FREIGHT RAIL NOISE
Wheel squeal and loco noise – is it getting quieter?

Date: Thursday 16 October 2014

Venue: Room G24, Electrical Engineering Building, UNSW, Kensington
Location ‘G17’ (room next to our usual ‘G25’) on campus map at

Time: 6:00 pm for 6:30 pm start (refreshments prior to talk)

Speaker: Dr David Hanson, Principal Technical Advisor - Noise and Vibration,
Transport for NSW - Freight and Regional Development

RSVP: Monday 13 October to Tracy Gowen by email tgowen@renzotonin.con.au
AAS members (and guests) are welcome to attend.

What causes wheel squeal and what can be done about it? How loud is a locomotive? How should freight rail noise be modelled? Where can I find information on locomotive source levels? This presentation will answer these and other questions relating to freight rail noise in NSW.

Addressing noise from freight rail operations is a key objective of the NSW Government Freight and Ports Strategy. Transport for New South Wales Freight and Regional Development Division is at the forefront of freight rail noise mitigation and works closely with rail operators and infrastructure maintainers. This presentation will focus on our programs targeted at wheel squeal and locomotive noise, including discussions of at-source noise control, modelling of freight rail noise, and results from recent monitoring campaigns. It will look beyond traditional noise control and touch on aspects of railway engineering, including rolling stock design and track maintenance, and how a working knowledge of these areas is crucial for effective mitigation.

David Hanson is the Principal Technical Advisor – Noise and Vibration at TfNSW Freight and Regional Development Division. He has worked in the rail industry for fifteen years, the last five being with RailCorp and then TfNSW. He has a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering from the University of Newcastle and a PhD from UNSW.