## comment

Published by The Society of Operations Engineers

President Adam Fraser-Hitchen CEng FSOE

The Society of Operations Engineers is a licensed member of the Engineering Council.

Registered in England Company No 3667147

Registered Charity No 1081753

A Company Limited by Guarantee

Registered Office

22 Greencoat Place, London SW1P 1PR Tel: 020 7630 1111 Fax: 020 7630 6677

Editor Will Dalrymple Email: will.dalrymple@markallengroup.com

Contributing Editors
Steve Banner, John Challen,
Toby Clark, Laura Cork, Dan Gilkes,
Peter Shakespeare, Richard Simpson,
Chris Tindall, Lucy Radley, Brian Wall

Production Manager Nicki McKenna

Email: nicki.mckenna@markallengroup.com

Advertisement Manager

Craig Mollov Email: craig.molloy@markallengroup.com Tel: 01322 221144

Publisher

Jon Benson

**Transport Engineer** is the official journal of the IRTE, a professional sector of the SOE.

Produced on behalf of the IRTE by

MA Business
Hawley Mill, Hawley Road,
Dartford, Kent DA2 7TJ
Tel: 01322 221144

www.transportengineer.org.uk

nsport Enginee

is distributed free of charge to SOE members, dependent on membership sector. For non-members, the annual subscription rate (12 issues) is £79.50 UK and EU, or £81.50 airmail outside EU. For other SOE members, the discounted rate is £32.

Printed by Pensord Press UK

ISSN 0020-3122





Some of the articles and guidance included in Transport Engineer may make a contribution to your personal CPD requirements.

Please read our privacy policy, by visiting http://privacypolicy.markallengroup.com. This will explain how we process, use and safeguard your data.

Views expressed in Transport Engineer are s expressed in Transport Engineers e of the writers and do not necessarily ct the views of The Society of Operations Engineers or of MA Business

© 2021 The Society of Operations Engineers

**MA Business** <u>Mark</u> Allen







## Change is upon us

he world's first motorised truck was sold by inventor Gottlieb Daimler to London's British Motor Syndicate 125 years ago this year. Since then, four generations have benefited from this technology to travel and transport goods. Proof, if any is needed, of the impact that engineering has on global development.

It is no coincidence that this same truck manufacturer has recently announced its plans to work with BP on developing a new transportation network for hydrogen fuel; an element that can be completely separated from the fossil fuel supply chain. More widely, last month's COP26 saw the UK confirm a 2040 phase-out date for diesel engines for even the largest goods vehicles. An air of change is crossing the UK's roads.

It strikes me that the last decade has seen a conscious awakening of the importance of protecting the environment we live in. And especially so among the younger generations, the generations that have been exposed to this key issue since their school years. What a great example of how elders can learn from the younger members of the Society.

With any new technology, there are early adopters who seize on every new development and there are also those who are a little more sceptical - albeit open-minded - who want to see the technology mature before making a move. My challenge to you all is to use your engineering skills and experience to convince others that the innovative gains being made in our industry are central to the health of the global environment.

As engineers, we are all problem-solvers. I struggle to think of a problem as significant as the long legacy of environmentally damaging behaviours and processes. As engineers, our ability to influence and impact the development of low- and zero-carbon forms of transportation is high. We should aim to push ourselves and others into the early

adopter category, to get these solutions to the point where the average man and woman in the street understand positive change and are willing to contribute towards it. If this isn't our key responsibility as professional engineers for the 21st century, I don't know what is.

Adam Fraser-Hitchen

**President, Society of Operations Engineers** 

To reach shortened URLs in the magazine - www.is.gd/xxxxxx - type the whole link into the address window of your web browser.