

# ATD-G AND RHEDA CITY GREEN THE GREEN TRACKS FOR URBAN TRANSIT



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### RAIL.ONE – THE WAY TO GO

We develop innovative track systems, to help you get ahead – quickly and safely. And what are your plans?

#### YOUR EYES SHOULD ENJOY TRAVEL, TOO

This is particularly true for mass rapid transit, where millions of people are under way by MRT, day in and day out. Effectively functioning mass transit is the heart of any city. In this sensitive zone of modern urban life, aesthetics are also gaining in importance, in addition to functionality and engineering. Track systems are frequently designed from a purely technical point of view, and too often represent a foreign body in the urban landscape. Development of the RAIL.ONE "Green Track", however, makes a much more pleasant appearance possible through improved integration of tracks into the urban landscape. Additional vegetated surfaces beautify the entire urban landscape, and allow use of the track area as a design element. At the same time, the municipal environmental balance benefits from this type of track system, as the "Green Track" improves air, soil, and groundwater conditions. The structured surface of the green space, and the advanced elastic rail fastening common to modern tracks, result in more favourable airborne-sound emission and structure-borne noise in comparison to conventional track models within the city. Nice for people, and nice for the environment.

#### ENVIRONMENTAL AND ECONOMIC TRACK TECHNOLOGY

RAIL.ONE offers a variety of ballastless track systems as "Green Track": ATD-G and RHEDA CITY GREEN. Both systems are specially designed for public passenger light rail. The systems are especially well-suited for trams and light rail in the inner city. The characteristic feature of the ATD-G system is the asphalt layer with concrete bi-block sleepers laid directly on top. The track panel is held in place by a lateral force base. The RHEDA CITY GREEN system is the green version of the RHEDA CITY ballastless track system. Here, too, modified bi-block sleepers with lattice girders are used. The monolithic structure and the low structural height guarantee a perfect rail position and a high degree of safety. The major advantage of both systems is an attractive visual impression along with favourable environmental characteristics. Both ATD-G and RHEDA CITY GREEN can be planted with grass or sedum.

The two designs are further detailed on the following pages.







### ATD-G – THE "GREEN TRACK"

ATD-G is derived from the ATD system that has already proved successful in high-speed traffic applications for railways.

#### ATD-G STRUCTURAL TRACK DESIGN

The track system ATD-G (which stands for Asphalt supporting layer for Track Direct support, Green) is a ballastless track system in which a cross-sleeper track panel, consisting of concrete bi-block sleepers and the connected rails, is directly installed onto an asphalt supporting layer with exact height tolerance. The modular principle used here enables effective derivation of solutions for the individual requirements of public transport authorities. The basis for this work is a uniform system structure for all elements of the track route: e.g., straight and curved through-track sections, curved track with cant, train stations, turnouts, transitions to other rail profiles, and crossings for pedestrians and vehicles.

#### THE MOST IMPORTANT ATD-G CHARACTERISTICS:

- » Continuous track stability and long lifecycle
- » Simple and transparent structure of the system
- » Flexible layout possibilities
- » Favourable installation by mechanized processes
- » Short construction periods, with resulting short interruption of rail traffic
- » Minimum interference with traffic flows during installation
- » Low maintenance and therefore fewer traffic interruptions
- » Easy cleaning
- » Modular adaptation to various road construction types
- » High resistance to corrosion caused by parasitic current







# SYSTEM CROSS-SECTIONS

### Low vegetation cover



### Mixed vegetation cover



### High vegetation cover



ATD-G and RHEDA CITY GREEN

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# BASIC TRACK

Green rail ATD-G in operation

Sub-grade prepared for asphalt cover







### **REFERENCE PROJECTS**

ATD-G: System overview

Each project is just as individual as the customer itself. The special circumstances at the construction site, and the customer's own requirements, are equally essential. Due to its flexible system structure, the ATD-G Green Track system has been a success in numerous cities.

#### Berlin Public Transport Authority (BVG)

In 1995 the Berlin Public Transport Authority (BVG) constructed a two-track pilot project featuring tracks installed flush, at sleeper height, with the street surface, and planted with sedum. The outstanding results obtained at this first location prompted the BVG in Berlin to stipulate that the ATD-G model would be the standard form of implementation in its network for future projects. After these successful trials, the BVG implemented over 22,000 metres of ATD-G Green Track in several projects. In the meantime, the BVG has, over several development stages, raised the vegetation of the track system to the level of the rail head.

#### Hanover Public Transport Authority (üstra)

As part of its infrastructure improvements for the EXPO2000 World's Fair in Hanover, the municipal public transport authority implemented approx. 8,000 metres of ATD-G on the suburban passenger line to the EXPO site. The vegetation used on the Green Track was in the form of sedum mats and seed-planted turf, both up to sleeper height. Concrete slabs installed in the spaces between the sleepers prevent the vegetation from covering the rails. In spite of heavy usage of the track facilities the position and the height of the rails remain stable.

#### Cologne Public Transport Authority (KVB AG)

In April 2003, the Green Track was put into operation on the tram line running down the Cologne street Markgrafenstrasse. The system implemented for the 2,000-metre tram line was the ATD-G, with sedum planted up to sleeper height. As there were more stringent requirements for preventing vibration and airborne noise, the E 14 Vossloh Fastening System was used on this project.

#### Dresden Public Transport Authority (DVB AG)

In 1996 the Dresden Public Transport Authority installed an attractive turf track in two construction phases, over a total length of 1,400 metres. The turf was installed in the form of rolled sod, with grass up to the level of the rail head. Special elements that fill the space between the rail head and rail flange provide insulation and prevent the turf from growing up to the rail. Both of these measures reduce airborne noise emissions to low levels. In order to allow rescue vehicles to use part of the section of the track, the track panel was filled with a mixture of mineral material used for drainage, and plastic honeycomb material was installed in the turf area. Since being in operation, the track is still in outstanding condition, and satisfies the client's stringent requirements for track-position stability, noise-emission reduction, and vegetation cover.

Placing the sleepers on the completed asphalt supporting layer



Installed and properly aligned track panels





#### MODERN ECOLOGY PLUS ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY

For the RHEDA CITY GREEN model, modified bi-block sleepers with lattice girders are concreted into a compact concrete slab. A cover with turf or sedum gives an attractive optical impression. This system combines the functional and safety advantages of an absolutely stable track position with the cost-efficiency of almost no maintenance. Projects with "green rails" have already been implemented in several German cities, such as Cologne, Düsseldorf, Karlsruhe, Mannheim, Hanover, and Berlin. The ballastless track system is also used in major European cities such as The Hague (Netherlands), Edinburgh (Scotland), Reinach (Switzerland), Warsaw and Sosnowiec (both Poland).



# RHEDA CITY GREEN

RHEDA CITY GREEN is the green-track alternative of the RHEDA CITY

model – a long-proven urban transit system.



### THE MOST IMPORTANT RHEDA CITY GREEN CHARACTERISTICS:

- Simple, transparent system structure with high installation performance
- Elimination of gauge tie bars
- Great precision of gauge and track geometry from the cross sleeper, resulting in perfect rail positioning
- Permanent friction-anchoring of the track panel
- Defined elasticity of the track, by employment of pre-assembled components

- Great levels of safety and long service life
- Green tracks support a modern and attractive cityscape:
  - Reduced noise emissions and vibrations
  - Incidental surface water is stored and returned to the environment through evaporation

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# SYSTEM CROSS-SECTIONS

### The Berlin model





### The Mannheim model







Positioning of the bi-block sleepers



Concreting of the track panels



Attachment of the rail-flange sheathing



Concreted track with green track chamber elements and level crossing



Completely assembled and aligned track panels



# REFERENCE PROJECTS

RHEDA CITY GREEN: System overview national

The green version of the proven RHEDA CITY system is successfully in use in many cities in Germany and Europe. Every version is tailored to the needs of the transport company and local authority.



#### Berliner Verkehrsbetriebe (BVG)

The tram system in the city of Berlin has used the RHEDA CITY GREEN version since 2004. To date, over 36 kilometres of track provide more green space in the city, thus improving the municipal environmental balance. The NBS-G version was developed especially for the Berlin Transport Authority.



#### rnv, Rhine-Neckar Traffic GmbH

RHEDA CITY GREEN has been used for the rails of the rnv in Mannheim, Heidelberg, Ludwigshafen, and surroundings since 2006. Jointly with rnv, the design of the structural height has been optimised in several steps. Today, the rnv travels on approximately ten kilometres of RHEDA CITY GREEN.



#### VBK, Karlsruhe Transport Authority GmbH

RHEDA CITY GREEN was first used in the construction of the Durlach-Aue/Wolfartsweier tram line. Since 2003, over ten kilometres of RHEDA CITY GREEN have been laid here and in other projects.



RHEDA CITY GREEN: System overview international

#### **Projects in Poland**

Tramwaje Śląskie S. A. is the operator of the Silesian tram line. As part of the renewal of the tram network, five kilometres of grooved turf rail track of the RHEDA CITY system was laid in 2013 in Sosnowiec. Furthermore, since 2011 around 4.5 kilometres of the turf rail track were laid for the Tramwaje Warszawskie of the Polish capital city of Warsaw.



#### The Hague, Netherlands

From 2006 to 2007 around 1.2 kilometres of grooved turf rail track was laid in The Hague. In addition, the turnouts installed were also from the RHEDA CITY system. Along with delivery of the railway system, RAIL.ONE was also responsible for the system monitoring.



#### Edinburgh, Scotland

The Edinburgh Tram Link – one of the largest infrastructure projects in Scotland – connects the airport to the city centre. In the selection of the railway system, along with technical reliability ecological aspects also played an important role: special requirements for environmental protection had to be taken into account, since some sections run along a "green belt". The turf rail track should also reduce noise emissions and ensure optimal drainage of rain water. To meet these requirements, the RHEDA CITY GREEN system was used on more than three kilometres of track. In addition, a covered variant of RHEDA CITY was installed on more than 15 kilometres of track.





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