JOB DESCRIPTION

1. Details

Job title: Track Engineer
Directorate: Standards
Post reports to: Professional Head of Infrastructure
Location: London

2. Job Purpose

The purpose of this job is to support RSSB’s members in achieving their objectives of improving safety and value for money specifically in areas concerned with Track Engineering and related interfaces. It contributes to delivery of the standards programme, support of the innovation, research and development programmes and provision of specialist advice within RSSB and to enquiries from industry. The job is needed in order to ensure that the work undertaken in the field of track engineering has sufficient and competent input.

3. Accountabilities

Provide competent technical input in the following activities:

a) Provide a level of understanding of track engineering and related interfaces to ensure that the range of RSSB’s work in this field is technically satisfactory to internal and external stakeholders1, including specialists in other fields.

b) Communicate effectively on matters concerning track engineering and related interfaces in writing and in person to ensure that decisions can be reached and issues can be resolved by technical and non-technical stakeholders.

c) Deliver track engineering expertise in forms including text, data, calculation and guidance, to ensure that timescales agreed with internal and external stakeholders are met.

d) Provide input to European and international standards bodies in the area of track engineering and related interfaces, to ensure that the GB stakeholders’ collective position is represented and communicated.

Interfaces related to track engineering include:

- Gauge clearance
- Platform – train interface and stepping distance
- Track geometry (layout) requirements
- Track geometry (in-service) requirements

4. Nature and scope

The job of Track Engineer includes providing expertise, providing guidance to aid understanding and gaining consensus. It applies sound engineering principles to conventional and innovative technologies and ensures that this particular area of railway technology interfaces effectively with other systems and with the operational railway as a whole. It also requires flexibility and willingness to become involved in related areas of work in RSSB.

1 ‘Stakeholders’ refers in particular to RSSB staff, its members and other GB rail industry representatives.
The scope of the job of Track Engineer includes:

- Applying technical principles concerning existing technology for track structure (ballasted and non-ballasted), track components, track support and related systems.
- Understanding interfaces between track systems and rolling stock, energy and train control systems.
- Maintaining expertise in specialist area and awareness of development of innovative technology and perception of its potential railway application to support the industry’s objectives.
- Adapting to consensus-based activities including GB standards committees and system interface committees, European and international standards committees and their GB ‘mirror’ working groups.
- Appreciating the range of approaches to system safety philosophy adopted by railways in different countries.
- Appreciating the role and purpose of different standards types: Railway Group Standards (RGSs), Technical Specification for Interoperability (TSIs), European Standards (ENs) and International Standards Organisation (ISO) standards.

This job reports to the Professional Head of Infrastructure as part of the Infrastructure Team.

5. **Principal accountabilities:**

a) To ensure that internal and external stakeholders are satisfied with the range of RSSB’s work in the field of track engineering and related interfaces:
   - Undertake technical reviews of existing standards documents and proposals for standards change relating to track engineering
   - Contribute to the assessment of predicted impacts of proposals and proposal review documents
   - Draft the proposed text for standards to achieve the purpose and deliver the intended benefit, and ensure that peer review is undertaken
   - Proof-read proposed text and ensure conformance with required terminology for intended readers
   - Draft the proposed responses to industry consultation comments on drafts of standards
   - Support the Chairman of Infrastructure Standards Committee in reviewing requests for Deviations, liaising with applicants and preparing for meetings

b) To ensure that decisions can be reached and issues can be resolved by technical and non-technical stakeholders:
   - Present proposals, drafts of standards and explanatory documentation at meetings of GB committees
   - Present the GB stakeholders’ collective position at meetings of European and international bodies
   - Apply track engineering expertise to RSSB’s innovation, research and development projects
   - Undertake tasks to address ad-hoc technical issues arising.

c) To ensure that that timescales agreed with internal and external stakeholders are met:
   - Work closely with the Project Manager in undertaking work of required priority and reporting progress
   - Work closely with the Decision Support Manager in complying with decision-making criteria
   - Provide deliverables to specific timescales to suit committee meeting dates
   - Provide informed buyer advice when external resources are needed and provide assistance in procuring such resources, checking the quality of product from bought in resources.
d) Provide input to European and international bodies, to ensure that the GB stakeholders’ collective position is represented and communicated.

- Present the GB stakeholders’ collective position at meetings of European and international bodies.

Opportunities could arise in this job to be the Convenor of European meetings, through RSSB’s work on behalf of BSI, via European Committee for Standardization (CEN) and BSI Mirror Groups.

5. Experience and qualifications

The Track Engineer is expected to be:

- Educated to degree level or equivalent
- A Member of a recognised professional institution
- Qualified to (or working towards) chartered engineer status or equivalent
- IT literate (Microsoft Office)
- Familiar with the principles of safety management
- Competent in applying appropriate decision criteria.

In addition, the competencies required to perform well are demonstrated in each of the following areas by the person who:

Communicates and networks effectively; successfully persuades and influences others; relates to others in a confident and relaxed manner

- Establishes good relationships with customers and staff
- Builds wide and effective networks of contacts inside and outside the organisation

Writing and reporting

- Writes clearly, succinctly and correctly
- Avoids the unnecessary use of jargon or complicated language
- Structures information to meet the needs and understanding of the intended audience

Applying expertise and technology

- Applies specialist and detailed technical expertise
- Develops job knowledge and expertise through continual professional development

Planning and organising

- Monitors performance against deadlines and milestones

Delivering results and meeting customer expectations

- Monitors and maintains quality and productivity

Following instructions and procedures

- Keeps to schedules.