



## **Digital Rail to take centre stage at Railtex 2019**

The term 'Digital Rail' is one which brings much discussion around the industry, as Network Rail seeks to create more capacity on an increasingly crowded network by modernising systems and adopting new technologies and innovations to lead the industry into the digital age.

Digital Rail will be placed under the microscope at Railtex 2019, the UK's leading exhibition of railway products and services, as industry leaders and experts come together to discuss and explore the challenges and opportunities that this transformation can bring.

A comprehensive programme of presentations, demonstrations and keynote addresses is soon to be confirmed at Railtex 2019, the 14<sup>th</sup> edition of the show, taking place at Birmingham's National Exhibition Centre from 14-16 May 2019.

The Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education (BCRRE) recently announced it will be presenting leading digital innovation and technology as part of The Digirail project, an ERDF-funded scheme which aims to establish a cluster of digital rail demonstrations to showcase long term innovation and support to SMEs developing digital products and services within the rail industry.

The Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education will present the Digirail project amongst other research and development tools which will support organisations working in the industry's supply chain. The BCRRE will be exhibiting alongside the Rail Alliance, with the two organisations ideally placed to provide leading support to SMEs in the manufacturing and rolling stock sectors.

A new Digital Rail Forum will also be held for the first time, merging project management with supply chain to allow a collaborative review of the Digital Rail programme, through thought-leadership, insight, sense testing, qualitative engagement and cross-fertilisation to ensure its goals are met. With keynote speakers set to be announced soon, this forum will help establish what a future digital railway can look like and achieve, with the support of the broad scope of industry sectors represented.

Kirsten Whitehouse, exhibition manager for Railtex 2019, said: "Digital is more than just a buzzword in the rail industry, it has a huge part to play in the modernisation of our network and making journey's better and safer for customers, operators and infrastructure owners.

"At Railtex 2019 we'll be providing an array of presentations, demonstrations and discussions to help suppliers and railway managers understand and discover how digital technology is transforming the sector. The scope for opportunities is huge and next year's exhibition is the perfect platform to discover them, bringing the biggest names in rail under one roof to share knowledge and do business. Whether you're looking for an event to exhibit or make connections Railtex 2019 should be on your radar!"

With a jam-packed programme of CPD-certified events to be confirmed in the soon, Railtex 2019 is the industry's ideal meeting place for companies serving all aspects of the rail industry to demonstrate their capabilities and meet their future customers. For information see [www.railtex.co.uk](http://www.railtex.co.uk).

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More information including the latest list of exhibitors is available at [www.railtex.co.uk](http://www.railtex.co.uk).

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**Note to Editors**

**Railtex 2019**

Railtex is the essential showcase for products and services for the all sectors of the rail market in the UK. The show is held biennially and has successfully served this market for more than 25 years. It is organised by Mack Brooks Exhibitions ([www.mackbrooks.com](http://www.mackbrooks.com)), which also runs the Infrarail series of railway infrastructure technology shows. Outside the UK, the company's regular rail industry exhibitions include SIFER in France and EXPO Ferroviaria in Italy, as well as Exporail China and India