

Link-Up FAQs

1.	I already have a supplier registration with Achilles, how do I get access to this Link-Up network?	Adding Link-Up to an existing Achilles subscription is really simple. You just go to the “Manage Subscriptions” drop down and add Link-Up.
2.	How does it work?	<p>RISQS and Link-Up are the only supplier assurance schemes approved by Network Rail to operate in the GB rail industry.</p> <p>Buying organisations in the rail industry now have a choice as to whether to engage Achilles (Link-Up) or RISQS to perform supplier assurance services for their own supply chain. If a buying organisation has selected Achilles as its supply chain assurance provider, suppliers will be asked to register with Achilles. The NR 302 Standard specifically states this <i>“Nothing in this standard requires suppliers with whom Network Rail contracts directly to impose a requirement to use RISQS on their sub-contractors”</i></p>
3.	I am a direct supplier to Network Rail. Am I required to use RISQS to assure my own supply chain?	No. Each organisation now has a choice as to which supplier assurance provider it uses to assure its own supply chain. Even if you are on RISQS as a “supplier”, you can be on Link-Up as a “buyer” and a “supplier” if you wish to be visible to Buyers within the Achilles Network.
4.	Will Achilles audits be accepted by Sentinel?	Yes. Achilles successfully passed a comprehensive Network Rail audit. We now have the ability to provide Sentinel audits pursuant to Network Rail Standard NR/L2/CPR/302.
5.	What are the advantages of joining the Achilles Network?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Single Sector : Suppliers and Buyers using Achilles can have access to over

		<p>50,000 UK and global suppliers across multiple regions and sectors.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Silo: Suppliers need only provide their data once to be visible many buyers/potential customers – simple upgrade process to be visible to UK Utility & Construction Buyers. • Language: Achilles supports English and 9 additional European languages to help international buyers & suppliers
6.	What about the RICCL /product codes?	The RICCL product codes are standard categorisation used in the Rail Sector and are available on Link-Up
7.	What audit modules will I be audited against?	<p>The Link-up audit is an annual audit as detailed in Network Rail Level 2 Manual NR/L2/SCO/302 – Supplier Qualification Requirements.</p> <p>You will be audited against one or more of the following applicable Audit Modules:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NR/L2/SCO/302/01 Supplier Qualification – Core Requirements • NR/L2/SCO/302/02 Supplier Qualification – CDM Requirements • NR/L2/SCO/302/03 Supplier Qualification – Sentinel Scheme Requirements • NR/L2/SCO/302/04 Supplier Qualification – Rail Interface (Safe Work) Planning Requirements • NR/L2/SCO/302/05 Supplier Qualification – Plant Operations Scheme Requirements
8.	What does the audit involve?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The audit involves an assessment of management systems and supporting records at your offices or nominated premises. • The minimum audit durations are defined and mandated in NR/L2/SCO/302.

9.	What about the audit results?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• The audit is a Pass / Fail audit. Suppliers will fail the audit if there are Major Non-compliances identified during the audit process. Audit results will be displayed on the supplier's profile within MyAchilles and communicated via an API to the wider industry as mandated by Network Rail.
10.	Am I allowed external support during the audit?	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• As required in NR/L2/SCO/302 only employees of the supplier being audited can attend the audit and respond to the auditors' questions.