

Fugro Buys Rail Data Mapping Company



Fugro has reached an agreement to take over RailData, which includes RailData International, in The Netherlands. RailData specialises in the measurement of absolute and relative position of railway tracks and has developed a patent-pending device that measures data in three dimensions.

The system is quickly and easily attached to regular trains performing measurements under their normal operating speeds. With a high absolute accuracy it meets the specifications of The Netherlands' rail network organisation. It also eliminates the need for expensive special purpose train wagons and the problem of scheduling rail inspections in between regular train services, making data collection significantly cheaper, less cumbersome and safer.

The company has developed an excellent reputation for rail inspections in The Netherlands and is on the verge of expanding into international markets. The UK market has already shown interest in using the system to survey the UK rail network. Fugro states it is expected that this technology and approach will eventually supersede traditional techniques in many other countries. RailData generated revenues of EUR 1.2 million in 2013 and employs a team of 12 specialists.

The acquisition fits well with Fugro's strategy to build market share in corridor mapping. The company already offers Lidar and other survey mapping techniques and expertise, providing unique solutions to the railway industry. RailData will form part of Fugro's geospatial business, within its survey division.

Image courtesy: RailData.

<https://www.gim-international.com/content/news/fugro-buys-rail-data-mapping-company>
