

NEWS RELEASE



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Railway Industry Association

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NEW CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCED FOR THE RAILWAY INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION

The Railway Industry Association is pleased to announce that Mr David Tonkin has been appointed by the members and the Board of the association to become its new Chairman.

In his role as Chairman David will lead the RIA Board, which is made up of senior representatives of the member companies and directs the activities of the Association. RIA is the pre-eminent trade body for the UK Rail supply industry, representing the interests of members big and small which have a total turnover of over £6bn and employees in excess of 30,000. He takes over from Gordon Wakeford, the Managing Director of Siemens Mobility in the UK, who has completed more than two years as RIA Chairman.

New RIA Chairman David Tonkin said: "I would like to thank Gordon for his hard work and dedication to the Railway Industry Association, steering the change from its historical unincorporated status to be a registered company, as well as overseeing the appointment of new RIA Chief Executive, Darren Caplan, earlier this year.

"I am delighted to be back formally within the rail industry, an industry that I have always held a particular passion for. I am equally excited to be working with new RIA Chief Executive Darren Caplan and the Board to ensure RIA is front and centre in driving the case for a thriving and successful rail industry, fundamental to enabling the Government's ambition for the UK."

Ends

Notes to Editors:

1. David Tonkin was previously CEO of Atkins UK & Europe, the multidisciplinary design engineering company that provides services to many industries in the UK and worldwide including a significant focus on the railway sector. David has also had a long association with RIA as a member of its Council for 8 years, Chair of its finance committee and previously overall RIA Chair for two years. David is now pursuing a plural career following stepping down from Atkins in August 2015 and is active in a number of advisory or non-executive positions.

2. A photo of David Tonkin is attached.

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3. The Railway Industry Association is the long-established trade association for the UK railway supply industry. Its member companies include manufacturers, maintainers, contractors, consultants and suppliers of specialist services. For further information, see our website at www.riagb.org.uk/ or contact Graham Coombs, Communications Director, on 020 7201 0777.

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