

## Evaluation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway resurfacing maintenance activities

Krezo, Steven; Mirza, Olivia ; Kaewunruen, Sakdirat; Sussman, Joseph

DOI:

[10.1016/j.trd.2018.09.019](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2018.09.019)

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*Document Version*

Peer reviewed version

*Citation for published version (Harvard):*

Krezo, S, Mirza, O, Kaewunruen, S & Sussman, J 2018, 'Evaluation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway resurfacing maintenance activities', *Transportation Research Part D: Transport and Environment*, vol. 65, pp. 458-465.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2018.09.019>

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Checked for eligibility: 26/09/2018

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.trd.2018.09.019>

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TECHNICAL PAPER

**“Evaluation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway resurfacing maintenance activities”**

(Title contains 8 words)

by

S. Krezo<sup>1</sup>, O. Mirza<sup>1</sup>, S. Kaewunruen<sup>2</sup>, J.M. Sussman<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup>School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics, University of Western Sydney,  
Kingswood, Penrith 2751, New South Wales, Australia.

<sup>2</sup>Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education, School of Civil Engineering,  
The University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, B15 2TT UK.

<sup>3</sup>Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering,  
Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139 USA.

Submitted to

**Transportation Research D: Transport and Environment**

Corresponding Author:

Dr Sakdirat Kaewunruen  
Senior Lecturer in Railway and Civil Engineering  
Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education  
School of Civil Engineering  
The University of Birmingham  
Edgbaston, B15 2TT UK  
Tel: +44 (0) 7541 247 497  
E-mail: s.kaewunruen@bham.ac.uk

Manuscript Summary:

Total pages: 19 (including 1-page cover)  
Number of figures 1  
Number of tables 8

# Evaluation of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway resurfacing maintenance activities

S. Krezo<sup>1</sup>, O. Mirza<sup>1</sup>, S. Kaewunruen<sup>2</sup>, J.M. Sussman<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> School of Computing, Engineering and Mathematics, University of Western Sydney, Penrith 2751, New South Wales, Australia

<sup>2</sup>Birmingham Centre for Railway Research and Education, School of Civil Engineering, the University of Birmingham, Edgbaston, B15 2TT UK

<sup>3</sup>Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, MA 02139 USA

## Abstract

This paper is the world first to investigate the CO<sub>2</sub> impact of railway resurfacing in ballasted track bed maintenance. Railway resurfacing is an important routine maintenance activity that restores track geometry to ensure safety, reliability and utility of the asset. This study consisted of an extensive field data collection from resurfacing machineries (diesel-engine tamping machines, ballast regulators and ballast stabilisers) including travel distances, working distances, fuel consumption and construction methodologies. Fuel consumption was converted to a kg CO<sub>2</sub>/m using the embodied energies of diesel. Analyses showed that tamping machines emitted the highest CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of the resurfacing machineries, followed by ballast regulators and ballast stabilisers respectively. Tamping machines processed 4.25 metres of track per litre of diesel, ballast regulators processed 6.51 metres of track per litre of diesel and ballast stabilisers processed 10.61 metres of track per litre of diesel. The results were then compared to previous studies and a parametric study was carried out to consider long-term resurfacing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions on Australian railway track. The outcome of this study is unprecedented and it enables track engineers and construction managers to critically plan strategic rail maintenance and to develop environmental-friendly policies for track geometry and alignment restoration.

**Keywords:** Carbon footprint, Green house gas emission, Railway resurfacing, Strategic maintenance, Construction management.

## 89 **1 Introduction**

90           There has been a steady increase in the reliance on fossil fuel derived energy for the last  
91 century, which has resulted in increased CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (Lombard et al., 2008; US EPA, 2014;  
92 Raupach et al., 2007). Transportation has been fundamentally embedded in all activities in a  
93 society, ranging from logistics of medicine, raw materials, consumable products, technology  
94 products, energy sources, and other wide ranges of related human activities. The transportation  
95 sector is thus a significant contributor to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions (Lenzen, 1999; Ortmeier and Pillay, 2001),  
96 mainly due to increasing infrastructure development and global transport requirements. It also  
97 contributes to air pollution through air borne particle emissions from stationary and mobile sources  
98 (Colvile et al., 2001). It is important to note that substantial railway transportation growth is  
99 expected in the near future (McGregor, 2013), and all modes of transportation sectors have an  
100 obligation to reduce CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from all phases of their life cycles, including construction,  
101 maintenance, operations and end of life (Kaewunruen et al., 2014; 2016).

102           Routine railway maintenance is required to ensure the safety, reliability, functionality and  
103 utility of the railway assets. Ballasted track bed maintenance activities consist of renewal and re-  
104 construction tasks, ballast cleaning, resurfacing, rail-head grinding and re-railing. All of these  
105 activities are generally performed with the assistance of diesel power machineries. Railway track  
106 bed resurfacing restores track geometry and alignment to an acceptable condition (Railcorp, 2013).  
107 Machines for a resurfacing task consist of tamping machines (diesel engine), ballast regulators, and  
108 dynamic stabilisers. Tamping machines are used for packing, lifting and lining the track bed. Ballast  
109 regulators replenish ballast and rebuild shoulder profiles; then ballast stabilisers pass through the  
110 track in order to consolidate the ballast aggregates to a uniform fit ensuring a good interlocking  
111 between the crushed aggregates. The advantages of resurfacing include increased safety, extended  
112 track life, reduced riding discomfort, improved train-track interaction, and functionality of the  
113 infrastructure.

114 A critical literature review regarding CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway maintenance shows a very  
115 limited and lacking detail of actual activity-based measurement and estimation, and in fact the use  
116 of broad assumptions makes it difficult to verify the results. Milford and Allwood (2010)  
117 investigated the impact of rail designs over the life cycle. Due to limitation of data and previously  
118 published literature, they made assumptions regarding the fuel consumptions and track-processing  
119 rates of railway resurfacing machineries. They rightly recommended that further research be carried  
120 into the fuel consumption and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the machineries to verify the accuracy of their  
121 study. In addition, Kiani et al. (2008) investigated a life-cycle assessment of railway track beds,  
122 including ballasted and ballastless tracks. The authors found that over the life of the infrastructure,  
123 slab track bed constructions were not associated with higher CO<sub>2</sub> emissions than ballasted track  
124 bed. The maintenance CO<sub>2</sub> emissions study were based on a large number of assumptions and  
125 variable industry experiences; however, no field data collection was carried out to verify the  
126 accuracy. Therefore, this study herein expands these research horizons and removes unclear  
127 assumptions by carrying out extensive site-based data collection and cost-based reviews on  
128 resurfacing machineries and numerous interviews with relevant project managers and engineers in  
129 NSW, Australia.

130 The goal of this study is to estimate more accurately the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway  
131 resurfacing practices. Field data collection and evidence-based review of project costs was carried  
132 out to ascertain the resurfacing methodology, travel distances, working distances and the fuel  
133 consumptions of diesel powered machineries (tamping machines, ballast regulators and ballast  
134 stabilisers). The study included Australian track bed construction methodologies, emissions factors  
135 and existing machineries used in ballasted track bed resurfacing. This paper aims at reporting  
136 CO<sub>2</sub>/m metric in order to develop simplified calculations for parametric study.

137 A parametric study is carried out to forecast the future CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway  
138 resurfacing activities. The parametric study has utilised the data collected, design life expectation  
139 and standard track maintenance planning. The model considers 20, 50 and 100-year life-cycles of

140 ballasted track bed. The exclusions from this data record include the machinery manufacture  
141 emissions (due to difficulty in obtaining accurate data from the manufacturers), the fuel  
142 consumption of work crews travelling to the depot or stabled locations (difficulty in accurately  
143 estimating the distances due to varied stabled locations), the fuel tanker used to re-fuel the  
144 resurfacing machineries (difficulty in accurately estimating distances due to varied stabled and re-  
145 fuelling locations) and hand tamping tools (as the results are negligible compared to the large  
146 resurfacing machineries). Note that there have recently been new types of tamping machines, which  
147 are more efficient and adopt electric power and hybrid (e.g. Plasser and Theurer's new models).  
148 However, these new types of tamping machines are not common in global practice at this stage and  
149 its use is still limited (e.g. in Europe and, to an extent, some rail construction companies). In this  
150 study, the scope of field measurements is placed on diesel-engine tamping machines. The study into  
151 the performance of hybrid and electric powered engine tamping machine will form a future study.

152         The outcome of the study will however be provided to decision makers and project planners  
153 (e.g. master schedulers, construction manager, maintenance and assets engineers) with a reasonably  
154 accurate CO<sub>2</sub> emissions estimates that can be used to plan and forecast CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from  
155 resurfacing activity when selecting materials for track beds. Researchers focusing on new railway  
156 infrastructure will benefit from this investigation by having reasonably accurate estimates when  
157 planning life-cycle assessments for ballasted railway constructions.

158

## 159 **2 Methodology**

160         Railway resurfacing activity is used to restore track geometry, restore ballast shoulder  
161 widths and replenish ballast crib levels (in order to improve lateral resistance of railway track).  
162 Resurfacing practices take place to restore railway track bed after re-construction activities and as a  
163 periodic maintenance activity. '*Re-construction resurfacing*' occurs where sections of track  
164 including the track bed are replaced and work needs to be carried out to ensure the track bed is  
165 returned to an acceptable condition. The re-construction resurfacing can experience extended delays

166 as several passes (machines proceeding in working mode is considered a pass) over the same  
167 location may be required. ‘*Periodic maintenance activities*’ occur routinely to ensure the ballasted  
168 track bed remains or is returned to an acceptable condition. Two forms of targeted periodic  
169 maintenance activities are performed: cyclic resurfacing and resurfacing for defects removal. Cyclic  
170 resurfacing is a periodic activity (either determined by age or traffic) in which track geometry is  
171 restored as an acceptable condition (preventative measure). Corrective resurfacing for defects  
172 removal occurs in problematic areas where defects in top or line geometry require corrections  
173 (Sydney Trains, 2013).

174 For future research, using game theory to identify carbon-efficiency decision process,  
175 understanding the project planning and scheduling is essential. The planning methodology of  
176 railway resurfacing projects is: civil maintenance crews and track inspection vehicles are used to  
177 identify defects. Due to the complexity and weekday use of the NSW rail network, weekend  
178 shutdowns (possessions) are the ideal time to carry out resurfacing works (Sydney Trains, 2013).  
179 The task scheduling is generally carried out by the resurfacing department. The first step in the  
180 construction planning is to ascertain which machineries are available for the possession weekend  
181 and do not overlap with other construction projects that require resurfacing support over the  
182 same period. Consultation is carried out with the network or asset owners to identify known  
183 geometric defect areas; with previous program sheets identifying the location of recurring  
184 defects. The allocation of plant is prioritised to recurring defect areas with the remaining time set  
185 for cyclic resurfacing (Sydney Trains, 2013).

186

## 187 **2.1 Railway resurfacing machinery data collection**

188 The data collection commenced with re-fuelling the resurfacing machineries to the capacity  
189 of the fuel tanks. Then a measurement is taken for the travel distance. Once at the worksite, the  
190 distance of track processed in work mode is recorded and the number of passes of each of the  
191 machineries is recorded. The number of passes varies depending on the project. Re-constructions

192 will typically require the tamping machine and ballast regulator to process the track multiple times  
193 to ensure the correct track height is achieved. However, production tamping typically requires only  
194 a single pass as the lifting height is small and can be achieved with one pass. The distance travelled  
195 to return to the stabling location is recorded; with this process repeated until the resurfacing works  
196 are complete. Finally, the machineries are refuelled by a mobile fuel tanker and the fuel  
197 consumption recorded. The machineries observed in the data collection are shown in Table 1.

198

## 199 **2.2 Estimating CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway resurfacing machineries**

200 Diesel powered resurfacing machineries are used to reduce manual labour and to increase  
201 the distance of track bed to be resurfaced. The reduction in manual labour introduces diesel  
202 powered machineries which contribute significant CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

203 The CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the machineries used in railway re-construction projects were  
204 evaluated by using the National Greenhouse Gas and Reporting Scheme (Department for Climate  
205 Change and Energy Efficiency, 2013) technical guidelines database and the Australian National  
206 Greenhouse Accounts Factors (NGA, 2012). The NGA (2012) determined that the emissions from a  
207 given fuel be estimated using Equation 1.

208

$$E_{ij} = Q_i EC_i EF_{ij} \quad (1)$$

209 where:

210  $E_{ij}$  (kg) is the emissions of gas type  $j$  for fuel type  $i$ ;

211  $Q_i$  (kg) is the quantity of type  $i$  fuel consumption;

212  $EC_i$  (GJ/kL) is the energy content factor of type  $i$  fuel;

213  $EF_{ij}$  (kg/GJ) is the gas  $j$  emission factor for fuel  $i$ .

214 Since CO<sub>2</sub> is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions (Carbon Neutral,  
215 2011), only this gas type has been considered in the current study. The fuel used by the machines  
216 for the trackwork investigated in the current study was diesel. The  $EC_{\text{diesel}}$  value is 38.6 GJ/kL



217 according to NPA (2012 pp 15), and the  $EF_{\text{diesel-CO}_2}$  value is 69.2 kg CO<sub>2</sub>/GJ (Department for  
218 Climate Change and Energy Efficiency, 2012), where kg CO<sub>2</sub>/GJ stands for kilogram of CO<sub>2</sub>  
219 emission per gigajoule of energy. Hence for estimating CO<sub>2</sub> emission by diesel fuel, Eq. (1) can be  
220 written as

$$\begin{aligned} E_{\text{diesel-CO}_2} &= Q_{\text{diesel}} EC_{\text{diesel}} EF_{\text{diesel-CO}_2} \\ &= 2671.1 Q_{\text{diesel}} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

222

### 223 **3 Results and Discussion**

224 The results of the data collection, including travel distances, work distances, fuel  
225 consumption and resurfacing activity, are shown in Table 2. The total fuel consumptions for  
226 grouped machineries (grouped as tamping machines, ballast regulators and ballast stabilisers); travel  
227 distances, working distances and fuel consumption over metre of track processed for each  
228 machinery type are shown in Table 3.

229 Table 4 shows the estimated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the railway resurfacing machineries  
230 from the site data collection. The results of study show that on average the tamping machines are  
231 able to process 4.25 metres of track for every litre of fuel used, processing 9,683 metres of track  
232 using 2,279 litres of diesel; the ballast regulators processed 6.51 metres of track for every litre of  
233 fuel used, processing 9,301 metres of track with 1,429 litres of diesel; whilst the ballast  
234 stabilisers processed 10.61 metres of track for every litre of fuel used, processing 6,940 metres of  
235 track with 654 litres of diesel consumed.

236 The estimated CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the railway resurfacing activities in the data collected  
237 showed that tamping machines generated 6,088 kg CO<sub>2</sub> over 9,683 metres of track processed,  
238 ballast regulators generated 3817 kg CO<sub>2</sub> over 9,301 metres of track processed and ballast  
239 stabilisers generated 1747 kg CO<sub>2</sub> over 6,940 metres of track processed. The results show that  
240 the tamping machines emitted 37 % more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions than the ballast regulators and 71 %

241 more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions than the ballast stabilisers. The ballast regulators emitted 44 % more CO<sub>2</sub>  
242 emissions than the ballast stabilisers.

243 The results of the data collection were then compared over a 1,000 km track processed  
244 distance. As shown in Table 5, to process 1,000 km of ballasted railway track, the tamping  
245 machines consumed 235,360 litres of diesel fuel and generated 628,675 kg CO<sub>2</sub>. To process 1000  
246 km of ballasted railway track, the ballast regulators consumed 155,360 litres of diesel fuel and  
247 generated 414,985 kg CO<sub>2</sub>. To process 1000 km of ballasted railway track, the ballast stabiliser  
248 consumed 94,240 litres of diesel fuel and generated 251,727 kg CO<sub>2</sub>. In total, the estimated CO<sub>2</sub>  
249 emissions from all resurfacing machineries emitted 1,295,387 kg CO<sub>2</sub> for resurfacing 1000 km of  
250 ballasted track bed.

251 Research shows that machineries stabled closer to the worksite location save time and  
252 delay. This is done to maximise the time to perform resurfacing activities during shutdowns and  
253 reduce the likelihood of being delayed.

254

## 255 **4 Comparative Study**

256 The results were compared with previous studies carried out by Kiani et al. (2008) and  
257 Milford and Allwood (2010). Table 6 shows the assumptions made by these studies. Table 7  
258 shows the comparison of diesel fuel consumption for resurfacing 1,000 km of ballasted railway  
259 track between the current study, Kiani et al. (2008) and Milford and Allwood (2010). Kiani et al.  
260 (2008) and Milford and Allwood (2010) used a slightly different methodology, with Kiani et al.  
261 (2008) reporting on CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from a tamping machine and ballast regulator whilst Milford  
262 and Allwood (2010) reported on tamping machines and stoneblowing machines.

263 Kiani et al. (2008) used fuel consumption per hour (litre/hour) and construction speed  
264 (hours/km) to ascertain the total fuel consumption per kilometre. The values used by Kiani et al.  
265 (2008) for fuel consumption in tamping machines were 15 litre/hour with a construction speed of  
266 32 hours/km. The ballast regulator values were 10 litre/hour with a construction speed of 17

267 hours/km. The authors found that tamping machines used 480,000 litres of diesel for every 1000  
268 kilometres (km) of track processed, with the ballast regulator consuming 170,000 litres for every  
269 1000 km of track processed. The total diesel fuel consumption for resurfacing machineries in the  
270 Kiani et al. (2008) study was 650,000 litres.

271 Due to limited literature, Milford and Allwood (2010) assumed fuel consumption and  
272 working distances, which were based on new machineries. Milford and Allwood (2010) used a  
273 fuel consumption of 70 litre/hour and a construction distance of 1200 m/hour for tamping  
274 activities. Milford and Allwood (2010) used stoneblowing machines (slightly different  
275 construction methodology when compared to this study); with the stoneblowing consuming 70  
276 litre/hour with a construction distance of 440 m/hour. The results showed that tamping consumed  
277 58,380 litre of diesel per 1000km and stoneblowing used 159,380 litres of diesel per 1,000 km.  
278 The total diesel fuel consumption in the study was 217,470 litres.

279 The results of the Kiani et al. (2008) study were compared to this study. Kiani et al.  
280 (2008) estimated 40% more fuel consumption for combined tamping and ballast regulating  
281 activities. When the results of all resurfacing (tamping machines, ballast regulating and ballast  
282 stabilising) from this study are compared to Kiani et al. (2008); Kiani et al. (2008) estimated  
283 25% more diesel fuel consumption. The results Kiani et al. (2008) predicted show higher CO<sub>2</sub>  
284 emissions compared to this paper, as the authors based the data on personal communications. As  
285 witnessed in the data collection in this study, delays during working are common, which may not  
286 have been taken into account in the estimate of Kiani et al. (2008).

287 Comparing Milford and Allwood (2010) to the tamping machine results of this study; this  
288 study estimated three times more fuel consumption in tamping machine activities. Milford and  
289 Allwood (2010) estimated a total of 217,470 litres of diesel fuel consumption for tamping and  
290 stoneblowing a 1000 km section of railway track (this is a different construction methodology to  
291 the one used in this study). When comparing the total resurfacing fuel consumption between  
292 Milford and Allwood (2010) to this study; this study estimated 55% more diesel fuel

293 consumption for resurfacing. The results are significantly higher than those estimated by Milford  
294 and Allwood (2010). However, due to limited information, Milford and Allwood (2010) based  
295 their results on the internet sources and personal communications, which most likely did not  
296 account for delays, which are commonly experienced in practice.

297 Table 8 shows the comparisons in CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for resurfacing of 1,000 km of ballasted  
298 railway track between the abovementioned study, Kiani et al. (2008) and Milford and Allwood  
299 (2010). Kiani et al. (2008) estimated 1,282,138 kg CO<sub>2</sub> from tamping a 1000km of railway track,  
300 51 % more than the findings in this study. When comparing total resurfacing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions,  
301 Kiani et al. (2008) estimated 1,736,229 kg CO<sub>2</sub> per 1000km of railway track, which is 26% more  
302 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions when compared to the estimates of this study. Kiani et al. (2008) estimated higher  
303 CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for tamping machines and total resurfacing compared to this study, likely due to  
304 the fact that the machine data used in the Kiani et al. (2008) study was the preferable scenario  
305 which did not include delays as were experienced in the field study. There is also a difference in  
306 country specific diesel fuel emissions factors used; as the Australian emissions factor is slightly  
307 higher than that of the UK fuel data.

308 Milford and Allwood (2010) found that tamping 1,000 km of ballasted railway track  
309 emitted 155,540 kg CO<sub>2</sub>; three times less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions when compared to tamping CO<sub>2</sub>  
310 emissions estimates from this paper. When comparing total resurfacing CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, Milford  
311 and Allwood (2010) estimated 580,488 kg CO<sub>2</sub> for 1,000 km of railway track, which is 55% less  
312 than the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions than estimated in this paper. Milford and Allwood (2010) estimated  
313 lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for tamping machines and total resurfacing compared to this study, likely  
314 due to the fact that the machine data used in the Milford and Allwood (2010) used machine  
315 manufacturers specifications and speeds and these sources do not include incidents or delays that  
316 may occur in practice. There is also a difference in country specific diesel fuel emissions factors  
317 used. Australian emissions factors are slightly higher than that of the UK.

318           When comparing the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from tamping machines between Kiani et al (2008)  
319 and Milford and Allwood (2010); Kiani et al. (2008) estimated 10 times more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
320 from tamping machine practices. When comparing the total resurfacing activities of Kiani et al.  
321 (2008) to Milford and Allwood (2010); Kiani et al. (2008) estimated three times more CO<sub>2</sub>  
322 emissions. The estimates from Kiani et al. (2008) are significantly higher than that of Milford  
323 and Allwood (2010); this is due to Kiani et al (2008) using a much lower construction speed (32  
324 hours/km) whereas Milford and Allwood (2010) used a much larger construction speed (50  
325 minutes/km).

326           The purpose of this investigation was to report on the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway  
327 resurfacing practices and this was achieved by carrying out an extensive field-based study of  
328 railway resurfacing practices. The need for this study comes from broad assumptions made by  
329 previous authors reporting on maintenance CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in life-cycle analyses. The findings of  
330 this study show that the estimates found in the previous studies were either higher or lower than  
331 the results found in this study. The assumptions used in previous studies were verifiable and this  
332 study highlights the discrepancies in data and the potential risk of using various CO<sub>2</sub> emission  
333 models. The outcome of this paper is aimed at providing an alternative source of more accurate  
334 CO<sub>2</sub> emission database obtained from extensive and detailed field studies.

335

## 336 **5 Parametric Study**

337           A parametric study has been carried out to estimate the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions for various  
338 resurfacing distances and time periods. Currently in Australia, there is an estimate of over 42,000  
339 kilometres of railway tracks (Australasian Railway Association, 2014). For the purpose of the  
340 parametric study, the scale variables of 1,000, 2,000, 5,000 and 10,000 kilometres of ballasted  
341 track bed resurfacing have been considered for the annual renewals. The variations in annual  
342 resurfacing distances allow decision makers and planners to analyse the impact of railway  
343 resurfacing on maintenance CO<sub>2</sub> emissions when different scenarios are considered.

344 Figure 1 shows the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from resurfacing activities. If 1000km of ballasted  
345 track was resurfaced annually 1,290,750 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted. After 20 years of resurfacing  
346 1000km annually 25,815,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted. After 50 years of resurfacing 1000km  
347 annually 64,537,500 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted.

348 If 2000km of ballasted railway track was resurfaced annually 2,581,500 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be  
349 emitted. After 20 years of resurfacing 2000km annually 51,630,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted.  
350 After 50 years of resurfacing 2000km annually 129,075,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted.

351 If 5000km of ballasted track was resurfaced annually 6,453,750 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be  
352 emitted. After 20 years of resurfacing 5000km annually 129,075,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted.  
353 After 50 years of resurfacing 5000km annually 322,687,500 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted.

354 If 10,000km of ballasted track was resurfaced annually 12,075,500 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be  
355 emitted. After 20 years of resurfacing 10,000km annually 258,150,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted.  
356 After 50 years of resurfacing 10,000km annually 645,375,000 kg CO<sub>2</sub> would be emitted.

357 Based on these results, it is found that ballasted track bed resurfacing practices emit a  
358 significant amount of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. As a case study, the parametric study can provide a  
359 reasonably accurate set of estimates of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from resurfacing practices considering  
360 various track distances over different stages of a life-cycle, which can be used by planners and  
361 decision makers as a CO<sub>2</sub> emissions forecasting tool.

362

## 363 **6 Conclusion**

364 This paper estimates the CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway resurfacing activities by carrying  
365 out an extensive field study, which observed the travel distances, working distances and fuel  
366 consumptions of tamping machines, ballast regulators and ballast stabilisers. The field-based  
367 study provided accurate data from resurfacing machineries. The fuel consumptions were  
368 converted to CO<sub>2</sub> emissions and compared to previous studies. The results will be used in future

369 life-cycle analyses and for reporting on emissions for maintenance operations. The outcome will  
370 establish a decision-making framework to enable carbon-efficient practice in railway industry.

371 According to the field data and extensive review of project costs, it is found that tamping  
372 machines processed 4.25 metres of track bed per litre of diesel fuel; ballast regulators processed  
373 6.51 metres of track bed per litre of diesel fuel and ballast stabilisers processed 10.61 metres of  
374 track bed per litre of diesel fuel. The results of previous studies by Kiani et al. (2008) and  
375 Milford and Allwood (2010) showed that there was a vast difference in fuel consumption and  
376 subsequent CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, with Kiani et al. (2008) estimating 10 times more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions  
377 than Milford and Allwood (2010). These estimates could not be verified but the difference was  
378 due to assumed construction speed.

379 The results of the field data collection compared to the previous studies showed that  
380 Kiani et al. (2008) estimated 26% more CO<sub>2</sub> emissions; whilst Milford and Allwood (2010)  
381 estimated 55% less CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. As stated, the difference in results was due to construction  
382 speeds, for instance, not taking into account real-time delays experienced in practice and also a  
383 difference in country specific diesel fuel emissions factors between the UK and Australia.

384 A parametric study considered resurfacing activities for various lengths of track over  
385 different stages of the railway infrastructures life-cycle. The results found that resurfacing 1,000  
386 km of resurfacing contributed 25,907,740 kg CO<sub>2</sub> after 20 years and 64,769,350 kg CO<sub>2</sub> after 50  
387 years. 2,000 km of resurfacing contributed 51,815,480 kg CO<sub>2</sub> after 20 years and 129,538,700 kg  
388 CO<sub>2</sub> after 50 years. 5,000 km of resurfacing contributed 129,538,700 kg CO<sub>2</sub> after 20 years and  
389 323,846,750 kg CO<sub>2</sub> after 50 years. 10,000 km of resurfacing contributed 259,077,400 kg CO<sub>2</sub>  
390 after 20 years and 647,693,500 kg CO<sub>2</sub> after 50 years.

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## **Acknowledgements**

The authors would like to that the Asset Operations Group in Railcorp, John Holland Rail Division, MTSP Group, all engineers, team leaders and site personnel for their assistance in the data collection. The authors are very grateful to European Commission for H2020-MSCA-RISE Project No. 691135 “RISEN: Rail Infrastructure Systems Engineering Network” ([www.risen2rail.eu](http://www.risen2rail.eu)).

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**Table 1.** List of machineries covered in the data collection.

Machine	ID	Characteristics	Model	Engine Capacity
Tamper	1	Switch / points tamper	Plasser - 07/275	9.05 Litres
Tamper (2)	2	Mainline	Plasser - 09-16 Cat	6.99 Litres
Tamper (3)	3	Combination Tamper	Plasser - 09/32s Dynamic	23.9 Litres
Regulator	4	Broom, blades, plough	Plasser - SSP 302	11.0 Litres
Regulator (2)	5	Broom, blades, plough	Plasser - SSP 302	9.05 Litres
Regulator (3)	6	Broom, blades, plough	Plasser - SSP 302	11.0 Litres
Stabiliser	7	Ballast stabiliser	Plasser - DTS 62	9.05 Litres
Stabiliser (2)	8	Ballast stabiliser	Plasser - DTS 62	9.05 Litres

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450 **Table 2.** Fuel consumption over distance travelled and track processed by resurfacing  
451 machineries.

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Machine	Travel (m)	Work (m)	$Q_{\text{diesel}}$ (L)	Practice
1	8,834	582	370	Production & re-construction
1	700	1,382	377	Production
2	19,111	3,210	313	Production & re-construction
2	9,700	830	170	Production & re-construction
3	16,624	2,814	679	Production & re-construction
3	5,300	865	370	Production & re-construction
4	8,834	502	270	Production & re-construction
4	700	790	175	Production
5	19,111	3,210	196	Production & re-construction
5	9,700	1,120	120	Production & re-construction
6	16,624	2,814	415	Production & re-construction
6	5,300	865	253	Production & re-construction
7	19,111	3,210	160	Production & re-construction
7	9,700	321	105	Production & re-construction
8	16,224	2,814	195	Production & re-construction
8	5,300	595	194	Production & re-construction

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**Table 3.** Average results of the field data collection.

Machine and ID	Travel (m)	Work (m)	$Q_{\text{diesel}}$ (L)	Average track processed over fuel consumed (m/L)
Tampers (1, 2, 3)	60,269	9,683	2,279	4.25
Regulators (4, 5, 6)	60,269	9,301	1,429	6.51
Stabilisers (7, 8)	50,335	6,940	654	10.61

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459 **Table 4.** CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from railway resurfacing machineries.

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Machines	Work (m)	$Q_{\text{diesel}}$ (L)	$E_{\text{diesel-CO}_2}$ (kg CO <sub>2</sub> )
1, 2, 3	9,683	2,279	6088
4, 5, 6	9,301	1,429	3817
7, 8	6,940	654	1747

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464 **Table 5.** Estimate of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions of railway resurfacing machines for 1000 kilometres.  
 465

Machine (ID)	Track processed (km)	$Q_{\text{diesel}}$ (L)	Estimated $E_{\text{diesel-CO}_2}$ emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> )
Tampers (1, 2, 3)	1000	235,360	628,675
Regulators (4, 5, 6)	1000	155,360	414,985
Stabilisers (7, 8)	1000	94,240	251,727
<b>Total:</b>		<b>484,960</b>	<b>1,295,387</b>

466

467 **Table 6.** Assumptions of resurfacing machineries from previous studies.  
 468

Machineries	Fuel consumption per hour (l/hour)	Construction speed
<b>Kiani et al. (2008)</b>		
Tamping machine	15	32 hours/km
Ballast regulator	10	17 hours/km
<b>Milford and Allwood (2010)</b>		
Tamping machine	70	50 mins/km
Stone blowing	70	2.2 hours/km

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471 **Table 7.**  $Q_{\text{diesel}}$  comparison between Krezo et al. (2014), Kiani et al. (2008) and Milford and  
 472 Allwood (2010) for 1000 km of ballasted railway track resurfacing.  
 473

Machine	Krezo et al. (2014) $Q_{\text{diesel}}$ (L)	Kiani et al. (2008) $Q_{\text{diesel}}$ (L)	Milford and Allwood (2010) $Q_{\text{diesel}}$ (L)
Tamping Machine	235,360	480,000	58,380
Ballast Regulator	155,360	170,000	
Stabilisers	94,240		
Stoneblowing			159,090
<b>Total</b>	<b>484,960</b>	<b>650,000</b>	<b>217,470</b>

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477 **Table 8.** Estimated  $E_{\text{diesel-CO}_2}$  emissions comparison between Krezo et al. (2014), Kiani et al.  
 478 (2008) and Milford and Allwood (2010) for 1000 km of ballasted railway track resurfacing.  
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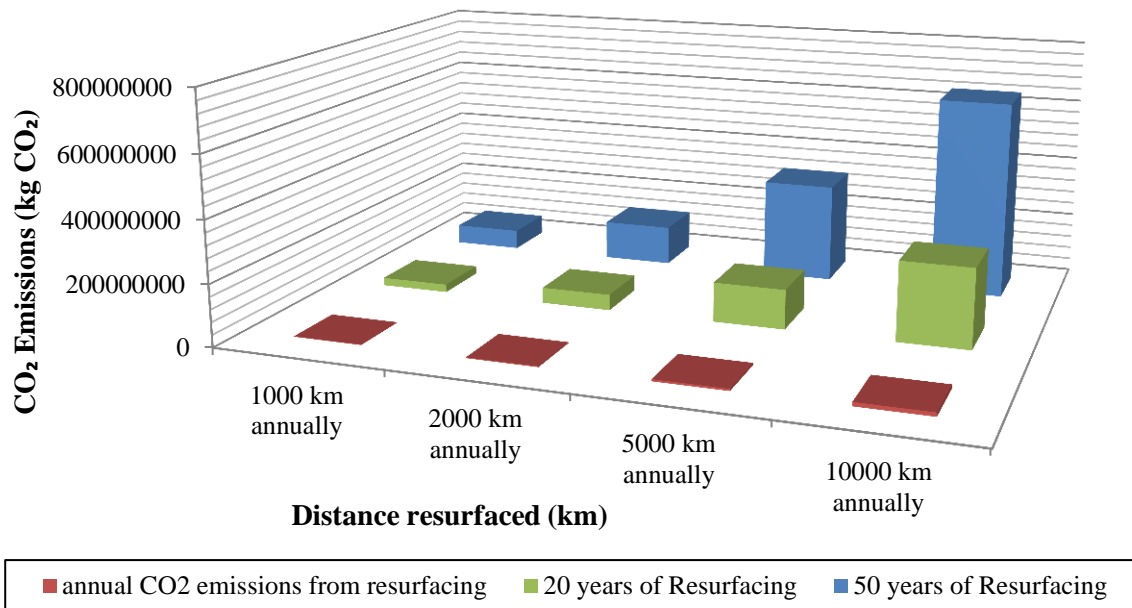
Machine	Krezo et al. (2014) $E_{\text{diesel-CO}_2}$ emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> )	Kiani et al. (2008) $E_{\text{diesel-CO}_2}$ emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> )	Milford and Allwood (2010) $E_{\text{diesel-CO}_2}$ emissions (kgCO <sub>2</sub> )
Tamping Machine	628,675	1,282,138	155,540
Ballast regulator	414,985	454,091	
Stabiliser	251,727		
Stone blowing			424,948
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,295,387</b>	<b>1,736,229</b>	<b>580,488</b>

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**Figure 1.** Projected CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from resurfacing activities from distances over the life of the infrastructure.