expected to be a “transformational” project, with significant potential for changed land use in areas like Parkville and around universities
- \$40m has been committed for planning an underground rail link between Dynon and Caulfield
- Public transport patronage is growing at 8% pa (five times population growth!)
- Rail patronage is expected to double in the next decade
- The Springvale Road Rail Separation Project cost \$140m. Prior to the project it was the highest risk of all crossings in Victoria
- ARTC revenue is around \$500m-600 pa, and they receive no recurrent federal funding (though \$4b is committed for rail projects under AusLink)
- The Federal Government has committed \$3.49 in funding to the Regional Rail Link Project (balance of funding for \$4.3 billion project from State Government)
- Melbourne trams spend 15% of their travel time stopped at intersections or due to traffic, the highest delay rate of any network in the world (the lowest is Lyon in France of 2%, where there is much more light rail with dedicated pathways)
- Extended clearways in Sydney Road have reduced tram travel by up to a minute from Moreland Road to Brunswick, seemingly not much, but it all adds up
- In the future buses may share lanes with trams
- Brisbane has three times as many dedicated bus lanes as Melbourne

- The \$38 billion Victorian Transport Plan includes \$115m of funding for cycling initiatives
- A trial of bike racks on the back of buses was not a success due the buses sometimes departing before the bike was removed!
- In 2006, 60% of people moving from cars to public transport cited petrol prices. Now only 20% or so cite petrol prices, and factors like global warming and exercise are more significant
- A 32m long tram can carry 200 passengers, equivalent to a 1.2km line of cars
- Some urban planners believe low rise, high density development should be encouraged along tram routes

### Melbourne Metro Rail Project Stages 1 & 2



From: [www4.transport.vic.gov.au](http://www4.transport.vic.gov.au)



**HOLLEE HIBBERSON**  
Trainee Supervisor

Holley joined McLeod Rail in March 2010 after 2 and a half years work in rail with Harsco Rail in Qld and NSW including MP12 grinding and admin duties.

#### Best part of job?

The variety of tasks - from outdoor labour to safety and admin.

#### Worst part of job?

Leaving home in the morning when it's still dark.

#### Funniest moment at McLeod Rail?

Getting caught in the rain on the ride to work and then getting a flat tyre and having to work in wet clothes all day!

Holley is the Employee Rep on our OHS Committee and has developed a Safe Work Method Statement specifically for Points Inspection / Cleaning as well as high task risk assessments and training materials.

#### McLeod Rail Pty Ltd

4 Sunshine Road, West Footscray  
Victoria 3012 Australia  
P: 61 3 9619 5417 f: 61 3 9619 5418  
E: [admin@mcleodrail.com.au](mailto:admin@mcleodrail.com.au)  
[mcleodrail.com.au](http://mcleodrail.com.au)