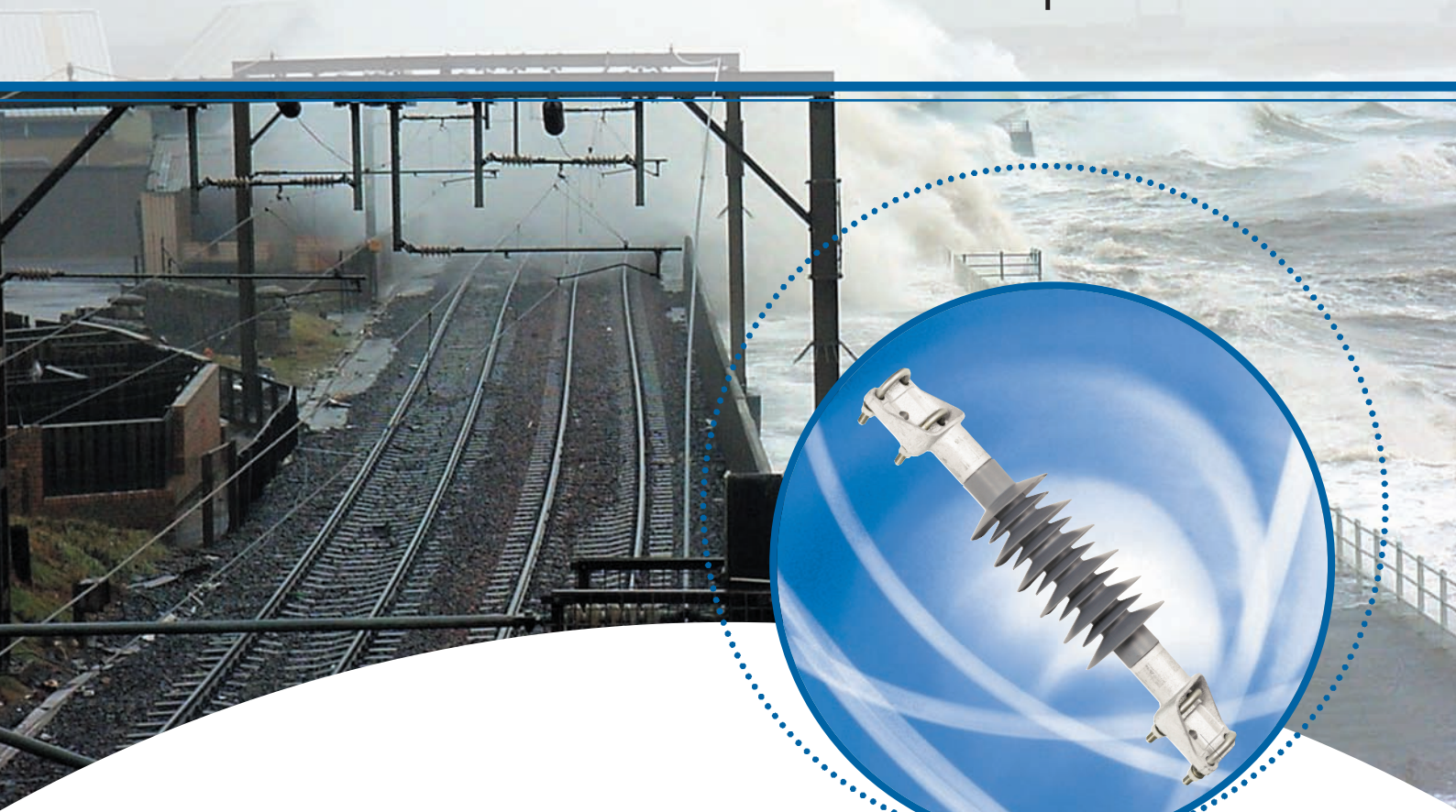


# 25kV AC Insulators for Railways – overcoming Sea Salt flashover problems



WT Henley Ltd. has, during its 30 years of servicing the utility market with its EPDM clad composite insulators, gained a wealth of field experience in a variety of environmental conditions.

We have supplied our extensive range of EPDM based polymeric insulators to the 4 major continents of the world, from the iced expanses of Canada, to the desert conditions of the Sudan. During this time, WT Henley has successfully engineered their insulators to cope with anything our prospective customers have required, whether that is a particular specification, product test regime, or a specific environmental condition.

Some of the harshest environments WT Henley has encountered are those of the Ayrshire coast in Scotland. At this particular location the 25kV electrified railway catenary network runs parallel with the coast for some 20 miles. As a result, the overhead system is continually subjected to a sea salt environment. At its worst, the sea-waves crash over the catenary system.

To help overcome flashover problems under these conditions when using traditional ceramic insulator technology, washing, replacement and / or an increased number of units are required. In using WT Henley's polymeric

technology with its open profile design, 50mm/kV creepage and unique EPDM cladding formulation the flashover problem can be dramatically reduced.

WT Henley is presently into a successful site trial in the area. To date the customer has not experienced any system outage due to WT Henley's polymeric insulators flashing over.

Under the harshest environmental conditions only the best-engineered products will produce the system reliability desired by the train / network operators.

