

Horizons

Forum 1 Program

9 & 10 October 2025
Deakin Downtown

Proudly brought to you by:

RiSSB
RAIL INDUSTRY SAFETY AND STANDARDS BOARD

National
Transport
Commission **ntc**

 **DEAKIN**
UNIVERSITY

Day 1 Thursday 9 October 2025

INTRODUCTION & WELCOME

8.30	Welcome from Deakin University	Bruce Gunn , Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Intelligent Systems Research and Innovation, Deakin University
8.35	Welcome from RISSB and introducing opportunities available to Horizons participants	Sharon Tang , GM Stakeholder Engagement – RISSB
8.50	Introductions	Matt Garratt , Facilitator

KEYNOTE & INTERACTIVE WORKSHOP

9.00	Exponential Futures and the 3H's of Innovation Workshop: Rapid Fire Innovation – the fast, low-cost way to Get Stuff Done (GSD)	Steve Sammartino , Futurist
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10.30 MORNING TEA

11.00	Workshop 1: Part 2 Idea generation, building MVPs, how to pitch, pitching contest	Steve Sammartino , Futurist
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13.00 LUNCH

PROJECT BRIEFING

13.30	Project: Overview and explanation	Matt Garratt , Facilitator
14:00	Panel Discussion: Prioritising harmonisation in the rail industry	Alan Fedda , CEO – RISSB; Michael Hopkins , CEO – NTC; Craig Dance , GM Train Services – V/Line
16:00	Close & wrap up	Matt Garratt , Facilitator

17:00 NETWORKING EVENT – LA DI DA: 577 Little Bourke St

Enjoy drinks and canapes, get to know your Horizons 7 peers and meet senior rail industry leaders

Day 2 Friday 10 October 2025

PANELS AND TECHNICAL PRESENTATIONS

8.30	Welcome to Day 2 - Deakin University	Professor Doug Creighton, Deakin University
9.00	Horizons alumni panel	Brian Lai, Rail Systems Interface & Integration Manager – DT Infrastructure, Liz Reddy, Chief Operating Officer – Yarra Trams Zoltan David, Director Safety Assurance – Mage Consulting
9:45	Rail technology and future fuels	Luke Gibbons, Senior Rollingstock Engineer Jacobs
10.30	MORNING TEA	
11.00	Scaling Risk Management Systems	Joseph Le, General Manager Safety, Environment, Risk and Quality – Yarra Trams
11.45	Robotics in the rail industry	Dr Zoran Najdovski, Assoc. Professor of Robotics and Human-Machine Systems – Deakin University Bruce Gunn, Senior Research Fellow, Institute for Intelligent Systems Research and Innovation, Deakin University
12:15	Panel Discussion Challenges with tackling industry safety risks	Dr Elias Gebretsadik, Co-Director Safe Sustainable Accessible Railway (S2ARail) GRIP and Principal Track Engineer – Monash Institute of Railway Technology Joseph Le, General Manager Safety, Environment, Risk and Quality – Yarra Trams Craig Dance, GM Train Services – V/Line Cris Fitzhardinge, Senior Standards Development Manager – RISSB
13.00	LUNCH	
13.30	After lunch challenge	Paul Draper, Standards Development Manager, RISSB
14.15	Rail Skills: Industry Risks, Opportunities and Solutions	Bradley Giddens, Head of National Rail Skills Reform, NTC
15.15	Leverage personal strengths to supercharge teamwork and collaboration (DISC Profiles)	Matt Garratt, Facilitator
16:30	Close & Wrap Up	