**Rolling Stock Technical Manager**

**Job Type:** Full-time

**Reports to:** TBC

**About the Role:**
A highly skilled and influential **Technical Expert** to lead the manufacturer’s finalisation and implementation of technical specifications for the procurement of replacement trains for the Southeast Railway Network. This role will involve setting the technical direction for the technical elements of the New Trains programme, managing the finalisation and implementation of technical specifications, and ensuring the new rolling stock meets all performance, safety, and regulatory standards. This role will be crucial in aligning the technical requirements with the overall business and operational needs to deliver a more accessible and reliable railway for everyone.

**Key Responsibilities:**

* Accountable for the finalisation and implementation of technical specifications and that the manufacturer’s proposal taken forward meets these requirements in the new rolling stock procurement process.
* Lead collaboration with key stakeholders, including train operations, manufacturers and regulatory bodies, to approve technical and operational requirements.
* Accountable for ensuring compliance with UK and European rail standards, including interoperability and safety requirements.
* Direct the evaluation and integration of technological innovations in rolling stock to enhance performance, reliability, and sustainability.
* Provide leadership and technical guidance throughout the entire procurement lifecycle, from the initial tendering process through to contract award and the final delivery of the new trains.
* Collaborate with and advise commercial teams on the technical evaluation of supplier bids, ensuring technical feasibility and alignment with Southeastern’s business needs.
* Accountable for the comprehensive management of risk assessments and feasibility studies on all aspects related to rolling stock procurement.
* Lead and coordinate engagement with infrastructure teams to ensure compatibility with track, signalling, and depot facilities.
* Accountable for developing and overseeing testing, commissioning, and acceptance of new trains to confirm compliance with specifications.
* Responsible for fulfilling the role of the Operator and Owner’s joint MSA Project Manager, as specified under the MSA.

**Essential Qualifications & Experience:**

* Degree in Mechanical, Electrical, or Railway Engineering (or equivalent experience).
* Significant leadership experience in managing the introduction of complex technical assets, ensuring seamless integration, operational efficiency, and long-term sustainability.
* Extensive and proven experience in a Traction and Rolling Stock engineering environment.
* Familiar with modern Traction and Rolling Stock systems and reliability issues.
* Extensive experience in rolling stock procurement, design, introduction and technical management.
* In-depth knowledge of UK rail standards, including Railway Group Standards (RGS), Technical Specifications for Interoperability (TSIs), and other regulatory frameworks.
* Strong familiarity with procurement processes in the UK rail industry, including competitive tendering, approvals processes and safety certification.
* Demonstrated experience in working with train manufacturers and industry suppliers.
* Detailed knowledge and experience of OEM and RoSCo technical processes.
* Comprehensive knowledge and understanding of AC and DC electrified operations and fleets.
* Excellent strategic problem-solving skills and the ability to assess complex technical requirements.
* Exceptional stakeholder management and communication skills.

**Desirable Skills:**

* Chartered Engineer status (or working towards it).
* Knowledge of sustainable and energy-efficient rolling stock technologies.
* Experience in digital train control and onboard systems.
* Good analytical skills.
* Familiarity with whole-life cost analysis for rolling stock procurement.
* Proven ability to motivate and develop technical teams.
* Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to build strong working relationships.
* Ability to work to tight deadlines and meet challenging targets
* Demonstrated ability to foster productive working relationships across all disciplines and levels.