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GH/CJB

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**Professor of Environmental Fluid Mechanics
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Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education

Thursday 18th March 2010 at 5.00pm,

James Watt Lecture Theatre, Civil and Mechanical
Engineering Building, University of Birmingham

High Speed Rail – The 21st Century Transport Solution? Professor Andrew McNaughton, Chief Engineer of High Speed Two

I would like to invite you to attend the above lecture to hear Professor Andrew McNaughton speak about the technical and environmental challenges of developing High Speed Rail. Further details are given overleaf.

Following Professor McNaughton's talk, there will be a buffet and drinks reception, sponsored by the [Rail Alliance](#). Registration for this event is **FREE** and to secure your place, please visit the University of Birmingham's online shop: www.bhamonlineshop.co.uk/events/eventdetails.asp?eventid=153, by 12.00 noon on Monday 15th March 2010.

For more information please see http://www.eng.bham.ac.uk/civil/news_events.shtml or contact me via C.J.Baker@bham.ac.uk.

I do hope that you will be able to attend.

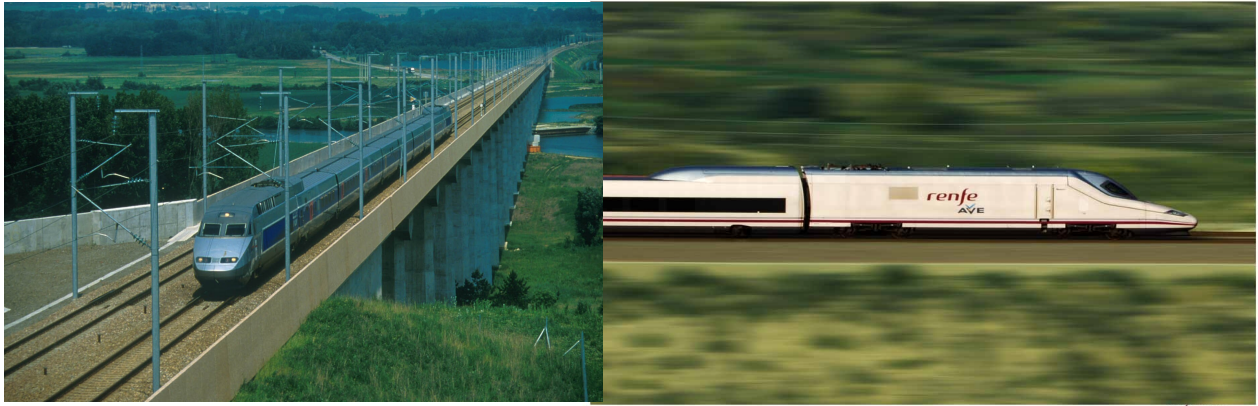
Yours sincerely

Professor Chris Baker

Director – Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education

The lecture - High Speed Rail – The 21st Century Transport Solution?

High Speed Rail has been developed successfully in Europe and Asia to enable a step change in passenger journey times and reliability over conventional rail and provide a genuine alternative to short haul air and long distance motorway travel, promoting economic growth in many countries around the world. The talk will describe the technical challenges of developing High Speed Rail in general and specifically within the particular physical and economic geography of Great Britain. It will cover environmental and energy use implications along with the realities of potential modal shift from car and plane. Finally, some possible network shapes will be discussed, setting the potential opportunities for 21st Century Britain in a wider economic and sustainability context.



The lecturer - Professor Andrew McNaughton FREng

Andrew McNaughton is Chief Engineer of High Speed Two, the company established in February 2009 to develop high speed rail in Great Britain. He is also Special Professor of Rail Engineering at Nottingham University. He has been engaged in railway engineering and management since 1973. His first twenty years in British Rail were engaged in maintenance, renewal and upgrade work including leading the rebuilding of Kent's railways for the first decade of Channel Tunnel operation. In 1993 he joined Railtrack, becoming Head of Production and subsequently Director, Great Western. From 2001, as Chief Engineer, Network Rail, he led the recovery of the GB rail network, re-creating a professional engineering function of all disciplines including human performance. He is a Fellow of the Royal Academy of Engineers and the Institution of Civil Engineers. In Europe he is Vice Chairman of the EU Transport Advisory Group, and Chairman of both the International Railway Union's Infrastructure Commission and the European Rail Research Advisory Council.

