

REGIONAL FAST RAIL - VICTORIA

PROJECT OVERVIEW:

The Victorian Government (through its Department of Infrastructure) undertook to upgrade key country rail lines feeding Melbourne (Geelong, Ballarat, Bendigo and La Trobe Valley). The railway construction work was awarded to two contractors, TAJV and RRL. These contractors, in turn, awarded design and supply of the sleepers to Austrak of 191,000 and 248,000 sleepers respectively. Sleepers were manufactured in 2003 to 2004. Austrak supplied turnout bearer sets for the project.

PRODUCTS:

- Broad gauge, max 25 tonne 160kph, 60kg rail. Pandrol insulated Fastclip.
- We also made cant reducing sleepers 1 in 30, 1 in 40 and 1 in 80, and train stop sleepers
- A total of 52 turnout bearer sets were supplied to the project

FACTORY:

All the sleepers for this project were manufactured in Austrak's Geelong, Victoria, factory. Production was at the maximum factory capacity using five (5) beds / day, five days / week, 24 hours / day using accelerated production to produce approximately six beds a day.

Turnout bearers were manufactured in Rockhampton, Queensland

BENEFITS:

Major investment in track infrastructure and new 160kph rolling stock to provide much faster, frequent, more comfortable, safer and reliable passenger train services to the four regional rail routes and the towns and cities served by them. The track infrastructure work included easing curves, lengthening passing loops, duplicating track, re-sleeping, re-signalling, bridgeworks, etc

The introduction of the new rolling stock and timetable in 2006 has led to significant increases in patronage

