



## AUSTRALIAN RAIL TRACK CORPORATION LTD

### **ARTC Opens New Crossing Loop on North Coast Rail Line**

Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd (ARTC) has opened for business its new \$5.3 million crossing loop at Nammoona, 4 kms north of Casino, for trains travelling between Sydney and Brisbane.

“The new 1854 metres long crossing loop at Nammoona is part of ARTC’s North Coast Improvement Program aimed at allowing train operators to consistently run longer 1500 metre freight trains on the North Coast Line and increase the capacity and competitiveness of the rail freight industry.” David Marchant Chief Executive of ARTC said.

At Nammoona, a new section of mainline has been built and the existing mainline has been converted for use as the new crossing loop. The new crossing loop will allow 1500 metre long freight trains that are travelling in the same or opposite direction to pass each other on the single track North Coast line

ARTC’s North Coast Improvement Program to upgrade the Sydney- Brisbane rail corridor involves constructing or extending 16 crossing loops and upgrading a further 18 existing crossing loops between Maitland and Brisbane to a length that will accommodate 1500 metre long trains.

The signalling which controls the new Nammoona crossing loop forms part of ARTC’S new North Coast CTC system.

ARTC is currently replacing the 19<sup>th</sup> century old train control system from Casino to Acacia Ridge in Brisbane. As the new and extended loops are commissioned they are added to the Centralised Train Control system which is being extended north ahead of the completion of the new and extended loops.

The new Nammoona crossing loop forms part of ARTC’s \$200 million North Coast Improvement Strategy. ARTC with support of the Australian government is investing in excess of \$2 billion on the North South (Melbourne to Brisbane) and Hunter Valley rail networks.

Work on the North Coast Line is being carried out by an alliance between Transport Express Joint Venture (TEJV) and ARTC. TEJV is a joint venture between Laing O’Rourke Australia and Balfour Beatty Australia Pty Ltd.

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**Attachments:**

- 1. Map of North Coast Line with New and Extended Crossing Loop locations**
- 2. Diagram of Nammoona Loop**