

Benefits

- Enable the practical development and furtherance of innovative rail industry solutions to market quickly
- Opportunity open to SMEs and universities to encourage innovative ideas into practical trials for a £750 application fee
- Up to 5 days subsidised access to a dedicated rail industry test and development capability within a controlled railway environment - the Rail Innovation and Development Centre (RIDC) in Nottinghamshire
- Up to 2 days of Network Rail engineering experts' time

Contact:

Applications should be made to **RIDC.RIDC@networkrail.co.uk** with 'EIT voucher' in the subject line.

Other funding opportunities

In addition to the testing vouchers scheme, EIT supports a wide range of funding opportunities to innovators and practical cross-industry demonstrator projects. EIT makes regular announcements about calls, competitions and enabling projects, and EIT is also open to applications for funding as expressions of interest at any time.

For more details go to: www.futurerailway.org/eit

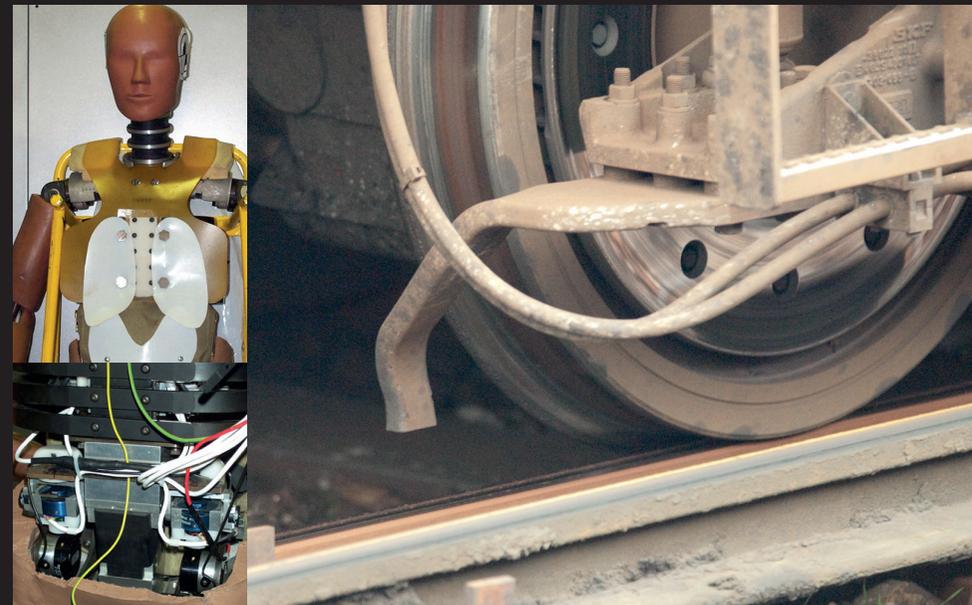
The Enabling Innovation Team has been set up by the rail industry to accelerate the uptake of innovation. Our mission is to offer support to practical cross-industry demonstrator projects, building on the work of the Technical Strategy Leadership Group (TSLG) but also seeking out innovative ideas and proposals from across the industry. Our approach is to: understand the challenges that industry faces; connect potential innovators with these challenges; and, where necessary with potential funding. The EIT reports into TSLG, and is supported by the Rail Delivery Group, Planning Oversight Group, and RSSB's Board as well as the Department for Transport.



c/o RSSB, Block 2 Angel Square, 1 Torrens Street, London, EC1V
1NY www.futurerailway.org/eit



ENABLING
INNOVATION
TEAM



Testing vouchers

How SMEs can get up to five days of subsidised access to the testing facilities at the Rail Innovation and Development Centre in Nottinghamshire.

A joint initiative with Network Rail



The background

Five days access to rail testing facilities and two days Network Rail engineering time for £750.



Effective innovation, requires effective testing and trialling to ensure risks are appropriately managed when new technology is introduced.

Testing assists innovative technology to quickly progress to the operational environment.

To give a boost to innovative ideas and developments, the rail industry's Enabling Innovation Team has teamed up with Network Rail to create a new Testing Voucher scheme.

The initiative is open to small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) as well as universities to get subsidised testing facility access for a nominal application fee of £750. This includes access to two days of Network Rail engineering time.

The process

Applications should be made to **RIDC.RIDC@networkrail.co.uk** with 'EIT voucher' in the subject line.

Successful qualifying applications will briefly describe a design with a practical potential that may be developed further by a rail environment trial.

If the outline application is passed, a more detailed application is made (when the £750 fee is payable). Mandatory criteria to be assessed include the objectives and technology readiness although business cases or safety benefits can strengthen applications.

Once passed, the testing can be done, the applicant collates the results and makes a Product Test Report which is reviewed by Network Rail and EIT.

The applicant can then review any further recommendations from EIT or Network Rail where relevant, and then use the information gleaned from testing to inform decisions.

