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Assenta Rail

A Growth Story in Railway Maintenance



Edinburgh-based railway engineering company, Assenta Rail, has recently gone from strength to strength following the opening of its Hamilton rail maintenance depot in late 2019.

Since opening its rail depot a little over two years ago, the company has invested significantly in upgrades to the infrastructure and

increased both the capacity within the depot and the range of facilities on offer.

Assenta Rail has been in business since 2001 and during this time it has grown organically, focusing on a key group of core clients and priding itself on offering tailored engineering solutions to its book of clients. Having firmly established itself as a consultancy with significant expertise at solving challenging engineering problems, the progression to operating its own maintenance facility was a

natural development. Establishing Hamilton LMD as a base for its operations allowed the firm to bring its engineering offerings in-house and to be able to offer a full turnkey service to clients.

In the two years since opening the depot, the firm has installed a paint shop; purchased two sets of 15t jacks to facilitate works over its pitted roads and carried out extensive upgrade works to tracks and sidings within the depot. With the increasing development within the depot, the firm has also become

an important employer within the local area and now provides employment for more than 20 local engineers, technicians and artisans based out of its Hamilton rail depot. The firm takes pride in its ability to continue the tradition of highly skilled railway engineering in the Lanarkshire area and actively employs locals with extensive experience to bolster its base of knowledge within the company. As a forward-looking business, Assenta Rail currently also employs apprentices and trainees who are learning their trades from more experienced personnel. As the company continues to develop over the coming years, these talented young people will become key members of our committed and supportive workforce. The ongoing development of our team is the key driver of our future success.

Starting from a strong position with a core base of key clients, by establishing the Hamilton maintenance facility, Assenta Rail has been able to significantly expand its services to both existing and prospective clients. For established clients, the depot has delivered a convenient location for maintenance of existing vehicles as well as a base for exciting new projects. These include substantial vehicle overhauls and full refurbishments of vehicles. With this expansion of both capacity and facilities, Assenta Rail has also been able to develop its client base. One of the key clients to select Assenta Rail to carry out a range of works on its behalf has been Abellio ScotRail. As the national operator within Scotland, Assenta Rail is proud to have worked with and delivered on a number of projects for the company over the past 12 months. This work has included repairs to various fleets of vehicles, paint upgrades and repairs following the

derailment of a Class 43 and Mark 3 vehicle at Dalwhinnie. The Class 43 repair was particularly interesting as bespoke repair solutions were required. This project required the full suite of engineering services Assenta Rail provides. The challenges of this project brought all the disciplines together to work in synergy, from technical design, specialist welding, painting and livery.

As the company continues to develop, the services offered are underpinned by Assenta Rail's ongoing certification as an Entity in Charge of Maintenance. As the only certified ECM in Scotland, Assenta Rail employs robust processes to ensure that control of maintenance has the absolute focus on safety, quality and efficiency. Operating out of Assenta Rail's Edinburgh-based headquarters, the consultancy side of the business continues to provide oversight of the company's maintenance facility to ensure strict adherence to standards and regulations. Assenta Rail's consultancy work is also growing alongside its maintenance delivery function. Having significant experience in project management, engineering design and developing engineering solutions, the company is currently involved in a number of complex consultancy projects, including the bespoke design of HVAC systems for European rail vehicles, the development of central door locking systems, installation of controlled emission toilets (CET), the engineering change on a vehicle conversion project and an approvals project to secure authorisation to operate a new fleet of vehicles in GB.

The past two years have seen significant growth for Assenta Rail on a number of fronts: personnel, facilities, clients and services.



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However, the firm is not finished growing yet. As an independent railway maintenance company based in Scotland, Assenta Rail is planning and developing for the future. With a narrow choice for innovative railway engineering solutions in Scotland, Assenta Rail aims to change this and rejuvenate the sector by offering comprehensive and competitive services. As part of this development, upcoming improvements include the construction of a new maintenance shed to further increase workshop capacity; upgrades to existing sidings to provide further stabling capacity; and continued investment in plant to increase the type of services Assenta Rail is able to offer along with the capacity of the number of vehicles that can be simultaneously worked on. Maintaining a competitive, gold-standard service is a key to the company's growth strategy. Over the coming years Assenta Rail aims to continue bringing new life to the industry in Scotland and to welcome clients both existing and new to our facilities as development continues.



DEDICATED TO
PROVIDING BESPOKE
RAIL SOLUTIONS

Assenta Rail

Specialists in:

- Heavy Maintenance
- Light and Running Maintenance
- Vehicle and Component Overhauls
- Modifications and Repairs
- Vehicle Painting
- Project Management
- Design and Consultancy

Our expertise covers a wide variety of vehicle types including passenger stock and freight wagons. With projects ranging from small modifications on individual vehicles to large fleet refurbishment and replacement.

As a certified Entity in Charge of Maintenance (ECM), we adhere to strict control processes and systems at all times in line with regulatory requirements.

Assenta Rail has an expansive range of depot facilities including: Paint Shop, Bogie Press, Vehicle Lifting Jacks, Overhead Crane and Workshop with Pits.



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