

ASPHALT IN RAILWAY APPLICATIONS A 30 YEARS OLD EXPERIENCE IN ITALY

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ABSTRACT

The use of bituminous mix as sub-ballast in the new railways, by the Italian Railways (Ferrovie dello Stato), has minimized the transfer to the surrounding environment of the vibrations produced by the train traffic.

Measurements carried out on sub-ballast tracks made of asphalt have demonstrated that the sub-ballast layer is able to damp the vibrations normally existing in traditional tracks, without any sub-ballast. The paper shows the characteristics and other advantages of this technique.

KEY-WORDS: Bituminous mix, sub-ballast, railway