

Schaeffler Global Technology Solutions

Railway

VR Ltd Finnish Railways, Finland

Reconditioning of Railway Bearings

VR Ltd Finnish Railways belongs to VR-Group Ltd, a broad-based Finnish transport company. It serves freight service customers and public transport customers with rail and road transport services. The group employs more than 11 000 employees and is divided into five business areas (Rail Services, Track Construction and Maintenance, Road Services, Catering and Restaurant Services, Telecommunication Services). VR Group's net profit in 2012 was 54 million Euro.

Challenge for Schaeffler

For safety reasons, railway companies must have their rail vehicles and especially the wheelsets of their rail vehicles checked regularly. In this context, the reconditioning of bearings, which is a time saving and economical alternative compared to the fitting of new bearings, is increasingly gaining in significance. That is why VR Ltd Finnish Railways has for some time been using the reconditioning service offered by Schaeffler.

Schaeffler Solution

Every month, approximately 350 railway bearings are sent to Schweinfurt (Germany) for reconditioning. The reconditioning centre is equipped with special mounting and dismounting tools and cleaning facilities. Experienced Schaeffler reconditioning experts perform the following steps of the procedure: Dismounting, washing, examination, measuring, polishing (if necessary), second washing, replacement of spare parts (if necessary), preservation, packaging. Soon afterwards, the axle box bearings are ready for use again. After the reconditioning they offer the same performance as new bearings.



Technical Information about the Rail Vehicles

Railway bearings of types:

- FAG 502472AA
- FAG 526755A
- FAG F-577732.TAROL130/230
- SKF 229750
- SKF 229750/129



Automated washer



Wheelset of a rail vehicle



TAROL unit (used and reconditioned)

Customer Benefit

The reconditioning service is offered for bearings from all manufacturers. For customers, this means less logistic effort as bearings of different brands do not need to be sent to different manufacturers. Altogether, every bearing can be reconditioned decisively. This reduces the demand for new bearings to one eighth. A bearing can be reconditioned at around 50% of the cost of a new bearing.

What's special

The reconditioning of axlebox bearings is an economical alternative and a Schaeffler service that is available for bearings from all manufacturers.

Technical Information about the Solution

Reconditioning for axlebox bearings:

- Dismounting
- Washing
- Examination
- Measurement
- Polishing (if necessary)
- Second washing
- Replacement of spare parts (if necessary)
- Preservation
- Packaging