GERMANY  
DB at the crossroads  
Balancing commercial and political imperatives in a changing market  
PAGE 43

FREIGHT  
Wagonload initiatives  
Private operators seek to reverse the decline in European rail freight  
PAGE 81

SIGNALLING  
ATO over ETCS  
Interoperability is key to automated operation on main line railways  
PAGE 107
ZEDAS

Smart data from big data

Brandenburg-based data and software specialist Zedas will be focusing its display on ‘smarter data’ rather than ‘big data’ through its Zedas Asset portfolio of software tools.

The company believes that railway operators and infrastructure managers find juggling investment and maintenance priorities to be ‘a complex matter’ with multiple fluctuating asset parameters. One of the aids Zedas will be showcasing in Berlin is its Cost/Condition Index, which uses so-called ‘Maintenance 4.0’ standards to extract useful data from a mass of other information.

According to Zedas, condition monitoring, diagnostics and maintenance planning should be considered as a single undertaking through integrated asset management. All relevant process, operational and measured data arising from structured systems, vehicles and components can be monitored, analysed and managed in one software suite.

The company claims that, by avoiding the risk of ‘data graveyards’, Zedas Asset can enable the customer to make intelligent decisions driven by smart data on topics ranging from component expiry to condition-based exams. Work plans and checklists can also be generated for budgetary planning and operations, and materials and spare parts can be allocated to optimise resources.

Zedas says that its range of software can minimise the risk of ‘data graveyards’. Information flows for multiple work tasks can be integrated.

NEXTSENSE

One-handed wheel gauge

The end of traditional mechanical profile gauges is predicted by Nextsense, which will use InnoTrans 2016 to launch its Calipri Prime portable laser wheel profile measuring device. This is aimed at companies with smaller budgets, including rail freight operators.

Nextsense says it identified a gap in the market between cheap mechanical gauges and expensive tactile and optical profile measurement devices. It claims Calipri Prime’s use of multiple laser lines to capture the wheel profile is a first, eliminating the possibility that tilting might distort the image. This ensures consistent and reproducible results, even when being operated as a hand-held unit.

‘Calipri Prime provides the high-quality measured data that customers expect from our products, but at an affordable price’, says Managing Director Clemens Gasser. ‘It will allow manufacturers, operators and service engineers to check wheel profiles in a matter of seconds with just one hand.’