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## Railway applications - Measurement of vertical forces on wheels and wheelsets - Part 2: Test in workshop for new, modified and maintained vehicles

Applications ferroviaires - Mesurage des forces verticales à la roue et à l'essieu - Partie 2 : Essai en atelier des véhicules neufs, modifiés ou maintenus

Bahnanwendungen - Messung von vertikalen Rad- und Radsatzkräften - Teil 2: Test im Werk für neue, umgebaute und instandgesetzte Fahrzeuge

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**prEN 15654-2:2016 (E)****European foreword**

This document (prEN 15654-2:2016) has been prepared by Technical Committee CEN/TC 256 "Railway applications", the secretariat of which is held by DIN.

This document is currently submitted to the CEN Enquiry.

This document has been prepared under a mandate given to CEN by the European Commission and the European Free Trade Association, and supports essential requirements of EU Directive 2008/57/EC.

For relationship with EU Directive 2008/57/EC, see informative Annex ZA, which is an integral part of this document.

This document is the second part of a three-part standard collectively referred to as "Railway applications — Measurement of vertical forces on wheels and wheelsets" and which covers:

- static and quasi-static wheel force measurements of new, modified or maintained rail vehicles in workshops and;
- the evaluation of derived quantities such as the vertical wheelset forces, axle loads and other quantities that describe the vertical wheel force distribution of a vehicle.

Part 1: *Interoperable on track measurement sites for vehicles in service* deals with the measurement of wheel forces and axle loads of in-service rail vehicles.

Part 3: *Approval and verification of interoperable on track measurement sites for vehicles in service* (CEN/TR) is in preparation and deals with the approval and verification of interoperable local measuring sites in-service.

## Introduction

There are many national and local procedures and methods for the measurement of wheel forces of new, modified and maintained vehicles in use across Europe.

The existing multiplicity of different procedures and methods of calculating parameters can lead to confusion in the interpretation of test data. By having a common set of defined assessment quantities the possibility of confusion and misinterpretation is reduced.

To achieve comparable results for the same vehicle, when the wheel forces are measured at different sites the uncertainty of the whole measurement process needs to be assessed.

The current situation leads in some cases to non-comparable results from different sites. The normative requirements of this standard are based on current experience but these will not necessarily lead to comparable results, being obtained, when a vehicle is measured on two or more different systems. In order to improve this situation, methods are described in the informative part of this standard, to assess the relevant uncertainties of the whole measuring process.

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**prEN 15654-2:2016 (E)****1 Scope**

This European Standard applies to the measurement of vertical wheel forces of railway vehicles in maintenance workshops and at manufacturing sites. It also deals with derived quantities that are used to describe the vehicle's vertical wheel force distribution.

The standard defines the assessment and acceptance criteria for the measurement process. The requirements for this assessment support the specification, the design and the operation of the measurement process. It is considered that the measurements are made either statically or quasi-statically. This standard is applicable to all railway vehicles.

The commercial weighing of vehicles is not covered by the scope of this standard, nor does it define in which cases the wheel forces of a vehicle will be measured.

**2 Normative references**

The following documents, in whole or in part, are normatively referenced in this document and are indispensable for its application. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.

EN 13848-1, *Railway applications — Track — Track geometry quality — Part 1: Characterisation of track geometry*

EN 14363, *Railway applications — Testing and Simulation for the acceptance of running characteristics of railway vehicles — Running Behaviour and stationary tests*

EN 15663, *Railway applications - Definition of vehicle reference masses*

EN ISO 1101, *Geometrical product specifications (GPS) — Geometrical tolerancing — Tolerances of form, orientation, location and run-out (ISO 1101)*

EN ISO 7500-1:2015, *Metallic materials — Calibration and verification of static uniaxial testing machines — Part 1: Tension/compression testing machines - Calibration and verification of the force-measuring system (ISO 7500-1:2015)*

EN ISO 10012, *Measurement management systems — Requirements for measurement processes and measuring equipment (ISO 10012)*

ISO/IEC Guide 99:2007, *International vocabulary of metrology — Basic and general concepts and associated terms (VIM)*

**3 Terms and definitions**

For the purposes of this document, the terms and definitions given in ISO/IEC Guide 99:2007 and those listed below apply in this document.

**3.1 individual static (vertical) wheel force**

**$Q_0$**   
static vertical part of the total wheel force at the reference point  $D_0$  of the wheel profile as specified in EN 13715, when all the reference points of a vehicle are in a horizontal plane and with the vehicle at rest



Note 1 to entry: Where the symbol  $Q_{0,jk}$  is used,  $j$  is the axle number and  $k$  is the side of the vehicle on which the wheel is located:

- $k = R$  denotes the right-hand side in the coordinate system of the vehicle;
- $k = L$  denotes the left-hand side in the coordinate system of the vehicle.

Note 2 to entry: For standard gauge applications the lateral distance between the reference points of a wheelset is 1 500 mm. For other applications such as special wheel profiles or other gauges this definition should be applied using the same principle.

Note 3 to entry: The static vertical wheel force is the result obtained by the measurement process described in this standard.

### 3.2

#### **single measurement**

value representing the wheel force of one wheel from one measurement unit which forms a part of the measurement device

### 3.3

#### **measurement results**

#### **documented results**

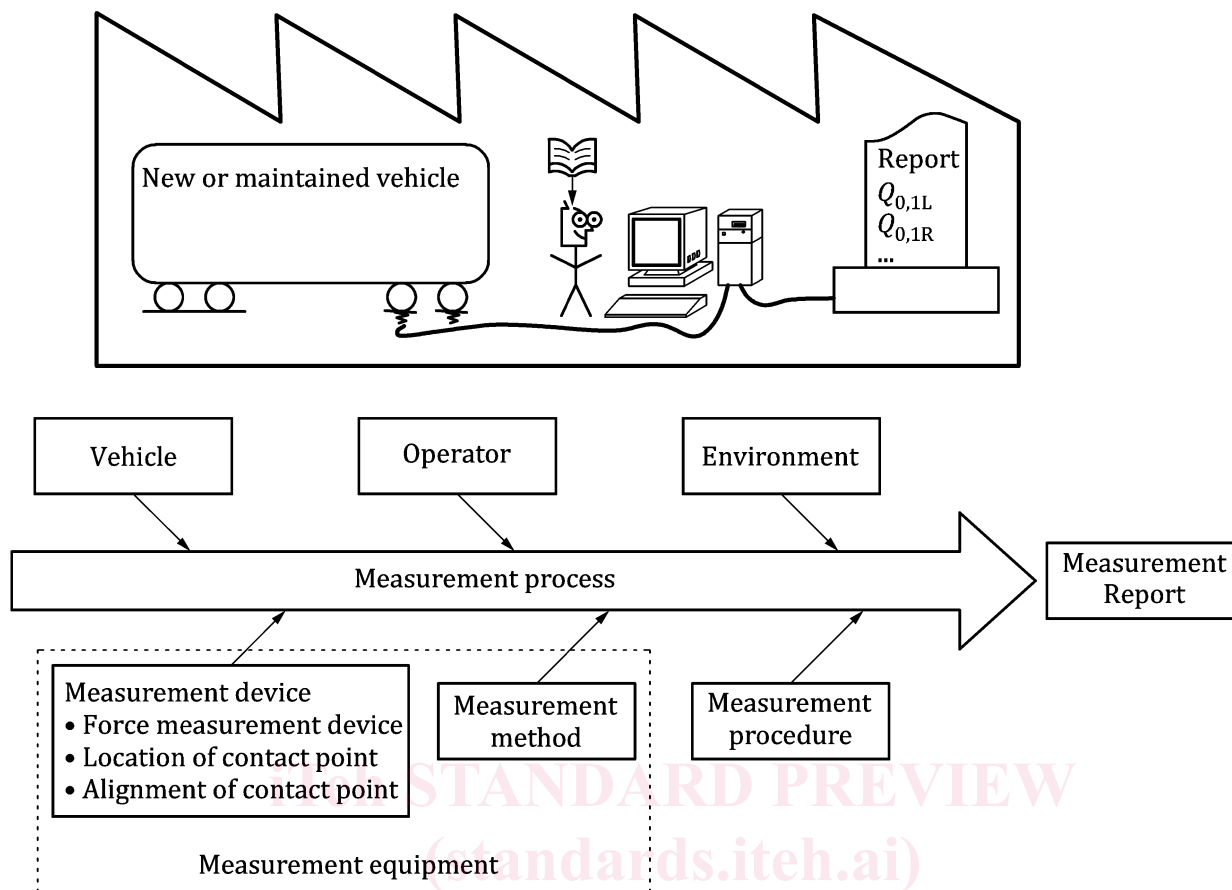
results for wheel forces and derived quantities evaluated in one regular measurement process for the report

## 4 Measurement process

### 4.1 General

The measurement process is the set of operations, devices and procedures, performed on the vehicle to evaluate its vertical wheel forces.

The measurement process and its influence parameters are illustrated in Figure 1.



**Figure 1 — Measurement process of vertical wheel force**

## 4.2 Measurement equipment

### 4.2.1 Description of the measurement equipment

The measurement equipment shall be described and documented in a manner that all users can understand.

### 4.2.2 Measurement method

#### 4.2.2.1 Static Measurements

Static measurements are made with the vehicle at rest standing on the measurement devices.

Static measurements are performed:

- wheelset by wheelset,
- running gear by running gear or
- by a device for the whole vehicle.

#### 4.2.2.2 Quasi Static (Dynamic) Measurements

Quasi-static measurements are made when the vehicle is moved along the measuring track.

A number of test runs shall be made at a slow and nearly constant speed (for example at up to 5 km/h  $\pm$  2 km/h on the measuring track)

To minimize dynamic effects on the uncertainty of the measurement, the speed shall be low and the track quality good. The vertical movement of the vehicle body shall be negligible.

#### 4.2.2.3 Measurements of vehicle under twist

Measurements with the vehicle under twist are taken with the vehicle located on a device that applies twist.

Vertical wheel forces and the applied twist are measured continuously while the twist is being applied to the running gear or to the vehicle both in a positive and in a negative direction with respect to a horizontal reference plane. A full hysteresis loop shall be performed. The result of this measurement is the mean value between the maximum and minimum force measured in the horizontal reference plane (position without twist).

This method reduces the influence of hysteresis on measuring results. The type and the amplitude of the applied twist (vehicle or bogie twist or both) shall be specified taking into account the characteristics of the suspension system of the vehicle.

NOTE Results achieved by the application of vehicle and/or bogie test twist according to EN 14363 are adequate.

#### 4.2.3 Measurement device

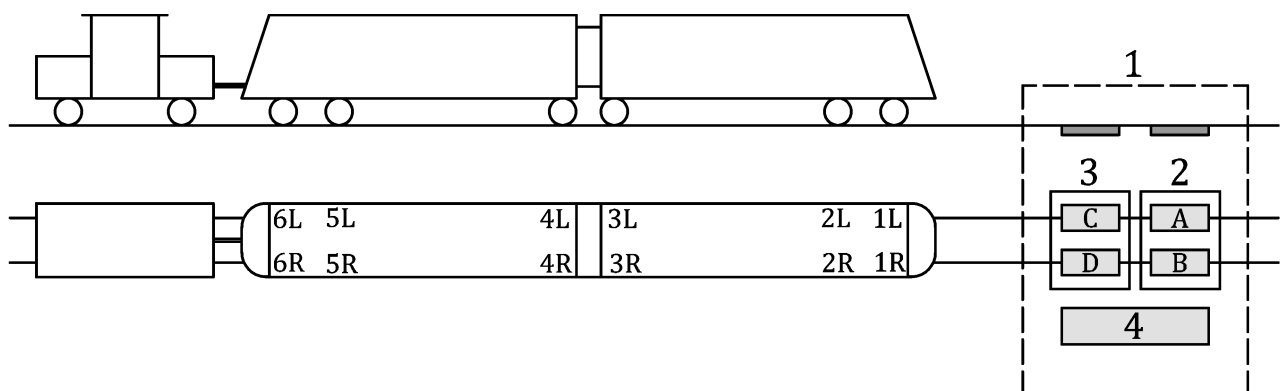
##### 4.2.3.1 Force measurement device (load cells, strain gauges, shear-force sensors, etc.)

The force measurement device converts the mechanical force into a proportional signal that is then treated and transferred to an output device. The measurement device consists of a structure that supports the wheel set, the measuring sensors, the processing instrumentation and an indicating device.

A force measurement device may consist of different sections that are located at different points along the track. Single measurements can be on each device.

Measurement devices shall be manufactured and tested according to generally accepted standards.

NOTE Information about the use of strain gauge installations is given in Annex D.



#### Key

- 1 measurement device
- 2 measurement section including units A and B
- 3 measurement section including units C and D
- 4 indicating device

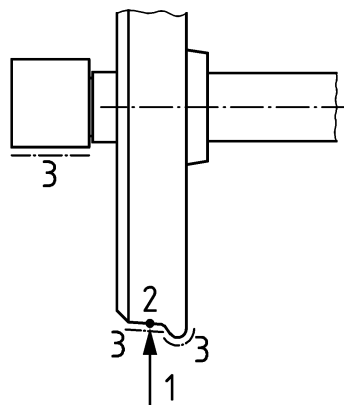
**Figure 2 — Example for measurement device consisting of two measurement sections (four units)**

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## 4.2.3.2 Location of contact points (Running surface, flange top, axle boxes)

The contact points between the vehicle wheels and the measurement devices are normally on the wheel tread profiles at/or near to the reference points shown in Figure 3.

Other contact points on the wheel flange or on the axle box can be used. In these cases,  $Q_0$  (the vertical wheel forces at the reference points) shall be calculated from the measured values taking into account the difference between the location of the contact point and the reference point.



## Key

- 1 vertical wheel force  $Q_0$
- 2 reference contact point  $D_0$
- 3 possible locations of contact point (running surface, flange, axle box) for measurement device

Figure 3 — Reference points and typical contact point areas on a wheelset

## 4.2.3.3 Alignment of contact points / Track characteristics definition

The following geometric characteristics are specified with the intention of ensuring that the contact points of the wheel treads of the vehicle are in a horizontal plane.

All locations where contact points of the wheelsets of a measured vehicle are positioned during the measurement procedure shall be on a plain, straight and untwisted section of track.

The following requirements shall be applied to the geometry of the measurement device (usually the track):

- 1) the flatness (see EN ISO 1101) of the rail tops (on running surface, see EN 13848-1) at the possible positions of the wheelsets along the track inside a measured running gear shall not exceed 1 mm;
- 2) the difference in the cross levels (see EN 13848-1) over a longitudinal distance of any two wheelsets of a running gear shall not exceed 1 mm;
- 3) the flatness (see EN ISO 1101) of the rail tops at possible positions of wheelsets along the track inside a vehicle shall not exceed 2 mm. The longitudinal gradient of the reference plane shall not exceed 0,4 %. The lateral gradient shall not exceed 0,1 %;
- 4) the difference between the mean cross levels (see EN 13848-1) of the wheelsets in a measured running gear and any possible position of the wheelsets of an adjacent running gear that is inside the same vehicle body shall not exceed 2 mm;

- 5) the straightness (see EN ISO 1101) of the centre line of the track (evaluated in the range up to 14 mm below top of rails) shall be less than 10 mm. This applies to the area of the wheelsets in a measured running gear and any possible position of the wheelsets of an adjacent running gear that is inside the same vehicle body.

If measurements are not taken on a track, the alignment of the contact points on the support (e.g. under the flange or under the axle box) shall follow equivalent rules.

The effect of deflections due to the load of a representative vehicle shall be respected for the flatness measurements. For cross level measurements it needs only to be respected, if the difference between the deflection of the left and right rail exceed 0,2 mm at the same wheelset position.

If the car bodies of measured vehicles are connected by a device that transfers torsional moments around the longitudinal axis, the influence of further running gear shall be considered.

This specification is a minimum specification. In some cases a better track quality is useful. Annex B gives more information about the influence of track quality on the measured results.

NOTE Experience has shown that butt welds between rails, rail joints and the use of worn rails lead to problems with compliance with the requirements.

#### **4.2.3.4 Lead-on and lead-off track**

The length of the lead-on and lead-off tracks will depend on the measuring method being used and on the overall length of the vehicles being measured.

It shall be specified, if special excitation elements, such as wedges, are to be included in the lead-on track(s).

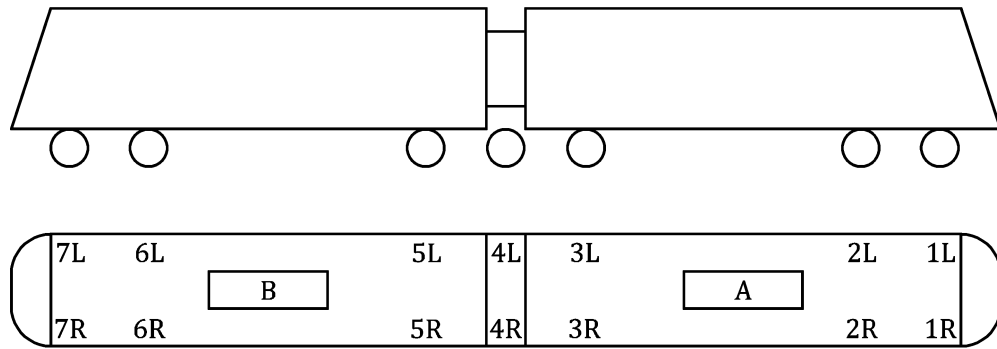
### **4.3 Vehicle**

#### **4.3.1 General**

The wheel forces of a vehicle shall be measured after finishing all assembly work on the vehicle and adjustments of the suspension system. If changes are made to the vehicle, which may result in an unacceptable distribution of the wheel forces, the measurement shall be repeated.

#### **4.3.2 Description of the vehicle**

A vehicle based identification system, such as illustrated in Figure 4, shall be used to identify each wheel in an unambiguous way.



1									
2				B				A	
3	<i>i</i>		III			II			I
4	<i>j</i>		7 6			5 4 3			2 1
5	<i>k</i>					R/L			
6	$n_{Veh}$					7			
7	<i>x</i>		6			3			1
8	<i>z</i>		2			3			2

**Key**

- 1 vehicle type
- 2 vehicle body number
- 3 running gear number
- 4 wheelset number
- 5 wheel index (*k* = R: right wheel, *k* = L: left wheel)
- 6 number of wheelsets per vehicle
- 7 first wheelset number in running gear *i*
- 8 number of wheelsets of running gear *i*

**Figure 4 — Example of a vehicle based identification system for the description of the wheel arrangement**

**4.3.3 Preparation of vehicle**

**4.3.3.1 General**

Before the measurement of the wheel forces are made, the vehicle shall be prepared in order to achieve:

- 1) the intended load condition,
- 2) the intended suspension status (inflated or deflated),
- 3) the intended lateral position of the vehicle body on the running gear (for example in some cases by installation of shims between lateral bump stops and the structure in deflated condition of air suspension).

If it is specified for the vehicle, the dampers shall be removed or disconnected.

If it is specified for a trainset, the single vehicles shall be decoupled.

#### **4.3.3.2 Load condition**

##### **4.3.3.2.1 New and modified vehicles**

The reference load condition for new and modified vehicles is the design mass in working order according to EN 15663. As other load conditions are permitted, it is necessary to specify and report the load condition of the vehicle used in the measurement process. Deviations from the specified load condition shall either be corrected by suitable measures or reported with the measured values (see also 4.7.2 and Annex F), e.g. in case of a vehicle having:

- 1) wheelsets with reduced wheel diameter,
- 2) missing parts,
- 3) missing staff or
- 4) incomplete consumables.

##### **4.3.3.2.2 Maintained vehicles**

For measurement of maintained vehicles (meaning, without significant change of design mass and its distribution), it is not necessary to control the amount of wear of the wheels and the amount of consumables carried, as long as the assessed quantities for the maintained vehicle are not significantly affected. If for certain vehicle types the influence of consumables and wear is relevant for the assessed quantities, the necessary load condition needs to be specified and to be stated in the measurement report (see Annex F).

##### **4.3.3.3 Suspension state**

Vehicles equipped with air suspension (or hydraulic suspension) shall be measured in the inflated and in the deflated conditions. The status of the suspension (for example inflated/deflated) shall be reported with the measured values (see also 4.7.2 and Annex F). When changing the status of the suspension the measurement shall be made after the status of the suspension has been changed completely.

If hysteresis and the dampers or friction elements affect the wheel force distribution significantly it can be specified for a particular type of vehicle to remove these elements whilst the measurements are being made.

##### **4.3.3.4 Coupling state**

If the design of couplers and inter-vehicle dampers in a trainset influences the wheel force distribution significantly due to their hysteresis or their internal forces, it may be specified to loosen the coupler or to decouple the units whilst the measurement is being made for the particular type of vehicle.

#### **4.4 Measurement procedure**

##### **4.4.1 General**

The measurement procedure used to determine wheel forces shall be specified taking into account the chosen measurement method and the vehicle type.

All measurement procedures defined for a measurement site shall be described and named unambiguously.