

## RISSB product for prioritisation

Primary information			
Type of product being suggested:		Guideline	
Title of product being suggested:		Guideline for Configuration Management for railway contractors	
Date of suggestion:		08 February 2018	
Reason for suggestion:		In producing the RISSB Guide for Contracting in the Rail Industry, it was discussed and agreed between the development group members that the contractors in the railway industry can benefit having guidance on configuration management. Configuration management ensures the safety of the new systems being integrated in to existing networks as well as alterations to existing systems by assuring configuration information is available that demonstrates the new and altered systems are fit for purpose and system is recoverable to a known safe state if an unsafe situation occurs.	
Railway discipline area:		Safety	
Scope:			
The scope of the document will cover the planning for configuration management including configuration identification, planning and control in relation to a client network. It will include the responsibilities of contractors in relation to carrying out functional and physical configuration audits and establishing various configuration baselines during the contracting process.			
Objective:			
The objective of the guideline is to provide an easy reference for contractors in the railway industry on how to align their management of changes to the configuration of a client's railway network during execution of a contract.			
Hazard identification:			
1	Uncontrolled configuration changes can lead to accidents	6	
2	Incorrect configuration information records can lead to unmaintained assets that become unsafe.	7	
3	Incorrect configuration information can affect operational activities that lead to accidents.	8	
4		9	
5		10	
Benefits:			
<u>Safety</u>			
Configuration management is an assurance process in which safety of the system changes are managed and recorded appropriately.			
<u>Interoperability<sup>i</sup> / harmonisation<sup>ii</sup></u>			
It is a requirement of the National Rail Safety model to demonstrate appropriate management of configuration changes to rail assets.			

<u>Financial</u>
Up to date configuration management information will enable effective and efficient discovery of the current status of assets for their management and improvement thus reducing financial losses suffered from incorrect information being used for asset management and project planning.
<u>Environmental</u>
Assurance of configuration changes includes assurances that the environmental impact has been considered and addressed.
<b>Impacts:</b>
The level of configuration control and management, hence the understanding among the RISSB membership may differ.

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i Interoperability - the ability of a process, system or a product to work with other process, systems or products (aka compatible systems through managed interfaces).

ii Harmonisation - the act of bringing into agreement so as to work effectively together (aka uniformity of systems).