

TECHNICAL TOURS

Melbourne's DG Regional & Interstate Link



Hosted by V/Line

Location: North Melbourne Station

Date: 16 May 2016

Times: 10:00am, 11:00am, 1:00pm and 2:00pm

Duration: 1 hour

Cost: \$25 per person

Capacity: 6 Pax each tour

Transportation: Tours depart from North Melbourne Station which is accessible by the Melbourne Metro rail system

Fitting Four tracks into space for Two – Dual Gauge Solution

Space is a limited resource in inner suburban Melbourne, with a vast array of competing interests for the available real estate. The limited space available in Melbourne for passenger rail needs to accommodate electrified broad gauge suburban services, non-electrified broad gauge regional services, and standard gauge regional and interstate services. To enhance system performance, electrified services are segregated from non-electrified services. The limited space has resulted in most regional services and all interstate services connecting into Melbourne via two unidirectional dual gauge lines from Southern Cross Station through to North Melbourne.

The use of conventional dual gauge crossing-work with diverse rolling-stock has identified several issues, which were highlighted by the derailment of the interstate XPT service soon after commissioning of the new track. V/Line is working with VCA to redesign all dual gauge crossing work, and will have the first production units installed at Nth Melbourne in May 2016. The walking tour, starting at North Melbourne Station, will examine the dual gauge track in service. The functionality, technical and performance aspects of the dual gauge track will be described in detail; and in particular the challenges of implementing dual gauge with two not very dissimilar gauges.

