



SHORT LIST

Key research themes:
Railway track dynamics; railway settlement; hyperloop

David Connolly
University of Leeds

Category: Rail

Country: United Kingdom

Professor Connolly is an expert in railway track dynamics and settlement with over 100 publications to his name. He is the leader and coordinator of the H2020 project IN2ZONE (The Next Generation of Railway Transition Zones, 2020-23). The aim of IN2ZONE is to develop and manufacture new self-correcting sleeper technologies for transition zones, which offer a step-change reduction in maintenance requirements compared to existing solutions. In addition to conventional railway systems he is also contributing to novel concepts such as Hyperloop. HYPERNEX (Ignition of the European Hyperloop Ecosystem, 2020-22) focuses on developing the European hyperloop ecosystem and the melding of R&D institutions, industry actors, regulators and societal needs with hyperloop developers.



SHORT LIST

Key research themes:
Rail Infrastructure, Passenger & Freight Terminals, Rail Carbodies

Stefano Ricci
Sapienza University of Rome

Category: Rail

Country: Italy

As a founder member of EURNEX (European rail research network of excellence, 2004-08) Professor Ricci clearly has a long-standing interest in supporting the rail research community in Europe. Today EURNEX is a fully recognized association, presented in ERRAC and actively participating and promoting research activities. He has engaged in many research projects supported by industry, national bodies and the EU. Recent projects include two from the SHIFT2RAIL Joint Undertaking CARBODIN (Car Body Shells, Doors and Interiors, 2019-22) and GEARBODIES (Innovative Technologies for Inspecting Carbodies and for Development of Running Gear, 2020-22).