

Measurement and Assessment Systems for Track Short-Pitch Irregularities and Crossing Geometry Irregularities (R3.103)

Background

In the modern railway track system, several types of short-pitch irregularity unavoidably exist which cause large magnitude wheel-rail impacts with quite high frequencies. As rail operators increase axle loads and operation speeds, quantifying and monitoring track and crossing deterioration due to impacts caused by short-pitch irregularities has become a major priority.

Objective

The aim of this project is to develop enhanced measurement analysis systems and standard methods for analysing short-pitch track and crossing irregularities as well as to establish methods of assessment and systems for prioritising maintenance.

Outcomes

The deliverables from this project include:

- the development of an analysis system including a standardised method for quantifying and presenting measurement data for short-pitch irregularities and crossings, and
- the development of standard methods of short-pitch defect and crossing assessment and methods of prioritising of maintenance.

Benefits

Benefits will be realised by improved timeliness of maintenance.

Project timeframe

1 January 2008 to 30 September 2009