

Loco Shed

**Asia Pacific Heritage and
Tourist Rail Organisation**



APHTRO

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<http://www.aphtro.info>

<https://www.facebook.com/aphtro>

New attempts to encourage members' communication

(Kyoichi Oda, President)

Since APHTRO was established in 2013, we have tried to encourage sharing of knowledge and experience among members through mutual communication, that is a main purpose of our organisation. However it does not seem easy to achieve through direct communication among members. We will start new plan to accelerate it.

From our next conference (in Amman, Jordan) we will introduce on-line broadcasting of our conference business session. All our members and partners can follow it with their smart phone, tablet or other internet devices. They can also join in question and answer with text chat service. If this works fine, we will try a further plan to include an on-line conference, for example. The details will be announced around a month before the conference.

The second plan is for a members' database on our website, as suggested by our vice president, Rajesh Agrawal. The database contains members' practice, attempt, endeavour, achievement and so on. It will be useful to get to know each other and to advance rail heritage businesses. The first one is expected to be available before the end of this year. A few a year will follow from 2020.

Our partnership will be expanded in the future to include not only other regional rail heritage organisations: UNESCO, ICOMOS, TICCIE, PATA and other spheres of transport heritage organisations - Aviation, Maritime, Automobile. This will extend our relationships, co-operation and benefits of our members, especially PATA for the marketing side of our members' businesses.

Supporting members' projects

We are currently supporting the following projects:

- a. Transforming the former Taipei Railway Workshops into a Railway Museum in Taiwan;
- b. A steam train revival plan by Manila Railroad Club in The Philippines;
- c. Steam locomotive boiler inspections at Royal Railways in Cambodia;
- d. Promotion steam charter service of Jordan Hejaz Railways; and
- e. Rolling stock overhaul at a lower price by businesses in other countries.

Incorporation moving to India

It is expected the process will be resumed from early 2019 and completed by Conference 2019, now our vice president Rajesh Agrawal is in post.

Broadcasting service at next conference

As mentioned in the preface, we are planning a broadcast service of our business session at next conference and are examining technical aspects. The details have not been fixed yet, but it will work on your mobile or internet devices.

1. Watching presentation of the business session. This includes speaker's video image and / or powerpoint presentation screen in real time on your devices. Speaker's image will be cut in or switched from powerpoint.
2. A text chat tool will be provided too. This will be used communication between speaker and on-line audiences, especially for Question and Answer time. You will be able to type your question on this tool, then our speaker can answer via the video streaming broadcast.

Our webmaster Youwei Liu is working on it now and we will test it in late June. Information on how to access it and any applications needing to be installed will appear in early September.

Partner Programme

We introduced partner programme, for the bodies with which we are in a good relationship and co-operation but which are less easy for our members to join. Our Council expect further expanding and development of this programme. It will build relationships and co-operation for the future to bring benefit for our members. The expected participants will be:

1. Other regional rail heritage bodies: HRA, NERHT, FEDECRAIL, COTMA, etc.
2. International bodies relating to industrial heritage and marketing: UNESCO, ICOMOS, TICCIE, PATA
3. The other spheres of transport heritage bodies: Aviation, Maritime, Automobile.

We might consider maybe introducing some other programmes for relationship and co-operation. However we should look to a mutually good result with those bodies.

Members' on-line database

Members' online database on our website is under planning for the near future. The database will carry members' practice, purpose, endeavour, achievement and so on. Our members and partners can access this database and can know and learn other ways, practice which should be useful for them.

Examples of following countries / railways will be built in turn - so far:

Taiwan, Jordan, Thailand, Malaysia, India, Australia, New Zealand.

The first one will be expected to be available towards the end of this year. A few a year will follow from 2020.

Conference 2019 in Amman, Jordan

Next conference will be held in Amman, Jordan, courtesy of Jordan Hejaz Railways.

Conference Programme

The conference programme Schedule:

Tue 8 OCT Visit to Museum and Workshop in Amman Station

Wed 9 OCT General meeting and Business Session

Thu 10 OCT Steam train ride to North

Fri 11 OCT Local excursion train ride to South

Delegates will fly to Amman, capital of Jordan, on or before Monday 7 October.

All Programmes are in or from Amman Railway station. Expected Conference fee is 300USD. Payment by Jordanian Dinal will be welcomed.

A General Meeting and Business Session will be held in the new railway museum and a partner programme will be arranged for 9 October.

More details and the booking form are available on our website: www.aphtro.info



(Photo: Shigeru Okamoto)

Website move

Due to domain registration problems, the APHTRO website will be moved to a new domain:

<http://www.aphtro.info>

Vacancies

Please recommend if you or someone you know would be happy to help us.

Secretary

We are seeking a new secretary.

Volunteers

All APHTRO activities are maintained by volunteers and we are currently seeking a

- Newsletter Editor - This newsletter appears at least twice a year

Our Newsletter cannot be sustained without fresh content. Latest news, photos and articles from your heritage railways will be very much welcomed.

Our next issue will appear in December 2019.

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(We thank *tw* for checking the draft.)