

Briefing: Secretary

FOR INFORMATION

Post travel report: Regional Rail Project (Carl Yates, Carl Ingleton, Ron Devitt and George Peters) with RTBU Delegates to Beasain, Spain



Transport
for NSW

Purpose: To report to the Secretary on the recent overseas travel to Beasain, Spain, 17 June 2023 to 25 June 2023, for the purpose of reviewing factory facilities, resolving design issues, inspecting train construction progress to date, reviewing potential schedule mitigation measures and continuing consultation with Rail, Tram and Bus Union (RTBU) delegates.

Analysis: The key objectives of the trip were achieved. Daily meetings were held face to face with RTBU delegates, with Transport for NSW (Transport) and NSW TrainLink Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) in Australia providing on-line support to explain and clarify design and operational issues.

Summary:

Transport for NSW (Transport) representatives from the Regional Rail Project (RRP), Sydney Trains (ST) and NSW TrainLink (NSWTL) visited the Construcciones Y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles, S.A. (CAF) factory in Beasain, along with delegates from the RTBU to achieve the 'Purpose' stated within this report.

The Transport representatives had a diverse range of skills to ensure the detailed consultation outcomes for the trip could be achieved in the many areas of rolling stock procurement being assessed.

Key outcomes:

1. Simulators at CAF's sub-contractor facility were viewed and their capabilities demonstrated in terms of what will be supplied for training purposes and the diverse range of simulator types available.
2. A full day tour of the CAF Beasain factory focussed on the production, testing and quality assurance process for the Regional Rail fleet plus progress on its manufacture. The tour also included a detailed inspection of the Long Regional 02 train (LR02) cab.
3. A Transport and RTBU workshop was held where all issues from the April consultation (RRP office and Bathurst Regional Rail train mock up) and CAF factory inspection, in relation to the LR02 cab and operating model, were discussed. Potential changes to the train and operating model were considered along with solutions, if such changes were needed to address any issues raised.
4. A visit to the test track in Corella enabled Transport representatives and RTBU delegates to experience the track running and performance of the Long Regional 01 train (LR01) whilst moving under diesel and electrical overhead power. Note: the cab in the LR01 was not the latest cab design for the Regional Rail fleet.

Key learnings and outcomes

Visit to CAF Beasain Facility to Review Regional Rail Fleet Manufacture, Testing and Quality Assurance Process

The purpose of the factory visit was for the RTBU to see firsthand how the trains are built, the CAF quality assurance process, and the measures in place for Transport project representatives to have a watching brief over the process. Also available for inspection was the independent accredited testing facility where CAF demonstrated how it ensured components and constructed parts were proven to be compliant.

The Transport team will also take part in quality inspections and release hold points at pre agreed moments in the construction process. The RTBU met those representatives, and had their roles explained.

Union Consultation and Feedback

Prior to leaving for Spain, the RTBU and RRP held meetings in December 2022 (non-consultation) and April 2023 (consultation). Consultation/information sessions occurred at the RRP Sydney project office, and the Regional Rail train mock up in Bathurst. Numerous questions on the existing proposed design were raised, and where possible, closed out. In Spain, both Transport and RTBU personnel followed the consultation protocols. Once the first day's visit was complete at the Simulator facility, daily debriefs occurred between Transport and RTBU, separately and then jointly. Feedback by both parties was highly informative.

Resolution of Design Issues

Issues/queries that had been raised at the RRP project office meetings and visits to the Regional Rail train mock up in Bathurst were able to be discussed with the benefit of having seen the LR02 train firsthand in the factory. Some issues were settled purely by explanation in the new train. Operational questions were able to be clarified following the visit to the test track in Corella. The workshop held on the middle day of the visit (21 June) yielded a list of queries which has formed the basis of any potential minor changes to the train design. Both parties freely offered solutions in a truly collaborative spirit.

Anticipated Changes

A small number of changes are required to operate the new fleet similar to the 'Waratah like' operating model. Transport and RTBU also discussed the most efficient way of making any changes with as little impact on the train design and manufacturing process as possible. To that end, the changes are seen as minimal and can be introduced either prior to the commencement of testing and commissioning in Australia, during the testing process, or during a scheduled maintenance period.

Impacts from Anticipated Changes

As the proposed changes are minor and can be carried out in the time periods described above, the costs for the changes are of a lesser impact. The collaboration between Transport and RTBU led to a solutions-based approach which considered how changes can be made within the testing and commissioning operating framework, and the existing NSWTL operating model.

Communication Strategy

Informal ad hoc briefings were provided to the Head of Rail Fleet Delivery, Infrastructure and Place, and the CEO, NSW TrainLink, during the course of the visit, and regular communication was maintained with the project team in Australia. The Minister for Regional Transport has also been provided with a verbal update on the outcomes of the visit and the positive impacts mitigation measures have had on the schedule.

Alignment with Future Transport Strategy

The ageing NSW regional rail fleet of XPT, XPLOER and Endeavour trains is being replaced. More comfortable, safe and accessible trains are being purchased for passengers who travel from many NSW regional centres to Sydney. This includes travel to Canberra, Melbourne and Brisbane, and aligns with the Future Transport 'Successful Places' key outcome.

The Future Transport 'Sustainability' principle has been adopted in many parts of the project, including with the introduction of bi-mode technology to the new Regional Rail fleet, which is an Australian first, providing a more environmentally friendly rail service.

In alignment with the Future Transport 'Accessible Services' principle, the design of the Regional Rail Fleet is focused on accessibility and providing the features that are important to our passengers. The new trains will have modern and accessible features such as single-deck carriages, wider doors than the current fleet, charging points for mobile devices, real-time, internal and external visual displays and announcements, plus priority seats, accessible toilets and spaces for passengers using mobility aids. These features are guided by Future Transport's 'Customer Focused' and 'Safety and Performance' principles.

Disclosure Summary

Date	Organisation/Individual	Purpose of Meeting
17/6/23	Transport representatives and RBTU delegates travel SYDNEY to MADRID, SPAIN	
18/6/23	Transport representatives and RBTU delegates arrive in MADRID and travel to SAN SEBASTIEN, SPAIN	
19/6/23 AM	Transport RBTU	To confirm the week's itinerary, undertake pre-visit briefing and set expectations.
19/6/23 PM	Transport RBTU CAF Lander Momentum Trains	Visit the Lander Driver Training Simulator facilities and assess simulator types and how they will support driver training requirements.
20/6/23 AM	Transport RBTU CAF Momentum Trains	Visit the CAF Beasain factory and view the Long Regional train manufacturing and testing facilities, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bogie manufacturing • Car body manufacturing • General assembly

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Date	Organisation/Individual	Purpose of Meeting
		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Static testing • Other relevant testing facilities (“CTEST” / TCMS Laboratory*) • TCMS laboratory* inspection (next to the Assembly Line).
20/6/23 PM	Transport RBTU	Transport and RBTU hold separate debriefs, followed by a joint, face to face, ‘end of day’ debrief.
20/6/23 PM	Transport RBTU CAF Momentum Trains	Complete a detailed inspection of the LR02 cab, including but not limited to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • General overview / layout of the Cab. • Cab Desk • Cab Back Wall / Cab Side Body Door • Ingress / Egress • Front End / Animal Strike Structure
21/6/23 AM & PM	Transport RBTU	All day workshop to discuss issues raised from the CAF factory visit regarding LR02 cab and operating model, and from previous meetings between Transport and RTBU in December 2022 and April 2023.
22/6/23 AM & PM	Transport RBTU CAF Momentum Trains	Visit to 4.4km private test track to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess the CAF/Momentum Trains Long Regional train testing and commissioning process. • Undertake dynamic testing of LR01 and experience track running and train performance whilst moving under diesel and electrical overhead power. Witness transition between diesel and electric power modes.
22/6/23 PM	Transport RBTU	Transport and RBTU hold separate debriefs, followed by a joint ‘end of visit’ debrief and final revision of issues list.
23/6/23 AM	Transport CAF Momentum Trains	Transport representatives C Yates and C Ingleton met with CAF and Momentum to thank them both for accommodating the teams in the factory and test track. General feedback was the trip was seen as successful, and that the new Regional Rail fleet would be great for the people of NSW.
23/6/23 PM	Transport representatives and RBTU delegates travel from SAN SEBASTIEN to MADRID, SPAIN	
24/6/23	Transport representatives and RBTU delegates travel to SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA	

Next steps

The comprehensive ‘items for discussion’ list was reviewed and issued on the last formal day of the trip. That list was then used as the basis for discussions by Transport and RTBU in a series of workshops

to clarify any changes required on the trains, the operating model and possible EA changes. Costings and schedule impacts were also assessed to inform any decisions that require executive approvals.

Expense Summary

Breakdown of all costs incurred	Actual Cost
Airfares (x4) – GL 534030	\$17,545.68
Accommodation – GL 534040	\$7,166.97
Official hospitality – GL 534050	\$0
Attendance fees for delegates – GL 534050	\$0
Ground transport – GL 534050	\$381.57
Meals and refreshments – GL 534050	\$1031.87
Other miscellaneous costs – GL 534050	\$1122.54
Total	\$27,248.63

Traveller endorsement

Secretary

<p>Name of traveller Carl Yates</p> <p>Position Regional Rail P.D.</p> <p>Division – Infrastructure and Place</p> <p>Reviewed via EBN Date: 26/10/23</p>	<p>Head of Rail Fleet Delivery: Mark Stevenson</p> <p>Division – Infrastructure and Place</p> <p>Approved via EBN Date: 01/11/23</p>	<p>Deputy Secretary Infrastructure and Place: Camilla Drover</p> <p>Approved via EBN Date: 13/11/23</p>	<p>Secretary: Josh Murray</p>  <p>Noted Date: 14/11/2023</p>
<p>Name of traveller Carl Ingleton</p> <p>Position Technical Director, Fleet Integration, Technical Services</p> <p>Division – Infrastructure and Place</p> <p>Reviewed via EBN Date: 26/10/23</p>			
<p>Name of traveller Ron Devitt</p> <p>Position Deputy Executive Director; Fleet Maintenance</p> <p>Division – Sydney Trains</p>			

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Reviewed via EBN Date: 30/10/23 Name of traveller George Peters Position Director; Network Services Division – NSW TrainLink Reviewed via EBN Date: 26/10/23			
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**Please send your Post Travel Report, within 28 days from travel to the Office of the Secretary.*

Attachments

Attachment	Title
A	2023-06-19 Transport for NSW RTBU Visit to CAF Spain Itinerary - Final.

ATTACHMENT A:

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Joint TfNSW / RTBU Visit June 2023 – Proposed Itinerary **FINAL**

Date	Proposed Activities
Sunday 18 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTBU and TfNSW Team travel together from Sydney to Madrid • CAF transfers the party of 10 to San Sebastien – minibus
Monday 19 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Sebastien (am) TfNSW meet with RTBU in the morning to confirm the weeks itinerary, pre visit briefing and setting expectations (Hotel) • San Sebastien (pm) – Simulator at CAF sub-contractor Lander facility
Tuesday 20 June (Travel to and from factory supplied by CAF) * hi-vis and safety glasses will be supplied by CAF	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beasain (am) – CAF factory tour. • Beasain (am) – CAF factory laboratory to witness TCMS, ASDO, bi-mode and other train functionality systems.
Wednesday 21 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Sebastien (am/pm) TfNSW and RTBU all day workshop to discuss all issues raised from April consultation and CAF factory visit regarding LR02 cab and operating model.
Thursday 22 June (Travel to Corella test track supplied by CAF) ** Safety boots must be worn at the test track – TfNSW and RTBU to supply their own boots.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corella (all day) – 4.4km CAF test track to review LR01 (with incorrect cab) train, and experience track running. • San Sebastien (pm) – RTBU and TfNSW trip debrief and final revision of issues list
Friday 23 June (Travel to Madrid Airport supplied by CAF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • San Sebastien (am) – Debrief between TfNSW and CAF/MT • Travel to Madrid (am) – RTBU travel together to Madrid
Saturday 24 June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • RTBU and TfNSW (0900 Qatar Airways) Team travel from Madrid to Australia