



## Point Machine Service/Refurbishment

### The Challenge

**Network Rail needed to realise cost reductions within their supply chain and identified point machines as a key area. One way to realise savings was to use refurbishment rather than replacement more extensively.**

**This presented Network Rail's Logistics partner with a challenge and Unipart Rail was able to offer the Logistics partner access to their extensive float of point machines enabling the repairs and refurbishment approach to proceed.**

### The Solution

Unipart Rail called upon their Operations Delivery team who were able to identify surplus or redundant machines located at Minor Stocking Points (MSPs) throughout the UK.

To support the programme, Unipart Rail produced a technical product bulletin that was circulated nationally across the infrastructure and within the Logistics partner's organisation. This bulletin highlighted the savings that could be achieved, the benefits of the repair service and provided pictorial references to key components which are required to facilitate the process.

In Unipart Rail's York Service Centre, a dedicated facility was established, complete with specialist equipment such as industrial cleaning/degreasing units, as well as training for the technicians who were dedicated to point machines.

The process includes assessment, complete strip-down, re-engineering of parts or (where required) sourcing of replacements, assembly and rigorous testing.

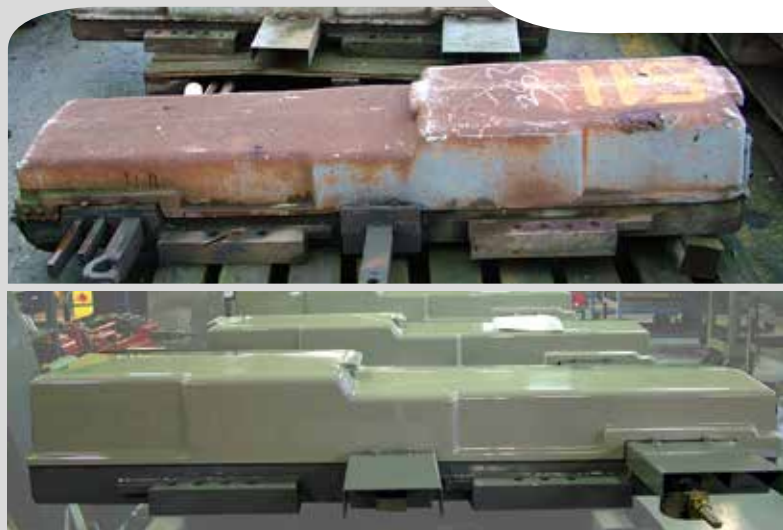
A 15 month warranty also accompanies every point machine returned to the customer.



## The Service

The refurbishment service offers a complete refurbishment on a range of point machines. For a 2014 refurbishment project from Australia, Unipart Rail created the technical specification for the refurbishment as there was no original version available.

The customer was impressed that even with the shipping, costs of the overhaul were lower than buying new.



## The Result

To date the partnership approach to the point machine repair process has achieved a cost saving of £750,000 against the purchase of new machines. In addition to the significant cost savings Network Rail now have improved product availability of point machines. As well as saving 50% of the cost of a new machine, the repair was also accompanied by a 15 month warranty – better than on a new one.

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