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# Risk Focused Infrastructure Condition Assessment

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#### Mainland China railway development overview



### Mainland China railway development overview

• 2015

Total: 146000 km HSR: 50000 km

2020

- 2010
- Total: 91000 km
- HSR: 8000 km •
- 11 cities
- 33 lines
- 1429 km

- Total: 123000 km<sup>•</sup> HSR: 18000 km
- 25 cities
- 110 lines
- 3423 km

- More than 45 cities
- More than 250 lines
- More than 7000 km

Purple: National Railway Blue: Metro HRS: High Speed Railway



### Needs of Operation Safety assessment

More modern railways and metro lines stepped into post-warrantee operation stage

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Focus change: Engineering safety  $\rightarrow$  Operation safety

#### **Engineering Safety**

- Assessing planning, design and construction stages
- Equipment safety and engineering management safety
- EN5012X
- iESM(Yellow Book)

**Operation Safety** 

How safety is the new line operation? How to approve/assess?



### Limitation of traditional assessment method

Traditionally Condition Monitoring: monitoring of the functioning of a system, or the wear and tear of parts

Exemples: SICA (System Infrastructure Condition Assissent)

- Developed by Lloyd's Register, now Ricardo Rail
- > To address operational asset management issue for Network Rail in UK
- Endorsed by Office of Rail Regulator
- Effective for mechanical systems, but not for modern electronic based complex signalling system:
- Failure of electronic system can not be directly inspected
- Safety performance does not have a linear relationship with its reliability performance



#### An effective new method

#### **Risk Focused Infrastructure Condition Assessment**



- Developed based on SICA with an objective to perform signaling infrastructure assessment
- Focus on operation safety
- Identify the weakest link to support investment decision making



### **Risk Focused Infrastructure Condition Assessment**

Effective and scalable to:

- Cover a wide range of signalling application for different operational lines
- Be adaptable to different signalling technologies, i.e. from traditional mechanism based equipment to mordern complex computer based system
- Enable review of the operation and maintenance of signalling asset to its required performance level
- Facilitate review of signalling systems which are commissioned in periods with different safety acceptance and system handover regime
- Allow examination of operators using formal or informal failure data and management systems and processes (e.g. Failure Reporting and Corrective Action System)



## Risk based, considering 3 aspects



Maintenance: assess the aspects which can influence the safe condition of the signalling equipment:

- maintenance strategy and failure management
- training and competence management
- structure and resource management
- spare parts management
- asset management

WAY SAFETY COUNCIL

- engineering and works managing
- change management, etc

#### **Application cases**

Been applied in two projects of three metro lines signalling asset condition assessment Two are in Beijing and one in Shenzhen

#### **Beijing:**

- One line: re-signalled in recent years
- Another line: in operation for over ten years

#### Shenzhen:



Commissioned in three sections with operation time from 5 to 12 years



## Example of equipment assessment checklist

#### Equipment condition assessment: still a score based system

Point Machine		Score Category					Site & Score		
Ref	QUESTION	EXCELLENT (1)	GOOD (2)	AVERAGE (3)	BELOW AVERAGE (4)	POOR (5)			
C10	How would you describe the condition of the connectors and terminations?	recently installed to current standards	all conform to current standards	good connectors / terminations present	connectors / terminations corroded or dirty	no connector s or crimps provided			
C11	How would you describe the condition of the tail cables?	recently installed to current standards	all conform to current standards	secure and protected	visibly damaged	damaged and/or inaccessib le			
C12	How would you describe the level of mechanical damage to the trackside equipment ?	recently installed to current standards	no visible damage	minimal wear and tear or minor damage	visibly damaged or localised damage	Insecure and/or severe damaged			



## Example of O&M assessment checklist

Document reviewing of maintenance rules and operation rules

Interviewing relevant staffs to understand the implementation

Log No.	Key Area / Question	Guidance/ Supplementary Questions	Answers
	Maintenance & Fault Finding Management		
1	What maintenance schedule / prioritisation system is used? •Equipment based schedules •Condition-based •Risk based •Reliability centred •Other	<ul> <li>Provide maintenance schedules for equipment.</li> <li>Do schedules for each equipment type have varying service requirements and frequencies? - provide evidence.</li> <li>Are these based on route cause analyses of failure modes and preventative maintenance? – provide evidence.</li> <li>How is critical equipment identified (e.g. high safety or performance impact)? - provide evidence.</li> <li>Does this vary depending on location or service demand (e.g. allocated train delay minutes/ failure)? – provide evidence.</li> <li>Does critical equipment have increased frequency for service requirements? – provide evidence.</li> </ul>	



#### Final assessment conclusion

Final assessment conclusion should consolidating:

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- Equipment assessment scores
  - Relevant maintenance and operation assessment result

The deliverable is usually a report stating:

- Strength areas and weak areas of equipment, operation and maintenance
- Recommendation/suggestion where improvement can be made either on improvement of rules, or considering investment to replace equipment, etc



#### Lessons learnt from the 2 cases

Key challenges and lessons learnt from the pilot application in mainland China:

► Condition assessment: relying on the experience and judgement by individual assessors → suggest to develop some quantitative criteria into the checklist

Operations and maintenance assessment: when identifying the specific asset type of concern using failure data analysis, it is suggested to conduct a vertical slice analysis (VSA) on the operational and maintenance arrangement of this asset



#### Conclusion

This method allows a full evaluation from different aspects, i.e. equipment, operations and maintenance.

- It can get a conclusion on safety operation of this asset.
- It is more comprehensive than the original SICA.
- It could be further enhanced and integrated to allow more objective and

structured assessment in future.



# Thank you! Q&A

