

Quick facts

Industry: Rail

Headquarters: CRC for Rail Innovation, Brisbane

Development and maintenance, ARRB Group, Melbourne

Website:

<http://railknowledgebank.com/Presto>

Inmagic Product: Presto Social Library

The Cooperative Research Centre for Rail Innovation (CRC for Rail Innovation), a collaborative venture between leading organisations in the Australian rail industry, identified a clear need for harnessing and centralising rail sector knowledge.

The core challenge: To create an online resource that effectively and efficiently manages knowledge for the rail sector

The solution implemented: Presto for Social Libraries

Overall result or benefit from implementing Inmagic software: Access is now being provided to a range of Australian and international rail knowledge through a centralised platform creating a vital resource for the rail industry.

Key Challenges

- Bringing together and building on currently held CRC for Rail Innovation and stakeholder content
- Incorporating a wide range of national and international rail sector content, including working to link disparate collections
- Storing electronic material where possible within the Knowledge Bank with full text searching capabilities
- Actively managing content so that material remains relevant and applicable to current rail sector research and knowledge requirements
- Addressing the potentially serious and compounding problem in coming years of the widespread loss of industry knowledge through significant levels of workforce retirement.

Why Inmagic was selected

- Presto Social Library provided capability and flexibility to manage the Knowledge Bank's diverse materials, with potential for future social media functions
- Knowledge Bank administrators were already familiar with Inmagic software
- Support from local vendor, Maxus, available in setting up and managing the system

Rail Knowledge Bank Benefits

- Rail Knowledge Bank Index – Creation of a sector specific taxonomy for indexing and browsing rail knowledge
- Rail Research Register - Working towards a central source for Australian rail-research activity while fostering international links
- Harnessing and promoting the knowledge of rail industry professionals
- Easily searchable access point for rail knowledge

Find out more about Presto

Contact Maxus 03 9646 1988

Email maxus@maxus.net.au

Web

www.maxus.net.au/presto.htm

<http://www.inmagic.com/what-is-presto-for-social-libraries>



"...the Rail Knowledge Bank now has over 1600 items, with 7500 pages viewed by visitors from more than 30 countries"

Image supplied by CRC for Rail Innovation

Launch

The Rail Knowledge Bank was officially launched on September 14th 2010 at the *Rail – Rejuvenation & Renaissance*, CORE 2010 Conference on Railway Engineering in Wellington, NZ.

About the CRC for Rail Innovation

The CRC for Rail Innovation is a collaborative venture between leading organisations in the Australian rail industry, including government, academic and private sectors, with support from the Commonwealth Government. The CRC for Rail Innovation is investing around \$A100m in rail research to meet participant and industry needs over the 7 years to 2014.

Information on CRC for Rail Innovation research projects can be found in the Rail Knowledge Bank. Details of CRC for Rail Innovation participants can be found here: <http://www.railcrc.net.au/about/participants>

About ARRB Group

ARRB Group maintains the Rail Knowledge Bank on behalf of the CRC for Rail Innovation, and is well placed to provide experienced support via its established team of information professionals.

Founded in 1962, ARRB Group's MG Lay Library today takes the lead role in national and international land transport information provision and knowledge sharing. ARRB Group is funded to undertake this role through the National Interest Services (NIS) program, supported by the federal, state and territory government road authorities. More information on ARRB Group's information services and NIS can be found here: <http://www.arrb.com.au/Information-services/MG-Lay-Library.aspx>

Taking the lead

Having delivered land transport information services in national interest for many years, ARRB Group Library was well placed to manage the Rail Knowledge Bank project. Initially funded by the CRC for Rail Innovation for two years, work began on the development of the Rail Knowledge Bank at the beginning of 2010.

Already familiar with Inmagic software, which has been used at the ARRB Group Library for more than 20 years, Library Manager Andrew Meier identified clear benefits in selecting a content management system from a familiar vendor: "Presto's features, such as its accommodation of a range of material types, simple search access and back-end management, combined with the ability to devise a customised taxonomy, offered strong support to the CRC for Rail Innovation's Rail Knowledge Bank vision", he said. "A year after beginning development the Rail Knowledge Bank now has over 1600 items, with 7500 pages viewed by visitors from more than 30 countries".

The Knowledge Bank runs on a virtual server hosted at a secure data centre in Melbourne. It is supported by Inmagic Partner, Maxus Australia, who takes care of the day to day running of the infrastructure, freeing ARRB Group staff to concentrate on managing information, not systems.

Maxus consultants are always available for support and advice, drawing on their experience with several other installations of Inmagic Presto and other software. Said Maxus Managing Director, Norma Tovey, "We are delighted to have the opportunity to be involved in this venture, which will be of great benefit to the Rail community".

It is expected that, with the committed and anticipated levels of industry collaboration, the Rail Knowledge Bank will not only provide an extremely valuable resource to the rail industry, but also serve to enhance Australia's reputation internationally as a leader in rail knowledge dissemination.