

Professional Biography

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Nev Blyth commenced his professional career in 1986 as an Engineering Metallurgist, working in weld and materials testing and consulting failure analysis in the Western Australian engineering services industry.

After developing and managing several NATA-accredited laboratories in the mid to late 90s, Nev changed direction in late 2000, accepting a Senior Transport Safety Investigator position in Canberra with the Australian Transport Safety Bureau's Technical Analysis team.

Specialising in the forensic engineering analysis of transport accident wreckage and physical evidence, Nev has led or been involved with several high-profile investigations, including the 2008 QF30 Boeing 747 oxygen cylinder explosion and the 2010 QF32 A380 engine failure.

Transitioning to the team manager role in 2008, Nev assumed oversight and responsibility for the ATSB's leading capability in both materials engineering analysis and recorded data (black-box) interrogation.

In mid-2014, the MH370 disappearance and the resultant increased demands for technically-capable staff saw Nev take an acting role as General Manager of the ATSB's Surface Safety Investigation Branch – covering rail and marine transport modes and international support commitments. A dynamic period in Australian rail safety reform saw Nev and his colleagues establish and consolidate Australia's first nation-wide independent rail safety investigation capability.

Towards the end of 2016, a role became available to coordinate and consolidate the ATSB's operational processes, procedures and multitude of in-house projects. Presently working as Manager – Major Projects, Nev continues to contribute to the ATSB's evolution and development as Australia's foremost independent transport safety investigator.