

## HARDBOARD PACKS FOR TRACK MAINTENANCE – EFFECT ON LATERAL RESISTANCE – LICHFIELD TESTS

It has been known for some time that track tamping is accompanied by a drop in resistance offered by the ballast to lateral movement of the track. The report details investigations to understand whether a similar loss of resistance occurred when track is maintained by the use of hardboard packs. The trials were carried out on the London Midland region at Lichfield Trent Valley.

The work indicates that a loss of resistance up to 56% occurs when track is maintained with hardboard packs compared with a loss of 43% when tamping. However, after seven days traffic there is little difference between either maintenance technique.