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Tender

904724896 T1350 Understanding root causes and preventing freight wagon wheel flats Work Package 3 – Static Brake Testing of Freight Vehicles

Rail Safety Standards Board (RSSB)

UK4: Tender notice - Procurement Act 2023 - [view information about notice types](#)

Notice identifier: 2025/S 000-057498

Procurement identifier (OCID): ocds-h6vhtk-059c9f ([view related notices](#))

Published 17 September 2025, 5:09pm

Scope

Reference

904724896 T1350

Description

At the highest level, this work package seeks to provide missing empirical data which will support decision making and modelling to better understand how the behaviour of freight braking systems impact on the generation of wheel flats.

This project will seek to characterise and document the behaviour of freight braking systems in real world settings. In combination with the other work packages, the outputs of this study will be used to inform the conclusions of the project overall and will provide useful input to other research activities on freight safety. Specifically, the outputs from this work package will support the research in characterising longitudinal compressive forces in freight (T1352), and the investigation into the factors impacting freight braking in low adhesion (T1351).

The outputs will be achieved through a variety of static brake tests of real freight trains. The specific objectives of the project will be to:

1. Identify suitable testing parameters or categorisation to prioritise testing and agree a test regime.
2. Understand the performance of different locomotives.
3. Understand how braking behaviour varies with different vehicles, brake setups and components.
4. Understand how brake timing and brake force varies down the length of a long train.
5. Understand how different charging/overcharge procedures influence the behaviour of braking systems.

Whilst delivering these objectives will have implications on freight braking and deceleration performance. The primary objective of this work is to support research in the topic of freight safety.

For more information about this opportunity, please visit the Delta eSourcing portal at:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/tenders/UK-UK-London:-Research-services./K266X6W9A8>

To respond to this opportunity, please click here:

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/respond/K266X6W9A8>

Total value (estimated)

- £120,000 excluding VAT
- £144,000 including VAT

Below the relevant threshold

Contract dates (estimated)

- 10 November 2025 to 10 April 2026
- 5 months, 1 day

Main procurement category

Services

CPV classifications

- 73110000 - Research services

Participation

Particular suitability

- Small and medium-sized enterprises (SME)
- Voluntary, community and social enterprises (VCSE)

Submission

Enquiry deadline

3 October 2025, 12:00pm

Tender submission deadline

17 October 2025, 12:00pm

Submission address and any special instructions

<https://www.delta-esourcing.com/>

Tenders may be submitted electronically

No

Award criteria

Name	Type	Weighting
W2 Tenderer's understanding and methodology [Max 4 pages]	Quality	30%
W3 Tenderer's experience and individual expertise [Max 3 pages, excluding CVs]	Quality	25%
W4 Project management: Planning and engagement [Max 3 pages, excluding Gantt and Resource table]	Quality	20%
W6 Price	Price	20%
W5 Project management: Risks and opportunities	Quality	5%

Procedure

Procedure type

Below threshold - open competition

Contracting authority

Rail Safety Standards Board (RSSB)

- Public Procurement Organisation Number: PVGN-9767-BLPT

25 Fenchurch Avenue,

London

EC3M 5AD

United Kingdom

Contact name: Procurement Team

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Email: Procurement@RSSB.co.uk

Region: UKI31 - Camden and City of London

Organisation type: Public undertaking (commercial organisation subject to public authority oversight)