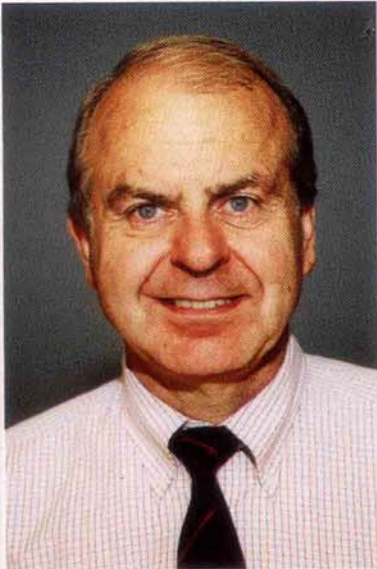


New Year – New Editorial Board Member



2006 not only begins with ERR becoming a bi-monthly publication, but we also introduce a new member to our respected panel of industry experts.

Mr. Poul Frøsig, UIC joins Andrew McNaughton, Gerhard Poll, Coenraad Esveld, Oldrich Polach, Klaus Konrad and Ignacio Barron de Angoitto to become one of the selected representatives of our core readership and we plan to utilise his knowledge and expertise within the publication.

On confirming his acceptance, Mr. Frøsig said: "I am happy to join European Railway Review's Editorial Board. It is good to see that the magazine is focusing on having key persons within the industry contribute to the features which readers can appreciate and learn more about projects and developments."

Mr. Frøsig begins his Editorial Board contributions by providing the Foreword on page 4 for this issue of ERR.

RENFE AWARDS CAF COMMUTER TRAIN CONTRACT



During a meeting on 10 January 2006, the RENFE Board decided to award CAF a six year maintenance contract for a batch of 40 CIVIA model commuter train units (200 vehicles).

The contract for CAF amounts to approximately €200 million and shall be performed as an extension of the previous batch (182 cars), currently in production, with the first delivery scheduled for May 2006, and with production scheduled to continue until the beginning of 2010.

Siemens has developed the traction equipment, and CAF is the main technologist, executing the whole project including computerised control, equipment and interior and exterior design.

The CIVIA model's design, flexibility and accessibility for disabled persons make it suitable for commuter traffic. Shared bogies are fitted and constructed in light alloys – reducing the weight which saves a considerable amount of energy.

www.caf.es

Optilan's "best year ever" for rail business

Communications services and systems company, Optilan, is reporting their 'best year ever' for rail business. The company, which has seen its turnover treble since 2002, has recently won fresh LUL, Network Rail and Channel Tunnel Rail Link works.

LUL works on the Connect Project for Fluor have been boosted by a turnkey optical cable supply and commissioning contract on the Victoria and Sub Surface Lines from Westinghouse.

Network Rail works have been coming in from a number of fibre and copper cabling commissioning contracts for the Fixed Telecom Network project, signalling upgrade programmes and a complete communications and CCTV system is to be supplied for the Temple Mills Depot on CTRL complementing the company's existing work as Communications Contractors for CTRL2.

"Our engineering mix enables us to deliver communications and cabling services right across the board, from Mainline Rail to Light Rail systems' says Optilan Chairman Tim Allen. "Optilan has worked in the rail industry since we started out in 1992, but this has definitely been a year to remember!"

www.optilan.com