

## WELD PROFILE SURVEY FOR ORE D148 COMMITTEE

The working Group 1 of ORE Committee D148 was instructed to carry out a survey of rail and rail weld running surface profiles. Those railway administrations participating (BR, SNCF, DB and NS) were asked to take longitudinal running surface profile measurements of 50 flash and 50 thermit rail welds using a 3m straight edge. This report presents the findings of the BR survey.

The data produced indicates that the general standard of weld straightness and finish produced on BR is poor for both thermit and flash welds. The three flash welding depots produced differing standards of weld straightness, but all show need of improvement.

The report provides the following recommendations:

- Improvements in flash welding production lines as detailed should be introduced. A short-term improvement could be obtained if welds were lifted higher at the Dinsdale Depot.
- Thermit weld alignment techniques require improving in line with recommendations given in the report.
- Improved weld finishing techniques and procedures require developing, both for depots and for the field.