

Thomas Lange

Secretary General

Working groups and the Annual Meeting are underway. Note the date. Welcome to participate!

Working Groups

Predictive Maintenance

**Norrköping and Teams
June 4, 10.30-14.00**

**Next AGM to be held in
Copenhagen on September 21, 17.00.**

**Meeting is held at the Light Rail Day Office
Frankrigsgade 17 DK-2300 Copenhagen S**

Ica on Catenary

Malmö and Teams

September 24, 10.00

Participation by Teams or Zoom will be available.
Please write to nlra@marknadslank.se for your participation

Apply by email to

nlra@marknadslank.se

Read more about

- Greetings from our chairman
- NLRA Scholarship
- NLRA Award
- NLRA Study tour to Norway

Nesletter from Nordic Light Rail Association; NLRA

Contact
NLRA
c/o Thomas Lange
Kunskapslänken 88
SE-583 26 Linköping

Phone
+46 70 2099145

E-mail
nlra@marknadslank.se

Editor
Thomas Lange
thomas.lange@marknadslank.se

Next issue
June 15, 2025

The Board
Heidi Heikkilä, Finland
(Chairman)
Tom Potter, Norway (Vice
Chairman)
Stephan Marstrander,
Germany
Michael Borre, Denmark
Bernd Reuß, Denmark
Thomas Lange, Sweden
(Secretary General)

Greetings from your chairperson, Heidi Heikkilä!

I am and have long been a big fan of international collaboration. I think that the possibilities for learning and innovating are greater together. Especially here in the Nordics, where it sometimes feels quite dark and lonely, being slightly aside of all the buzz in the world. My career in the rolling stock world and public transportation is as mature as the NLRA.

I started in HKL late 2020. Before that, I had a chance to learn all the principles of reliability, availability, maintainability, safety, and asset management in another, but not so different industry, aviation. In aviation also my love for international collaboration and influencing was born, as I was participating in legislation improvements and international guidance in International Air Transport Association (IATA) working groups. I have wanted to bring that knowledge and enthusiasm to NLRA, where I have been acting as a board member since 2022.

As a new chairperson, I wish to continue the work started with Bernd and other active members in NLRA working groups and board to unify the industry, to learn from each other and to make the Nordic voice heard wider in the world.

Heidi Heikkilä

Kaupunkiliikenne – Stadstrafik – City Transport – Helsinki

NLRA Scholarships – Supporting Future Tramway and Mobility Experts

It has been some time since the NLRA last received a scholarship application, but our programme remains active. We are committed to supporting young people in becoming tramway or mobility experts.

Do you know a student involved in a tramway project? Are you working with someone training to become a city planner or engineer? Or perhaps a student conducting research related to tramways? If their work is connected to at least one Northern European country, the NLRA may be interested in supporting their project.

Our scholarships start at €1,000, sometimes more. But it's not just about financial aid—we also offer valuable mentorship to guide students' work.



How Does It Work?

We are providing both financial support and networking opportunities by connecting students with experienced professionals in the industry.

What Do We Expect in Return?

We ask that students keep in touch so we can follow their progress. Upon completion, they may have the opportunity to present their work at an international conference. The NLRA may also publish their research, at the very least on our website. Ultimately, we hope scholarship recipients will become active members of our community.

How to Apply?

No complicated forms—just send a letter via email. Your application should include:

1. Full contact details
2. A description of your project
3. Contact details for at least one reference (e.g., a professor or relevant professional)

Don't miss this opportunity—apply now! Write to nlra@marknadslank.se.

Help Us Find the Next Nordic Light Rail Prize Winner!

Did you know that the **Nordic Light Rail Prize (NLRP)** is a truly special award? It honours individuals who have made exceptional contributions to tramway development in the Nordic region—people whose efforts deserve our recognition. And you can help us find the next recipient!

Since **2016**, the **Nordic Light Rail Association (NLRA)** has awarded the **NLRP**, originally established by Bernd Reuss, to recognise the pioneers behind new tramway systems in Northern Europe. It also celebrates those who have dedicated their careers to urban tramways.

Who Can Receive the Prize?

- Up to **12 individuals** (aged **80 or younger**) may receive the **first-degree award**.
- There is no limit on recipients for the **second-degree award**.
- In exceptional cases, the prize may be awarded to an **organisation** rather than an individual.
- The **NLRP is not awarded annually**, but only when truly deserved.

Working Groups to come

Predictive Maintenance

Norrköping and Teams
June 4 10.30-14.00

Ice on Catenary

Malmö and Teams

September 24, 10.00

Apply by email to

nlra@marknadslank.se

You will receive a confirmation with address to the location and a Teams-link.

The First-Degree Medal

Master goldsmith **Gisbert Saal (Aurich, Germany)** has designed an exquisite **medal and pin** for the **first-degree award**. The medal is crafted from **solid 585 gold**, set on a silver chain, while the matching pin features a **gold setting and a jewel**.

Do you know someone who deserves this honour?

Let us know—it may be time to celebrate their achievements!

Write your suggestion to
nlra@marknadslank.se.

Study trips to Norway. Save the dates!

12th- 15th October 2025
Trondheim and Oslo

Friends and members of the Nordic Light Rail Association (NLRA) are invited to participate in a study trip to visit Trondheim and Oslo in October 2025.

The trip will start in Trondheim on Sunday, 12th October 2025 with a dinner in the evening.

On Monday, 13th October, we will visit Gråkallbanen, the historic tram line in Trondheim which celebrated its 100th anniversary in 2024. In addition we plan to meet with the PTA for Trondheim, AtB as well as transport officials in the city and county government.

The group will travel to Oslo on Monday evening by plane or overnight train. We will meet with the operator Sporveien and the PTA Ruter in Oslo on Tuesday and Wednesday, 14th and 15th October. Participants can choose whether they will leave the trip on Tuesday evening or Wednesday evening.

More information about this study trip and a detailed program will be available by the end of June 2025.

Questions or suggestions? Write to nlra@marknadslank.se