



## Delay Attribution Guide Renaming Briefing Document

### **What's changing?**

The *Delay Attribution Guide* is being renamed to the *Delay Attribution Principles and Rules*.

This means the acronym will change from the 'DAG' to 'DAPR'.

In parallel with the name change, the DAPR will be reformatted into a Rule Book Style document.

### **When is it changing?**

The DAG will become the DAPR as of 1<sup>st</sup> June 2017.

### **Why is it changing?**

The DAG, by incorporation in the Network Code, is in fact a contractual document but due to retaining the word 'Guide' in its title has meant its status and the perception of it never really changed.

The renaming is long overdue and particularly timely given the concerns being raised at DAB regarding attribution application in various areas.

Having 'Principles and Rules' in the title better reflects the document's true standing and what it is designed to provide to Industry.

As part of this name change the final element of the reformatting work stream will also take effect – namely the reformatting into a Rule Book style document.

### **What are the benefits?**

Whilst the DAPR is essentially the same document as the DAG the name change will give it an improved status and standing – what is contained is far more than that of a straightforward guide; setting out the general rules and most importantly the basic principles of attribution.

The reformatting will also improve readability and referencing.

Additionally, the DAPR will be able to be published in a loose leaf ring binder style (for those that want it in hardcopy) and once printed only revised pages / sections will need to be replaced going forwards. This will save significant costs for the Industry in reprinting the whole document every six months.



It will also allow for changes to be made at appropriate times during the year – there will be no need to restrict revisions to the normal April and September re-issues.

It should also remove any need to renumber or reformat the document on a regular basis. Any alterations or new entries can easily be slotted into the relevant section of the DAPR without affecting the rest of the document.

#### **Some Related Questions and Answers:-**

**Q** - Does having 'Rules' in the title mean the DAPR is now a Rule Book that must be followed stringently?

**A** – As now with the DAG, the DAPR cannot cover every single situation or permutations of incidents and thus the focus is on providing the general Rules of attribution but critically the Principles – if the exact scenario is not covered there will be a similar situation described within the document. The DAPR can never be a book of Rules containing definitive scenarios.

**Q** – Is this renaming the DAB trying to raise its profile?

**A** – Based on Industry feedback, The DAB feel there is a need to improve consistency in attribution across all Network Rail Routes and Train and Freight Operators and renaming the DAG to remove the word 'Guide' is one small step towards achieving that aim. The Board believes it is best placed to improve understanding and application of the attribution process, ultimately assisting Industry to get the right outcomes in a shorter time. Accurate and consistent data is paramount to understanding and improving performance.

**Q** – This is the third reformatting of the DAG (DAPR) in two years – will this be the last time as users have to get used to new formats and referencing each time it occurs?

**A** – The reformatting to a Rule Book style was the publicised long term aim for the DAG to improve overall readability and referencing. Due to the size and complexity of the task it was always planned to be carried out in three stages (the first two being reordering certain sections so 'like' sections were concurrent in the DAG and the second phase was merging and renumbering of those 'like' sections).

Once the reformatting is finally completed there will be no need to reformat or renumber sections in the DAPR as any further alterations and even new entries will easily be slotted in to the relevant sections.