

REMOTE CONTROL OPERATION OF CLASS 56 LOCOMOTIVES AT POWER STATIONS

The conventional operation of Merry-Go-Round (MGR) coal trains is described together with the remote control operation of such a train during its unloading cycle. The advantages of installing Remote Control Equipment include:

- Reduction in manpower requirements.
- Elimination of the need for sustained concentration by the driver during the unloading process.
- Improved response time due to removal of human link involved in stopping and starting the train.
- Better performance in conditions of poor visibility.

An experimental system for remote control operation was installed at Eggborough Power Station, Yorkshire. The report describes the equipment that has been installed on the locomotives and the trackside in order to achieve the above benefits, whilst fulfilling safety requirements.