

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Rail Forum welcomes TDI as Manufacturing Partner and launches manufacturing support activities

Rail Forum is thrilled to announce that Transport Design International (TDI) has become our Manufacturing Partner for our 2024-2025 membership year. This complements a new stream of support activities for our members that draws attention to the breadth of capability of UK manufacturing in rail.

**Geoff Newman, Chief Operating Officer at TDI said:** "Transport Design International are delighted to be supporting the Rail Forum as their Manufacturing Partner this year. With a UK contract in place and growing UK and international interest in our VLR technologies, TDI will be opening a new build facility in the Midlands, this will become the manufacturing and technical centre for the business. This is an exciting time to be working with Rail Forum and we are looking forward to flying the flag for UK Manufacturing and creating more opportunities across our local and national supply chain."

**Elaine Clark, CEO at Rail Forum said**: "TDI's focus on UK supply chain in their existing builds sets a great example and we are proud to be working in partnership with them as our Manufacturing Partner. There is extensive rail manufacturing capability within our membership and we are delighted to introduce a new stream of support that will shine a spotlight on this to both the domestic and also international markets."

The announcement of our Manufacturing Partner goes hand in hand with the launch of a new stream of support focused on manufacturing; for which a third of our members are actively involved. This support is being developed directly with our members and is led by our Manufacturing Steering Group comprising <u>BCM GRC</u>, <u>Cembre</u>, <u>Composite Braiding</u>, <u>CWE</u>, <u>Datum</u>, <u>Hydram</u>, <u>Infotec</u> and <u>Signal House Group</u> and <u>TDI</u>.



Activities to highlight the range and depth of capability will commence with a social media campaign in June which focuses on 'Made in Britain'; we encourage all our Manufacturing members to participate in this and look forward to formally announcing the campaign in due course.

#### -Ends-

#### Supporting Photos:



Pictured (L-R): Geoff Newman, TDI and Elaine Clark, Rail Forum



#### For further information contact:

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#### **About Rail Forum**

Based in Derby Rail Forum is a national industry body with strong regional connections. Our almost 400 members provide products and services across all aspects of the industry. Rail Forum actively supports the national rail agenda and strategy, encouraging collaboration, promoting members' capabilities, leading a number of skills initiatives and supporting, safety, innovation and export priorities. Rail Forum is owned and governed by its members with a Board drawn from member companies.

#### www.railforum.uk

#### About Transport Design International (TDI)

Transport Design International (TDI) are market leaders in the design and manufacture of lightweight, mass transit solutions for the transport industry. With 30 years' experience in the rail industry, their Very Light Rail product platforms Revolution VLR, Lync VLR and Orbit run on lower-cost infrastructure and offer more affordable transport solutions. Their product portfolio offers platform and kerb height vehicle solutions and single or multi-car options for both urban and rural routes. All projects are aimed at achieving the company's sustainable goals of zero-carbon functionality for a greener future.

https://transportdesigninternational.com/