

Gautrain sleeper delivery on track

INFRASET INFRASTRUCTURE

Products is on schedule with the supply of Gautrain's concrete sleepers to the Gautrain Sleeper Joint Venture. These include B70 sleepers for the ballast track as well as sleepers for the 1 in 9 turn-outs. Moreover, all the sleepers for the Marlboro depot have been delivered.

Infraset, which won the contract to supply both track and turnout sleepers against stiff international competition, is supplying a total of 190 000 sleepers manufactured to the Bombela Consortium's requirements. In addition to the 1 in 9 turnout and B70 sleepers already supplied, they will include 1 in 12 and 1 in 18,5 turnout sleepers.

The standard gauge 2,5 m B70, which is designed for high-speed lines, is used widely in Europe, where over 40 million have been installed to date.

Kobus Burger, general manager railway products at Infraset, says the turnout sleepers are also being manufactured to European specifications and standards for high-speed passenger lines.

'We received the coordinates for the turnout sleepers from VAE South Africa during September last year and delivered the initial sets during the first week of December. VAE South Africa sets extremely high standards and specified that the sleepers be manufactured to tolerances of 0,25 mm.'

Burger observed that two notable milestones are integral to the railway line on this project.

'It is the first time that swingnose crossings have been used on 1 in 9 turn-outs in South Africa and it is also the first time that rail cant is being deployed on 1 in 12 and 1 in 18,5 turnouts.' □



► The first 1 in 9 turnout set manufactured by VAE South Africa for the Gautrain Rapid Rail Link project shortly before delivery to the Gautrain Sleeper Joint Venture. The set was assembled using highly specialised concrete sleepers manufactured to a tolerance of 0,25 mm by Infraset Infrastructure Products

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