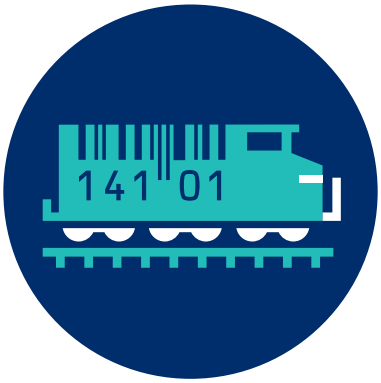
2020
Let's get moving with Project i-TRACE

July 2020



2020 is the year to get moving with Project i-TRACE, with the industry building on it's digital capabilities.

The Board of the Australasian Railway Association (ARA) has agreed on the industry-wide adoption and implementation of GS1 global data standards.

A growing number of rail organisations have commenced on their digital journeys under Project i-TRACE and are reaping the benefits that this initiative can deliver.

The ARA and GS1 Australia are now encouraging all relevant rail organisations in Australia to 'Get Moving' with Project i-TRACE, and to make 2020 the year to build on their digital capabilities using GS1 global standards in their businesses.

To ensure you are compliant with GS1 global data standards or to find out more, CLICK HERE for the **Project Overview** and CLICK HERE for the **Australian Rail Guideline Version 2.2**

The ARA and GS1 Australia launched a VIDEO **Project i-TRACE – Time to Get on Board**, featuring key messages from the CEOs of five of Australia's largest rail organisations - Australian Rail Track Corporation, Metro Trains Melbourne, Sydney Trains, V-Line and Queensland Rail.

The video explains how i-TRACE is central to their future digital plans and why widespread adoption is critical to achieving cross-industry benefits.

Project i-TRACE involves standardising the capture of data relating to all assets and materials in the rail industry, and in so doing, ensuring there is a strong foundation upon which the rail industry can build its digital capabilities.

Using a common, standards-based approach to identify and mark materials is critical across a range of areas. It will improve efficiency, lower costs and deliver better customer service by achieving more consistent object identification.

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The ARA is committed to realising the benefits of improved digital capabilities through Project i-TRACE and is working with industry and government to support its rapid adoption.

To rail businesses who have not yet commenced on their i-TRACE journey – **it is time to Get Moving.**

Businesses who fail to adopt GS1 global data standards run the risk of getting left behind and not taking advantage of the enormous benefits that this initiative has to offer.

These benefits include improved maintenance and repair operations; reducing costs by automating operational procedures and improving traceability which is fundamental for lifecycle tracking.

Project i-TRACE will also underpin automation initiatives as the industry moves towards greater digitalisation through the **SMART RAIL** digital route map.

Smart Rail identified improved asset traceability as a critical step in supporting rail's digital future, and i-TRACE is a fundamental building block to achieving this objective.

ARA and GS1 run an i-TRACE Working Group to help support and facilitate the project's successful implementation across all relevant rail organisations in Australia.

In 2020, the technical work agenda is split into three workstreams:

- **Material Master Data** – agree on an industry data set and process for exchanging material master data
- **EDI for Procurement to Payment cycle** – automating the Procurement to Pay process
- **Barcode verification process** – ensuring i-TRACE implementations meet ISO standards

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