



Alstom | UK

Delivering Level 3 Training for Network Rail

/ FRAUSCHER ACADEMY

The Competency Level 3 programme ensured that Network Rail maintainers gained the advanced skills required to safely and confidently support the Frauscher Advanced Counter FAdC® introduced on the modernised Cambridge network.

Background

By delivering the training locally and aligning content with C3R project requirements, Frauscher ensured maintainers received practical, relevant, and immediately applicable learning. This approach strengthened operational resilience, improved troubleshooting accuracy, and ensured maintainers met Network Rail's mandatory competency expectations – contributing to a reliable railway for one of the UK's busiest regions.

The C3R Cambridge Re-signalling Programme represents a major investment in modernising signalling infrastructure across Cambridge and its surrounding routes. As part of this upgrade, the transition from legacy detection systems to the Frauscher FAdC® created a need for maintainers to acquire new system Skills and deeper diagnostic capability.

Operator	Network Rail
Partner	Alstom
Country	United Kingdom
Segment	Main line
Application	Training & competency development for axle counter maintenance
Service Period	2025
Scope of Service	Front line maintenance faulting (FLMF) Competency level 3 training for Network Rail

Key drivers behind the training included:

- **Upskilling for new technology:** Ensuring maintainers could competently support the newly installed FAdC®.
- **Meeting mandatory competency standards:** Network Rail required Competency Level 3 certification before maintainers could work on the new equipment.
- **Strengthening maintenance depth:** Teams needed capability beyond operational awareness to maintain reliability in a high-density network.
- **Localised delivery for operational efficiency:** Cambridge is a busy commuter and regional hub; minimising staff disruption was essential.

Solution

Frauscher Academy delivered a structured 5-day Competency Level 3 programme designed by Network Rail to build advanced maintenance skills and ensure formal recognition of capability. Participants explored the FAdC® system in depth, including system components, architecture, and the use of the Frauscher Diagnostic System (FDS) for detailed analysis. Practical troubleshooting was a core part of the training, with each attendee completing hands-on fault-finding exercises to reflect real-world maintenance scenarios. The participants were given the opportunity to intentionally stimulate faults and rectify them within a defined time frame. The programme concluded with a final theory assessment, confirming a strong understanding of the system and alignment with Network Rail's competency expectations.

/ Training Method

Training was delivered by Frauscher Academy specialists at Alstom's Waterbeach facility—chosen for its direct connection to the C3R project and relevance to upcoming operational requirements. Each participant received Frauscher documentation, Network Rail-specific learning materials, and hands-on access to hardware reflecting the system configuration used in the Cambridge upgrade. This ensured a strong link between training content and on-site application.

/ Adaptations

To align with Network Rail's Competency Level 3 standard, the course incorporated structured assessments and practical evaluation tasks. Content was tailored to match the equipment and system layout of the C3R project, ensuring maintainers gained familiarity with the exact technology they will support in the field. The delivery approach was adapted for groups with varied levels of prior experience, ensuring consistently high learning outcomes across all sessions.

/ Certification

All attendees were awarded with a Network Rail Competency Level 3 Certificate upon successful completion of the programme. This formal certification verified their competence in advanced maintenance activities, demonstrated compliance with Network Rail standards, and ensured they were fully prepared to support the operational requirements of the C3R project. The certificate format is provided by the Network Rail competency platform SENTINEL.



Benefits



Need for upskilling through manufacturer expertise

The shift to the Frauscher FAdC® required new technical capability. Direct manufacturer-led instruction gave maintainers accurate, system-specific knowledge, reducing the risk of incorrect fault handling and ensuring confidence when working with modern signalling technology.



Localised training supporting operational continuity

Delivering the training at Alstom Waterbeach minimised staff disruption and ensured content was tailored to the real installation. This local, project-aligned approach enabled maintainers to immediately apply new skills in a familiar context, supporting smooth rollout of the C3R upgrade.



Compliance with Network Rail's mandatory competency requirements

The training enabled maintainers to achieve formal Competency Level 3 status, meeting Network Rail's mandatory expectations for working on FAdC®. This certification demonstrates assured safety, capability, and readiness across the maintenance workforce.



Enhanced troubleshooting and reduced downtime

Hands-on diagnostics and fault-finding exercises strengthened maintainers' ability to quickly detect and resolve issues. Faster, more accurate maintenance responses contribute directly to reduced downtime and improved service reliability for the Cambridge route.



GET IN TOUCH!

Do you have any questions about our solutions? Click on the link below to get in touch with a qualified contact person.
www.frauscher.com/en/contact



Further references are available via the following link: www.frauscher.com/en/references

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