



Permanent Way Institution
South Australian Section Incorporated
 ABN 78 940 577 192

JOHN DRING OAM YOUNG ENGINEER'S AWARD

GUIDELINES AND JUDGING CRITERIA

VERSION 2 – 14 June 2023

Annually, the Permanent Way Institution South Australia Section Incorporated (PWI SA Section), with the benefit of generous sponsorship from the family of former Life Member John Dring OAM, offers the **John Dring OAM Young Engineer's Award** for commendable achievement and/or initiative by an engineer aged 35 years or younger in the field of railway engineering in relation to the permanent way of an operating railway.

As such, submissions are invited in all areas of maintenance, construction and design for track and bridge work, plant or equipment and materials, and in any other area of the railways that relate to the aims of the Institution where improvements in the railway have been achieved, by overall performance improvements, new inventions, innovative solutions, new procedures.

The following conditions govern the judging of submissions:

- (1) The competition is open to any individual engineer who is 35 years of age or under at any time in the year that the award is made, for an achievement that is associated with infrastructure design, maintenance, renewal and/or construction, principally undertaken in South Australia. Entries also will be considered if they are presented by an individual young engineer for the provision of a service to such infrastructure activities.
- (2) Entry is restricted to members of the PWI SA Section, but a member may submit an entry on behalf of a non-member. Where an entry is submitted on behalf of another person, whether or not that person is a member, the person shall indicate agreement to participate in the competition.
- (3) The subject of a competition entry shall generally have been completed within the previous 12 months prior to the entry being submitted, although works commenced earlier than this may be considered.
- (4) Subjects eligible for nomination are any rail-related infrastructure works including any aid and/or activity wholly related to the rail infrastructure and in which the entrant has been a major participant. For long term projects such as concrete resleepering over several years, entries addressing particular sections of the work will be eligible for nomination.

- (5) The judging panel, appointed by the PWI SA Section Committee, will take into account the differences between larger, more complex achievements and those of a smaller routine nature. Indeed, the smaller activities may well offer opportunities for the incorporation of innovative procedures or planning methods which can be demonstrated to be both successful and beneficial not only for the activity in question but also for future activities.
- (6) The criteria that will be used to assist the task of judging the nominations are as follows:
- Clarity of the details contained in the nomination
 - Contribution of the works to the services provided by the employer
 - Assessment and management of safety and environment risks and hazards
 - Originality of the solutions adopted in the execution of the works
 - Cost effectiveness of the work undertaken
 - Attainment of planned program and agreed budget
- (7) A written nomination is required by or on behalf of the nominee.
- (8) The nomination shall not be less than 200 words or more than 2,000 words in length. Amongst other things, it shall outline, in some detail, the work that has been undertaken with special reference to issues associated with railway engineering matters and any special procedures that are worthy of note – sketches, diagrams, photographs and/or videos are recommended to illustrate and support the nomination.
- (9) The Judging Panel will consist of members of the PWI Section appointed by the Management Committee from time-to-time and the decisions of the Judging Panel will be final.
- (10) Calls for Nominations will be advertised, and nominations will be received up to the 30th June each year or such other date as may be determined by the Management Committee. However, it is recommended to candidates that they consider the preparation of their particular nominations soon after the completion of the actual work when salient details still will be clear. Nominations shall be present to the **Awards Coordinator, Permanent Way Institution South Australia Inc** whose name and contact details will be published with the Call for Nominations.

The successful nominee(s) will receive a personal plaque and a cash prize of \$1,000.

Awardees are invited to make a presentation on there submission at the Annual General Meeting or at another general meeting of the PWI SA Section as determined by the Management Committee.

The successful nomination will be announced at Winter Dinner Meeting of the PWI SA Section or at another general meeting each year and the nominee will be invited to make a short illustrated presentation at that meeting.