

14<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2022

# Vampire on London Underground: A Practical Perspective

Andy Vickerstaff, Principal Engineering Leader – Track Components & Configuration Technical Lead for Wheel-Rail Interface Transport for London



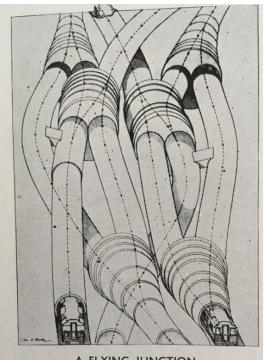
# Contents

- Brief History of Vampire on London Underground
- Check Rail Rules
- LU56V
- RCF/Corrugation

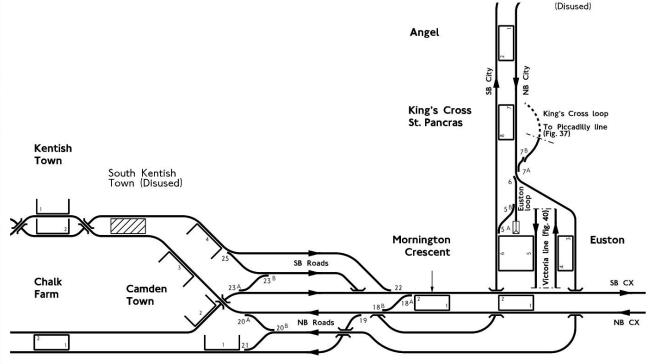


# Camden Town Derailment 20B

## • 19<sup>th</sup> October 2003

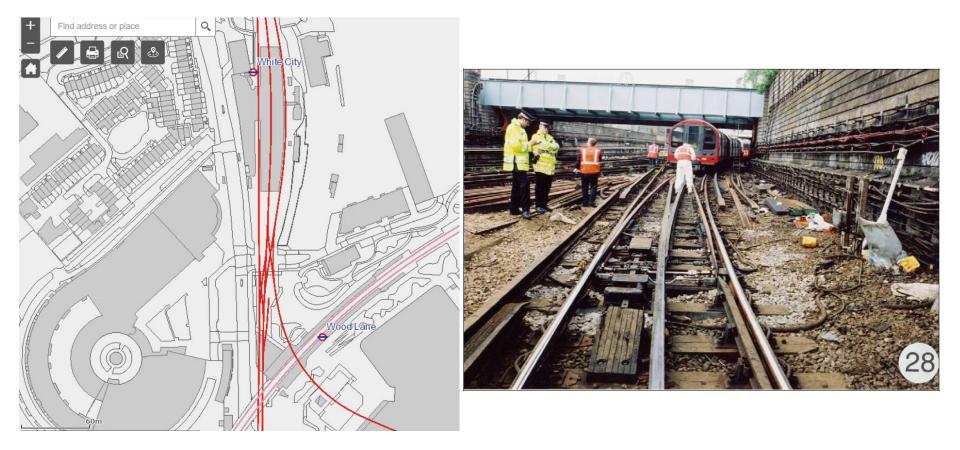


A FLYING JUNCTION The junction at Camden Town where the Northern and City lines meet, is a good example of the flying or burrowing junction. Trains pass either under or over every other conflicting track in an extremely complicated layout.



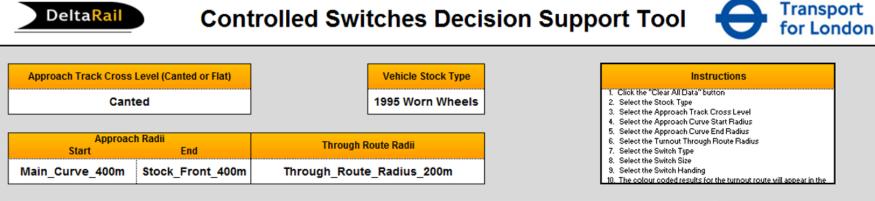


# White City Derailment 271211<sup>th</sup> May 2004





# **Decision Support Tool for CERN Switches**



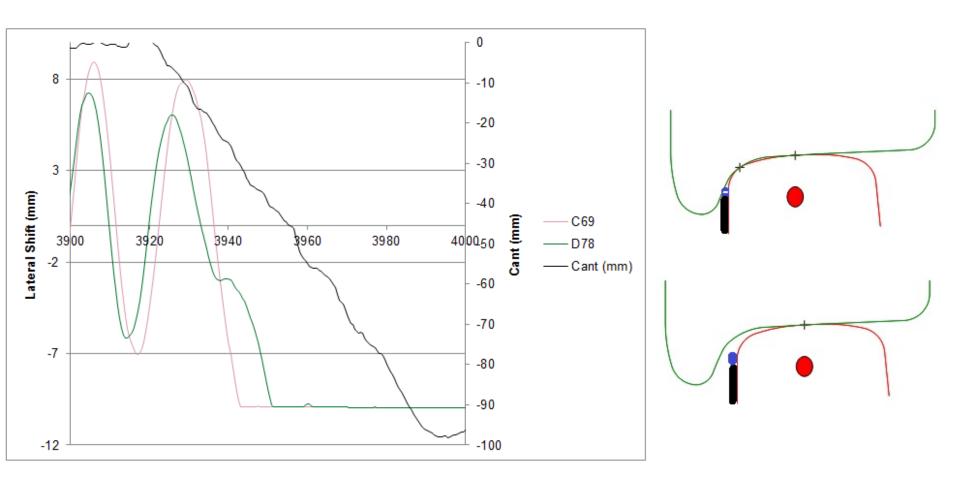
Switch Type	Switch Size	Switch Handing	Clear All Data
Flat_Bottom_Full_Depth	▼ D	Normal Handing	Clear Air Data

Turnout Route Derailment Risk Matrix						
Vehicle Speed	Vehicle Speed					
Track Faults	5 mph	10 mph	15 mph	20 mph	25 mph	30 mph
Nominal (as Designed)	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange		
Maintenance Limit	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		
Safety Limit	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow		

Key to Derailment Risk Matrix Colour Code				
Green	Safe (all contact on safe part of wheel)	Orange	High Risk of Derailment (contact outside safe portion of wheel flange and >10mm of wheel climb)	
Yellow	Low Risk of Derailment (contact outside of safe portion of wheel flange, but wheel climb <10mm )	Red	Unsafe, derailment is predicted	Issue 2, Jar

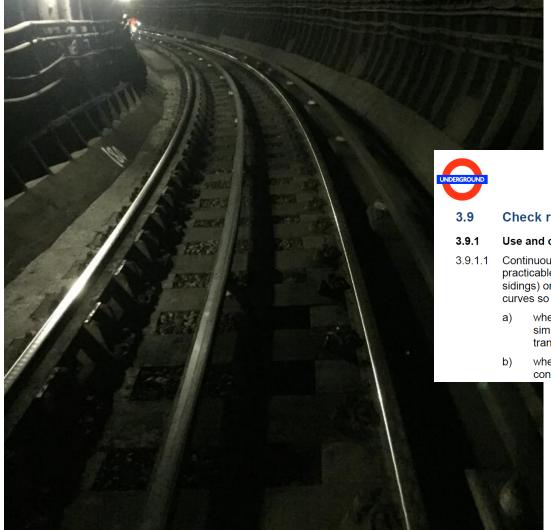


## **Inter Stock Running**





# **Check Rail Application**



Title: Track - Performance, Design and Configuration Number: S1157 Issue no: A7 Issue date: January 2016

#### Check rails

#### Use and configuration

- Continuous check rails shall be provided in plain line track and, to the extent practicable, in junctionwork where the track radius is 200m (140m in depots and sidings) or less. The check rail shall extend through any transition adjacent to such curves so as to terminate as follows:
  - where the checked curve abuts straight track or an unchecked circular curve of similar hand: at least 5m (exclusive of entry and exit flares) beyond the transition;
  - where the checked curve abuts a curve of opposite hand: at the point of contraflexure, with the flare being beyond that point.

UNDERGROUND

# Check Rail Application

- Analysed a range of parameters affecting the risk of derailment using Vampire simulations:
  - Nadal's Ratio (Y/Q)
  - Wheel Unload ( $\Delta Q/Q$ )
  - Wheel Climb
- Consisted of 64000 simulations in 2 stages covering:
  - Vehicle types (including Engineering Fleet)
  - Curve Radius
  - Worn and new wheels and rails
  - Rate of change of cant & cant deficiency
  - Friction
  - Allowable Twist Faults

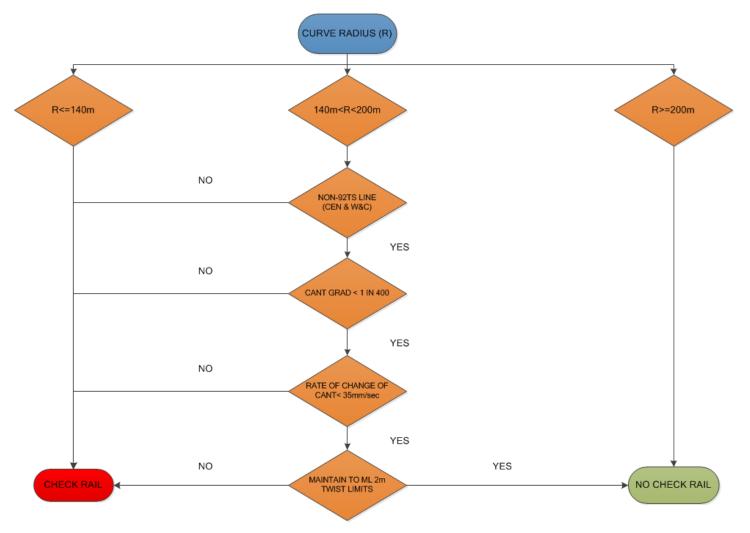


# **Check Rail Application**

- Sub 130m radius low rail flanging occurs so two possible 'climbing' wheels
- 92TS particularly prone to derailment
- Desirable rate of change of cant required especially crucial in exit transitions
- Maintained to Maintenance Target 2m twist limits rather than Safety Standard especially in exit transitions
- Lower cant and higher cant deficiencies reduces derailment risk
- Negligible change in risk between 200m and 140m



# **Check Rail Standard**





# LU56V

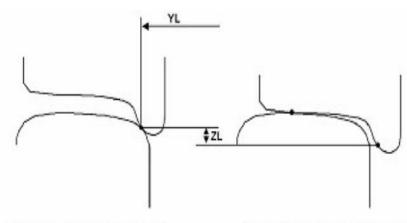


- Numerous unique geometries especially in and around depots
- LU56V developed as a method of installing flatbottom on same bullhead footprint
- First site installed in Upminster depot without Vampire simulations.....

DERGROUND

# Derailment Risk Criteria

Risk Rating		Contact Angle	Wheel Climb
1	Safe	< 65°	< 10 mm
2	Low Risk	< 65°	> 10 mm & < 20 mm
		> 65°	< 10 mm
3	High Risk	< 65°	> 20 mm
		> 65°	> 10 mm
4	Unsafe	Vampire predicts derailment	



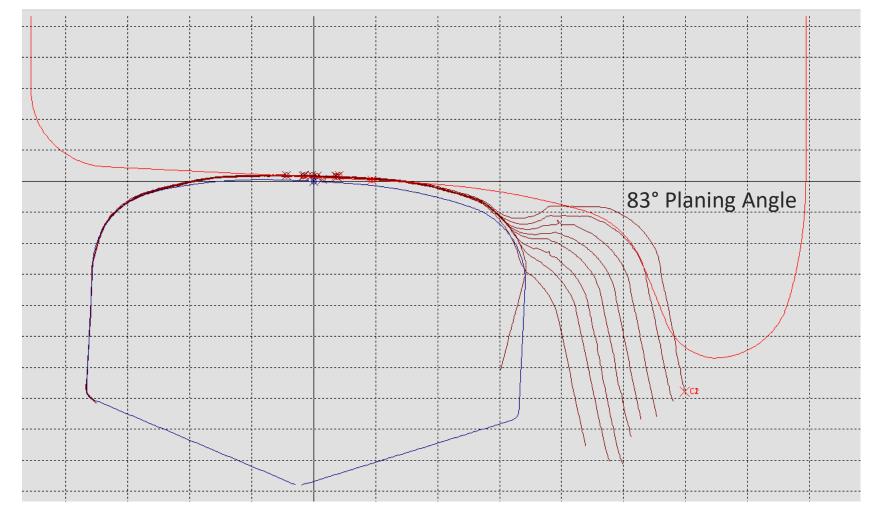
Left Wheel Contact Point at YL Due to Wheelset Lateral Shift Left Wheel at Zero Lateral Shift

- Sustained for 2m:
  - Y/Q > 0.8 in P&C
  - Y/Q > 1.2 in Plain Line



12

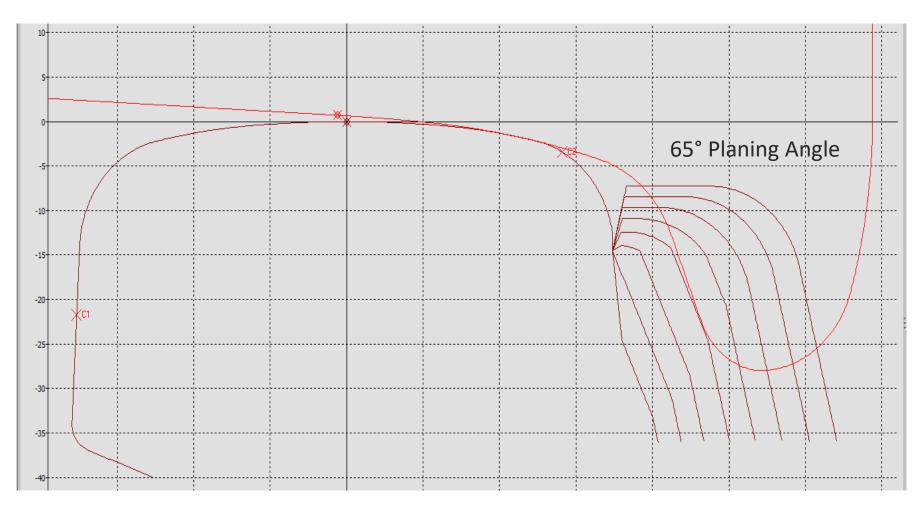
# **Bullhead UC**





13

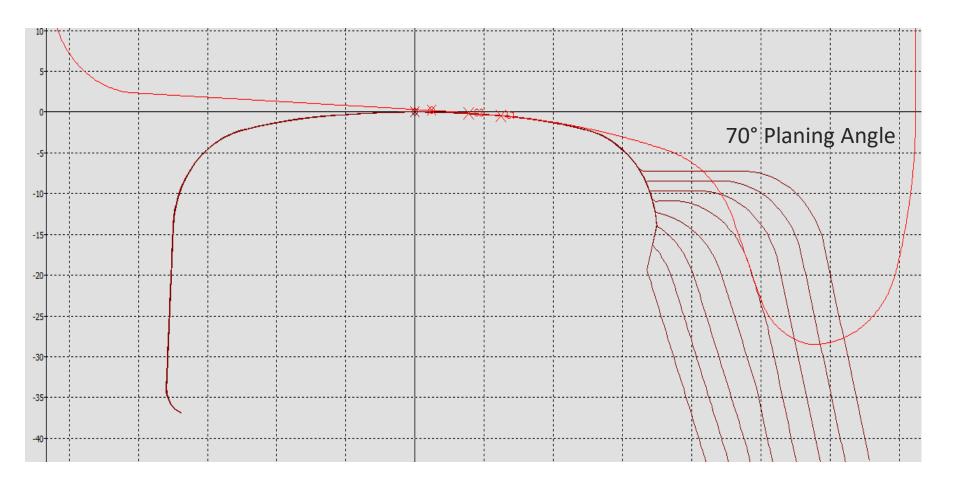
### LU56V First Iteration





14

### LU56V Second Iteration





15

# **RCF/Corrugation**





# Conclusions

17

- Vampire assessment is now standard part of track design/renewals process:
  - Asset Performance in Plain Line
  - Asset Safety in Points & Crossings
- Research and Development in corrugation and rolling contact fatigue
- Probably at limits of standard creep laws in a number of areas....
- Identifying risks for introduction of 24TS

