RAIL FREIGHT PROJECT CHARTER DELIVERING 'LEADING HEALTH AND SAFETY ON BRITAIN'S RAILWAY'

1. Current position

Each Freight Operating Company (FOC), as a Duty Holder, has its own safety responsibilities, performance data and plans. The industry has signed up to 'Leading Health and Safety on Britain's Railway', a strategy developed by the industry for the industry. The successful delivery of this strategy requires close collaboration between FOCs. This is a step change from the legal requirement of the Duty of Co-operation.

Due to the extremely competitive market and rapidly changing sector developments the FOCs have a difficult task in balancing co-operation and maintaining a competitive advantage.

2. Target position

The FOCs and Network Rail, through the National Freight Safety Group (NFSG), have agreed to work together to:

- · Produce and maintain a common to all 'Top 10 Risks' associated with freight operations.
- · Identify risk control measures that lead to continuous Improvement in Health & Safety.
- · Determine and report on a common set of performance indicators.
- · Develop a Precursor Indicator Model (PIM) to determine freight risk and inform plans.
- · To learn from global events and consider these in plans.
- · Be assessed and be audited on the delivery of the strategy.
- · Maintain independent oversight of delivery to ensure balance between safety improvement and protection of competition.

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3. Analysis

Working together, the FOCs and Network Rail will:

- · Analyse the current joint safety performance of the FOCs.
- · Understand how other competing industries collaborate in sharing best practice with regard to driving improvement in Health & Safety performance without compromising competition.
- · Determine which systems are available to enable a common platform of data capture and modelling for risk reduction.

4. Stakeholders

- · Rail Delivery Group Freight Group Duty Holders (RDGFG)
- · Managing Director, Freight and National Passenger Operators, Network Rail
- · National Freight Safety Group (NFSG)

High level action plan

- · NFSG sign off an integrated plan with a common set of indicators agreed.
- Produce a Freight Scorecard for the Top 10 Risks.
- · Assessment of current collaboration and future levels of collaboration to be developed and implemented.
- · Steering and oversight implemented by RDGFG.
- · Develop a freight specific PIM.
- · Asses other industry best practice.

Success measures

- · Reduction of risk in rail freight activities.
- · Collaboration between Duty Holders is independently verified by ORR.

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