FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS
Of 26 CORONIAL INVESTIGATIONS
From 13 RLX CRASHES 2002–2009
IN VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

Terry Spicer
RLX Safety
GLXS – 2014
4 August 2014
Cluster of 26 RLX Coronial Investigations

Background

GLXS 2012 - London

RLX Safety Web Site

http://www.rlxsafety.com/publications.html
The VicPol Kerang Reconstruction
5 June 2007
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“fail to become aware of an approaching train, despite a plethora of level crossing warnings, and who become involved in a fatal level crossing collision”.
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The Inquests focussed on 3 areas:

1. The driver and the road vehicle
2. The infrastructure
3. The emergency response
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Coroner Hendtlass found;

“there is a group of road vehicle drivers who cannot be reached by the current active or passive level crossing warnings at the time they are approaching a level crossing.”
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She added;

“There is no evidence before me to suggest that these drivers are otherwise inattentive or pre-disposed to failing to respond to stimuli.”
WHAT THE THE KERANG INVESTIGATIONS MISSED

The Investigations;

2. 2009 - The Kerang Criminal Trial
3. 2011 - 2013 Coronial Inquests
WHAT THE THE KERANG INVESTIGATIONS MISSED

INDIVIDUAL RAIL MANAGER’S ACCOUNTABILITY
WHAT THE THE KERANG INVESTIGATIONS MISSED

“preventative action” in August – October 2006”
WHAT THE THE KERANG INVESTIGATIONS MISSED

A

COMPREHENSIVE RISK ASSESSMENT???
WHAT THE THE KERANG INVESTIGATIONS MISSED

The paper contains 8 listed “Additional Risk Mitigation Options”
WHAT THE THE KERANG INVESTIGATIONS MISSED

WHY?
WHAT THE THE KERANG INVESTIGATIONS MISSED

• The OCI Report ...

• The Criminal Trial and The Coronal Inquest Investigators - Did not Employ Anyone With Rail Industry Expertise to;

“ASK THE RIGHT QUESTIONS”
The Coronal Inquest Findings & The 25 Recommendations

Covers Three Categories.

1. The driver and the road vehicle. (7 Recommendations)

2. The infrastructure. (10 Recommendations)

3. The emergency response. (8 Recommendations)
The Coronal Inquest Findings & Recommendations

Recommendation No 3;

“That Transport Safety Victoria and VicRoads commit themselves to joint sophisticated human factors research and innovative technology to determine how best to alert drivers who will otherwise not notice an approaching train in the context of current level crossing warnings.”
The Coronal Inquest Findings & Recommendations

INATTENTIONAL BLINDNESS, CHANGE BLINDNESS, AND TRAIN CONSPICUITY RESEARCH
INATTENTIONAL/CHANGE
BLINDNESS

WIKIPEDIA

Christopher Simons (et al.): University of Illinois – Urbana, Champaign – 2010

“Monkey Business Illusion”

Monkey Business Illusion
The Coronial Inquest Findings & Recommendations

Might Well Explain The 10% or So of our RLX Fatalities, Which We Have Always Concluded Are; “INEXPLICABLE ?”
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Thank You & The Very Best For The Future Success Towards “ZERO – RLX ACCIDENTS”

TERRY SPICER

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My Wife Nicole & I are Now Going to Explore Some of Your Beautiful Country