# Plasser Inertial Track Geometry Measuring System

Installation on track maintenance machines

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#### Introduction

- Plasser & Theurer developed the Inertial track geometry system in the late 1990's
- Over 55 Inertial measuring systems installed worldwide
- The new trend is the installation of the system on track maintenance machines
- This open new possibilities and also new challenges

#### Plasser Track Geometry Measuring System

#### The system is composed of:

- Inertial measuring unit
- Navigational system
- Non contact gauge measuring system

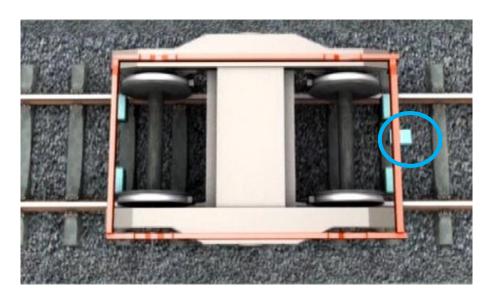


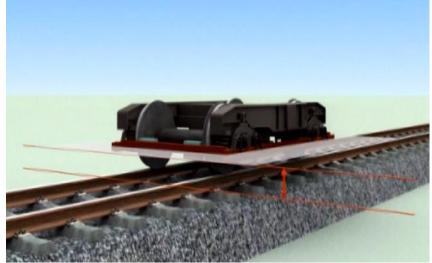


#### **Inertial Unit**

The Inertial unit (IMU) is mounted on the measuring frame.

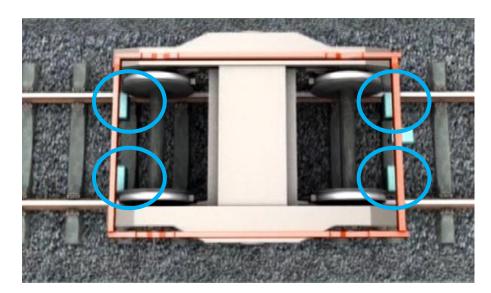
The measuring frame is fixed on the axle bearings.

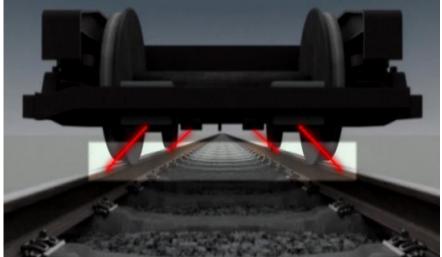




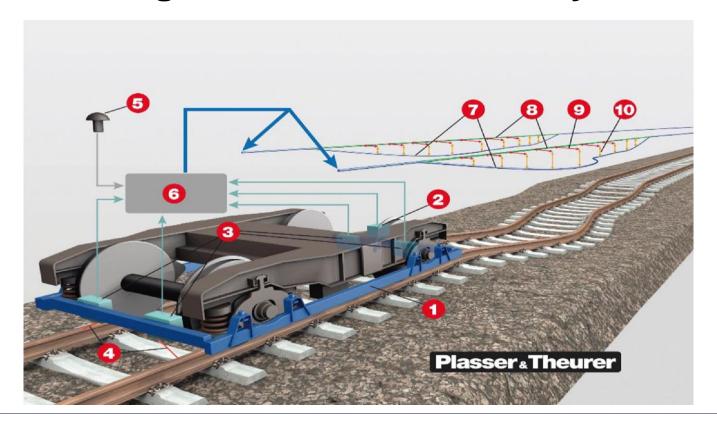
# **Optical Gauge Measuring System**

- Compensation of the horizontal movement of the bogie
- Gauge measuring





# **Inertial Navigational Track Geometry**



#### **Parameters**

- Cross level
- Twist
- Gauge
- Longitudinal level (3 different wave and chord lengths)
- Alignment (3 different wave and chord lengths)
- Radius/Curvature
- Gradient

#### **Features**

- No minimum speed required
- Measurement under load
- Excellent reproducibility
- No vertical compensation required
- Integrates GNSS
- GNSS even available in areas with no GNSS reception
- Compliant with the European Standard EN13848

# **Installation on Tamping machine**







## Use of the system on tamping machines

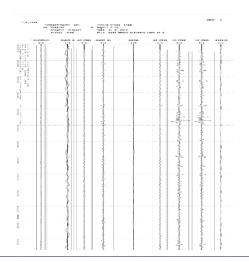
- Use of the tamping machine as a measuring car
- Measurement for acceptance of the work performed
- Speed up spot intervention for single exception
- Pre-Measurement to define the design track geometry
- Absolut track geometry measurement (development in progress)

# Tamping machine as measuring car

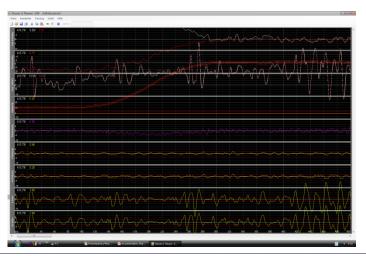
- The tamping machine is traveling to and from the construction area.
   The measured data are therefore "for free"
- Onboard Analyses
  - Output of single Exception and evaluation in real time
  - Calculation of quality indexes (e.g. TQI)
  - Identification of defective areas
- Integrated database for track speed, class of the section, events, etc.

#### Measurement for work acceptance

- No measuring speed limit
- Verification of long wavelength defects (D2/D3)
- Documentation output according to local standards



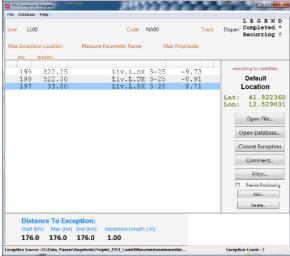




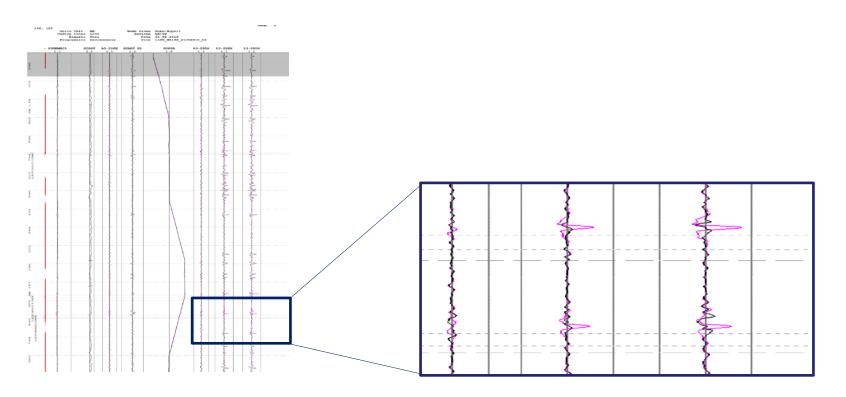
## **Spot intervention (Single Exception)**

- Additional device for fast detection of the defect, using inertial navigational data
- Measurement before and after



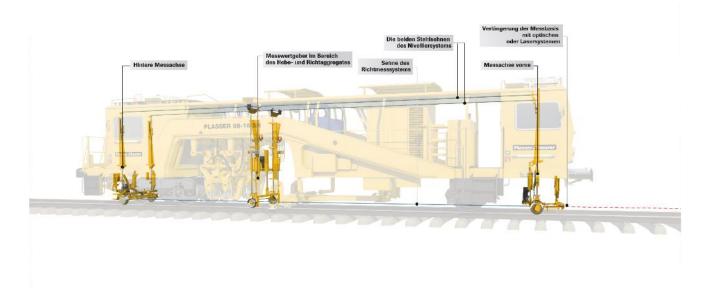


## Spot intervention, Documentation before / after



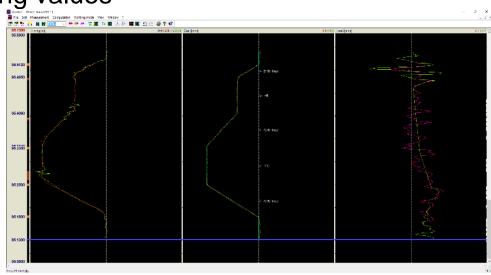
## Working principle tamping machines

Three measuring axles create the reference of the lifting and lining system ALC – Automatic guiding computer



# **Design of track geometry**

- Pre-Measurement with the Inertial Measuring system
- Definition of the design superelevation and curvature
- Calculation of lifting and shifting values
- Transfer to the ALC



#### Absolute track geometry measurement

- Measurement of the Fixpoints using an optical system
- Space curve measurement between Fixpoints using the Inertial track geometry system
- Combination of both data
- Calculation of shifting and lifting values

#### System under development

#### Conclusion

The Inertial track measuring system installed on tamping machines improves the speed and quality of the work.

Trend: More measuring technology on maintenance machines.