

To: Participants of the 2020 RAS Problem-Solving Competition

From: Problem-Solving Competition Chair & Committee

Date: June 17, 2020

Re: Validation Dataset Disclaimer Statement for Use in the 2020 Problem-Solving Competition

As some of you may have noticed, the validation dataset chosen for the 2020 Problem-Solving Competition was adapted from datasets previously provided for the 2018 Problem-Solving Competition by ProRail (Netherlands). While the proper authorization was granted to the INFORMS Railway Applications Section (RAS) to utilize the data, it is important to note to all participating that NS and ProRail are no party to the INFORMS RAS 2020 Problem-Solving Competition. Furthermore, NS and ProRail were not involved in any of the preparation and/or alteration for the current competition's validation dataset and that the altered data does not reflect, nor tries to reflect, any past, current, or future situation at NS and ProRail.

If there are any questions or concerns regarding the use of this dataset for this year's competition, please contact the Problem-Solving Competition Chair & Committee by email at railwayapplicationssection@gmail.com.