

Photographic and schematic representation of vertical rail deflection



A Harsco Rail Company

#### Identifiable Issues:

- Track structural support issues
  - Locations of weak or failing ballast
  - Locations of weak or failing sub-grade
  - Issues with bridge structures
  - Issues with pipes or culverts
  - Transitional support discrepancies
- Broken or weakening ties (sleepers)
- Broken or weakening joints

# **MRAIL**

#### VERTICAL TRACK DEFLECTION MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

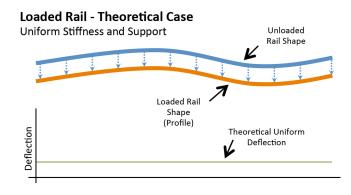
#### MRail is the only system available on the market today that measures and records vertical rail deflection

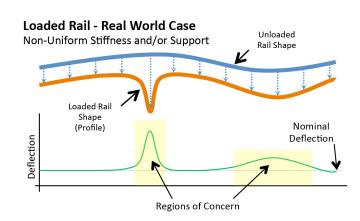
- MRail measures the vertical difference between the loaded and unloaded rail shape
  - Measurement made relative to wheel/rail contact point
  - This can be transformed into track structure modulus
- Fully autonomous operation
  - Mounts on revenue car
  - Solar powered
- Processed data can help prioritize and direct maintenance activity
  - Can correlate data with locations of track components (bridges, culverts, etc.)

## MRAIL - CONCEPT AND ANALYTICS

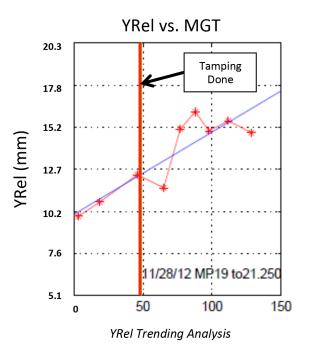
#### VERTICAL TRACK DEFLECTION MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

MRail measures and records the actual vertical difference (rail deflection) between the unloaded and loaded rail states (Shown as the arrows in the below examples).





- Data comes off car as deflection (YRel) at a
- This data can be further processed to yield safety and maintenance information
- Analyses include:
- Threshold analyses
- Maintenance quality checksComponent/location degradation analyses
- Evaluate effectiveness of: Tamping
  - Track stabilizing
- Drainage
- Bridge transitions and support

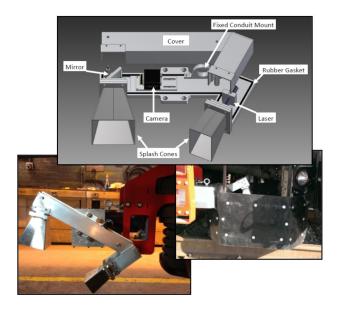


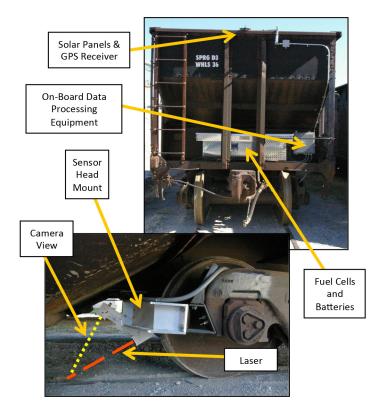
# MRAIL - HARDWARE AND MOUNTING

#### VERTICAL TRACK DEFLECTION MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

## MRail is an autonomous compact laser/camera based measurement system.

- Laser/Camera system
- Components protected from elements and track particulates
- Sun glare minimized via blackout sheet
- Ridged mounted system
- Mounts directly to truck side frame (Bogie)
- Simple calibration done to dial in deflection measurement





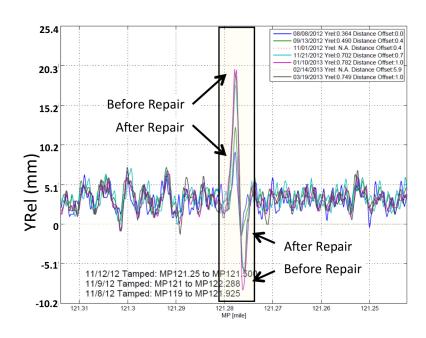
- Mounts on revenue generating car - Fully loaded cars give greatest results
- Sun glare minimized via blackout sheet
- Uses solar panels with battery energy storage for power
- Computer system mounted for data processing
- Data transmitted via cell modem
- Sensor head aimed 1.2m (4 ft) from nearest axle

MRail mounted on a revenue rail car

#### MRAIL

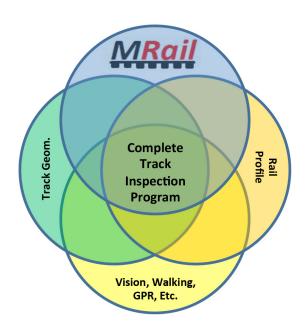
#### VERTICAL TRACK DEFLECTION MEASUREMENT SYSTEM

#### **Example Exception Identification – Culvert Damage**



- A culvert was identified by MRail for having high vertical rail deflection
- Tamping was repeatedly attempted to address deflection
  No change In YRel
- Culvert was repaired due to collapsed/broken support collar
- Subsequent measurements confirmed successful repair

#### **Augmenting Existing Inspection Processes**



- MRail adds critical information about the track structure that is difficult and time consuming to measure using other techniques
- Adds information that track walkers and hy-rails cannot see

# PROTRAN

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