

## THE MEASUREMENT OF BODYSIDE RIPPLE

Bodyside ripple is the distortion, inherent in the exterior skin of the vehicle, introduced in the manufacturing process. It was known that such irregularities are more noticeable with high gloss finishing paint systems and it might be necessary in future to include a maximum level of bodyside ripple in specifications, especially if the amount of filler used to correct the distortion is reduced. However, no technique was available for the quantification of such irregularities.

This report details a technique developed to measure bodyside ripple on coaching stock. Both the design of the instrument and on-site measuring technique are described; and the factors influencing the apparent effect of bodyside ripple, and improvements in instrumentation to adequately quantify it, are discussed.