

Track – PL – Lift & Pack Joint

Scope Includes: Plain line joints
Excludes: S&C

Preparation

Tools, equipment and plant items required but not limited to:

- Shovel Packing.
 - Approved rail thermometers
 - Cross level gauge
 - Complete set of track lifting (sighting) boards
 - Chalk
 - Shovels
 - Forks
 - Picks
 - Appropriate Lifting Jacks
 - 1m straight edge
- 'Kango' Packing.
 - Same as for shovel packing, plus:
 - Kango
 - Fuel
- Chipping Packing.
 - Same as for shovel packing, plus:
 - 14mm chippings
- Measured Shovel Packing.
 - Same as for shovel packing, plus:
 - Void meters
 - Canisters
 - 'Swan neck' shovels
 - 14mm chippings

Work planning considerations:

- Weather precautions and rail temperature
- Suitability and condition of track components
- Track geometry
- Signalling requirements
- Traction requirements
- Gauge clearance
- Proximity to other equipment and structures

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Method

Shovel, Kango and Chipping packing:

1. Ensure rail temperature is within safe working limits.
2. Ensure rail fastenings are correctly installed.
3. Lifting of track should normally be undertaken in the direction of traffic (from sighting board to target board).
4. Ensure joint is in good condition.
5. Ensure bolts are correct torque (except glued IRJ)
6. Ensure correct sleeper spacing.
7. Measure & record existing alignment information.
8. Identify datum rail.
9. Identify datum rail high spots visually.
10. Check vertical alignment by eye or sighting boards (see method statement Track – PL – Lift and Pack).
11. Open out ballast and insert a lift jack under the datum rail foot in the bay nearest the intermediate board. A minimum of 2 sleepers either side of the joint (4 sleepers in total) must be packed
12. Lift the datum rail using lift jacks until the required line of sight is achieved between the sighting, target and intermediate boards.
13. Check joint using 1m straight edge
14. Open out the ballast bay to expose the underside of the sleeper. The packing area must be limited to 375mm (1' 3") each side of the centre of the rail seating.
15. Check cross-level.
16. Where correction of cross level is required:
 - Open out ballast & insert a lift jack under the foot of the adjacent rail
 - Lift the rail until the required cross level is achieved
 - Open out the ballast bay to expose the underside of the sleeper. The packing area must be limited to 375mm (1' 3") each side of the centre of the rail seating.
17. Working on both rails at the same time, pack ballast or chippings, as appropriate, under the sleeper from both sides.
18. Ensure the intermediate sleepers are similarly packed.
19. Release the lifting jacks.
20. Ensure track geometry is correct.
21. Box-in opened out bay(s).