

26 May 2011

**Important: RIQC (RISAB)**

RISAS is the rail industry's supplier assurance scheme for critical rolling stock products and services. The scheme is governed by the RISAS Board, with cross-industry representation including Network Rail, infrastructure contractors, the Association of Train Operating Companies (ATOC), freight operating companies, rolling stock leasing companies, and suppliers, through the Railway Industry Association.

Together, the rail industry has asked RSSB as RISAS scheme manager and accreditation agency to work with one of the Railway Industry Supplier Approval Bodies (RISABs), RIQC, on a number of issues.

Following extensive discussion between RSSB as the accreditation agent, and RIQC, and in accordance with scheme rules and practices, **RIQC will not be continuing as a RISAB.**

All involved recognise that the impact of the decision will require careful management and immediate attention.

RSSB, as both RISAS scheme manager and accreditation agency, has developed an action plan to address the issues arising from this decision, and will work with all affected suppliers and RIQC to facilitate a satisfactory outcome. Indeed, direct contact was made by RSSB with most, if not all, directly affected parties yesterday. Further information will follow in due course, as and where necessary. I know from my own experience, that the RISAS team is built to manage situations like this, and that the high levels of professional chemistry all round will ensure RISAS continues to support mature safety management.

RISAS continues to operate as a scheme and indeed is fast becoming the industry 'standard' for critical assurance, and this issue does not affect the status of any other RISAB.

Network Rail, ATOC and the freight community continue to prefer RISAS as the principal means of assurance for suppliers of our most critical products and services requiring the most rigorous of assessments. Examples include overhaul of bogies and wheelsets and industry is progressing similar decisions for other rolling stock maintenance products and services. It's also the only existing scheme capable of meeting industry's requirements as single duty holders following last year's withdrawal of Railway Group Standard GM/RT2470.

If anyone has any enquiries about this matter, please contact the Scheme Manager, **Brian Evans**, [brian.evans@rssb.co.uk](mailto:brian.evans@rssb.co.uk) or telephone 020 3142 5353)



Ruud Haket  
**Chairman of the RISAS Board**