

Phil Dargue

Current Position

Partner, Winder Phillips Associates

Profession

Rail Consultant

Years of Rail Experience

37



Professional Background

Phil Dargue is an experienced rail professional with considerable first-hand and consultancy experience and has been a partner in Winder Phillips Associates since 2006. Phil is a senior operations professional with proven ability to manage complex and diverse problems. He has a proven ability to achieve results in demanding timescales such as franchise bids or mobilisation projects.

Phil originally joined British Rail and spent 12 years gaining first-hand experience in managing rail operations and stations before holding senior posts in Railtrack including four years as an Operational Planning Manager. He joined AEA Technology Rail in 2002 where he was latterly Head of Consultancy. Since joining WPA as a partner in 2006 he has worked on a wide variety of projects covering operations, stations and infrastructure management.

Key Skills

- A sound approach to managing risk
- A deep understanding of rail operations particularly performance, planning and safety
- Experience of UK planning systems and processes
- A strong background in regulatory/government issues
- Experienced Independent Reporter
- Experienced bid plan writer
- Ability to work across organisation boundaries

Recent Projects

Network Rail Independent Reporter CP4 and CP5 (2009 - ongoing): Phil has worked as a member of the Independent Reporter team leading and participating in assessing compliance in a number of key areas such as performance, safety and network availability. As part of the role Phil led an investigation into the implementation of NRs its Integrated Train Planning System (ITPS).

Lead Assessor, on South Eastern Franchise and West Coast Partnership : Phil was the lead quality and deliverability assessor on both competitions. For the recent SE competition he led on plans covering industry partnerships. For the West Coast Partnership he was the lead assessor for the performance plans.

Technical Advisor Team to Transport Scotland (2014): Phil was part of the team offering support to Transport Scotland as part of the ScotRail and Sleeper Technical Advisor team. This included undertaking formal assessment of two very large compliance plans for five bidders covering a broad range of areas including operations, performance, fleet, customer service and industry partnerships.

Project Manager – T1178 Train Regulation Good Practice (2019 - ongoing): Leading an industry wide project looking at current train regulation practices and identifying good practices in setting and applying policies across a variety of signalling locations. The primary aim is to develop an industry toolkit for national implementation.

Forward Review Assessments for NTF (OG) (2005 – 2007): Project Manager and principle assessor for the annual national performance management reviews for all Train Operators,

Freight Operators, Network Rail, IMCs and ROSCOs. This required an independent review of processes and their application across the companies challenging their management teams on how well they were delivering operational performance and their approach to future risks.

Support to Train Operating Companies (2006 - 2019): Projects include:

- Development & implementation of a Remedial Performance Plan
- Project managing the implementation of the Service Recovery Code of Practice across a TOC including training all the key personnel
- Undertaking detailed audit and check regimes across TOC owning groups to underpin improvements in the delivery of operational and engineering performance.
- Performance risk assessment – carrying out risk reviews for TOCs to support their performance planning processes and to support their discussions with DfT

Support to franchise and concession bids (2006 – 2018): Operations and Performance workstream leader/writer on numerous franchise/concession bids including the recent successful MTR bid for Crossrail. Other bids include London Overground, Northern, TSGN, Essex Thameside, East Coast and East Midlands.

Mobilisation of Crossrail and Northern (2014-15/2016): Phil has worked on two major mobilisation programmes. He led the performance aspects of MTR's mobilisation of Crossrail developing the performance strategy with NR and project managed the successful transfer of TPE services into the new Northern franchise.

Passenger Information During Disruption (2008 to 2010): Worked on the development of the original industry ACOP with ATOC and the wider industry.

Development of Network Operating Strategy(2019-20): Leading the creation of a new industry operating strategy working as part of the NR 21 Century Ops team to ensure the future development of the operations function as core to a high performing railway.

Integrated Timetable Technical Strategy (2020): Phil was part of the team undertaking the strategy development as part of the response to the Glaister Report.

Previous Positions Held

- Senior Consultant / Head of Consultancy; AEA Technology Rail (2002 - 2006)
- General Manager, North Eastern; Railtrack (2001 – 2002)
- Zone Production Manager, LNE Zone; Railtrack (2000 – 2001)
- Operational Planning Manager; Railtrack (1996 – 2000)
- Safety and Standards Manager, North West Zone; Railtrack (1994 – 1996)
- Signalling and Driver Manager, Regional Railways Central; British Rail (1992 – 1994)
- Operations and Traincrew Manager, Chilterns; British Rail (1990 – 1992)
- Assistant Operations Manager, South Humberside; British Rail (1989 – 1990)
- Passenger Services Manager, Nottingham; British Rail (1987 – 1989)
- Traffic Manager, Grantham; British Rail (1985 – 1987)
- Station Manager, Hull Paragon; British Rail (1983 – 1985)

Qualifications and Professional Associations

- BA (hons) Politics, University of Nottingham
- MSc Transport and Distribution Management, University of Salford
- NEBOSH Diploma and Certificate
- EFQM Assessor, PerfEx Training (BQF training Provider)