

Heavy-haul industry leaders to gather in Perth

Hheavy-haul industry leaders will assemble in Perth later this year for the 11th International Heavy Haul Association (IHHA) Conference. IHHA 2015 will be held 21-24 June at the world-class Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre and will be complemented by an exhibition of cutting-edge organisations operating in the heavy-haul sector.

The first IHHA Conference was held in Perth in 1975 as a meeting of rail industry representatives from around the globe to seek advice to resolve heavy-haul issues.

As these issues were not isolated to the Pilbara region of Australia, the group formed IHHA to allow the transfer of knowledge and to support the ongoing development of rail professionals. Since that time the IHHA conference has grown to become the international heavy-haul event on the rail industry calendar.

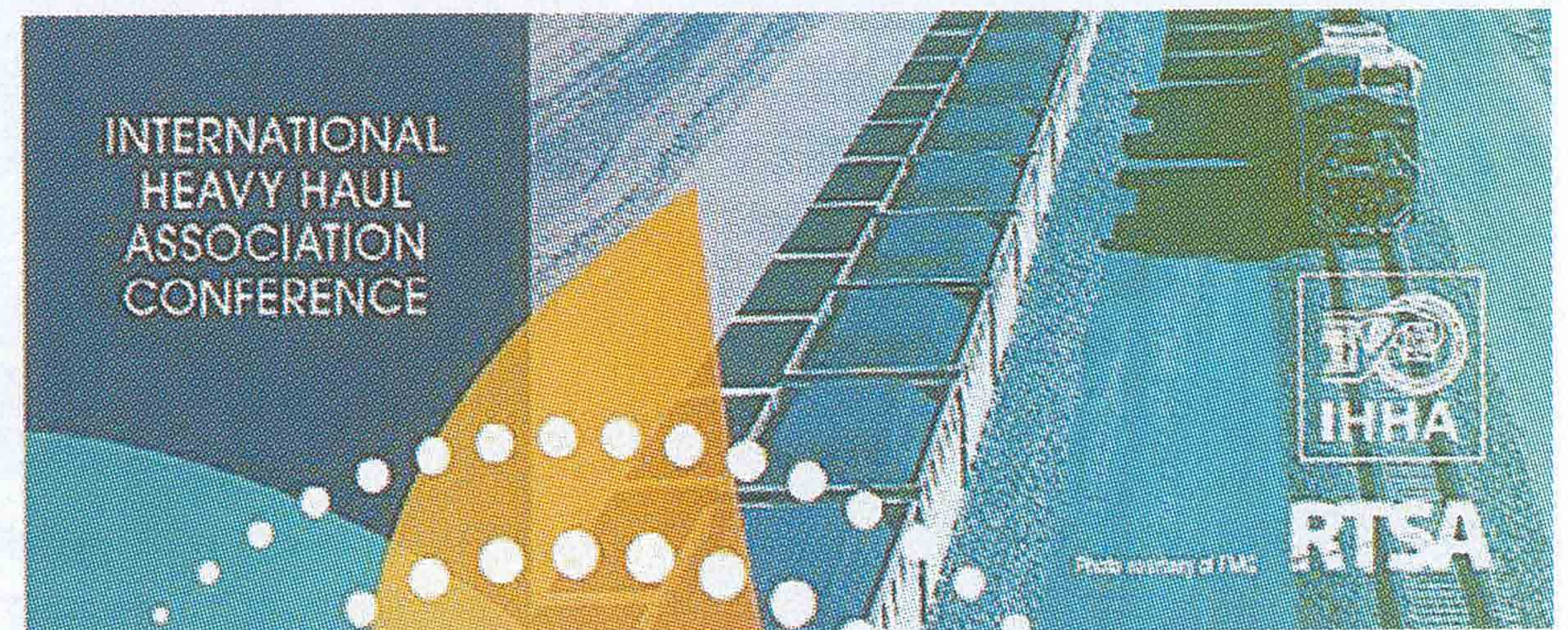
IHHA 2015 is co-hosted by the Railway Technical Society of Australasia (RTSA) and the opening session on Monday 22 June will be combined with the Australasian Railway Association (ARA) 5th Heavy Haul Conference in the Riverside Theatre.

Delegates from both conferences will have the opportunity to hear Mark Manion, executive vice-president and chief operating officer of Norfolk Southern Corporation in the United States, who will be making the opening keynote address at this year's conference.

The program for IHHA 2015 will include more than 200 peer-reviewed presentations from leading experts from as far afield as Scandinavia and Russia, which will be presented over the three days of the conference.

Early-bird registration savings are now on and represent excellent value for money at a fee of \$945 for three days of conference sessions, the welcome reception, a poster session, a gala dinner and a copy of the conference proceedings.

Online registrations for the conference can be made at www.ihhaperth2015.com.



Wheel-rail interface workshop

Preceding IHHA 2015, a workshop on management of wheel/rail interface will be held at the Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre on 20-21 June. The workshop will provide a unique opportunity for key technical managers in the Australasian region to have exposure to leading experts on wheel-rail interface issues.

The event will provide a training and discussion workshop on wheel-rail interface management practices.

The workshop will be based on the contents of the new authoritative textbook on modern best practices for management of the wheel/rail interface which will be released at the 11th International Heavy Haul Association Conference and provided to workshop attendees.

Non-heavy-haul railway engineers and operators would benefit. Many of the issues of the rail and wheel are the same; they just get out of control quicker on a heavy-haul railway.

When recently asked whether the workshop was useful for non-heavy-haul operators, Scott Lovelace, chief executive officer of IHHA, replied: "Yes, I think non-heavy-haul railway engineers and operators would benefit. Many of the issues of the rail and wheel are the same; they just tend to get out of control quicker on a heavy-haul railway. Most likely a non-heavy-haul operation will not see the critical events of a heavy-haul line but the principles underlining the workshop subjects will be the same.

If I was responsible for a non-heavy-haul railroad I would like my engineering people to be aware of these issues. There is no doubt in my mind this information/workshop will help them do a better job."

It will be presented by technical experts who have worked on the best practices book titled *Best Practices in Wheel Rail Interface Management*, which will be released during the conference. These experts will include heavy-haul leaders such as Harry Tournay, Semih Kalay, Gary Wolf, Mike Roney, Ravi Ravitharan, Darrien Welsby, Roy Allen and Brian Bock.

The workshop will be run separately but in conjunction with IHHA 2015 and will be subject to a separate registration of \$750. Organisation of the course will be assisted by John Leeper (retired BNSF) and David George (recently of the CRC for Rail Innovation).

Further information is available at <http://www.ihhaperth2015.com/workshop.html>.

Faiveley Youth Scholarships

In continuing the initiative of RTSA's CORE Conference series, Faiveley Transport has come on board to once again provide scholarships to students and early-career engineers/researchers who would not normally be given the opportunity to attend a conference of such significance.

Submissions are now open for the Faiveley Youth Scholarships via the IHHA 2015 website www.ihhaperth2015.com and will close on 21 April 2015.

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