

INTERFLON RELIABILITY IMPROVEMENT ALERT

Releasing Seized or Stiff Rollers Using Interflon Lube TF

OFFICIAL
Endorsement

Author: Alan Wright
Role: Senior Technical Rail Engineer
Organisation: Interflon Rail



Introduction

Rollers fitted within switch systems can become seized or stiff over time due to contamination, lack of movement, or environmental conditions, reducing overall switch performance.

Key Message

Seized or stiff rollers can be released in the track using Interflon Lube TF aerosol, restoring them to operational condition.

Why This Matters

Rollers are designed to reduce friction and support smooth rail movement. When they become seized:

- Resistance increases within the system
- Load is transferred to other components
- Switch performance is reduced

Interflon Lube TF:

- Penetrates into tight spaces
- Breaks down contamination and deposits
- Restores movement within the roller assembly

This allows rollers to return to effective operation without removal from track.

Risks

Failure to address seized rollers may result in:

- Increased friction and resistance
- Higher load on point machines
- Accelerated wear of components
- Reduced switch reliability

Incorrect application may result in:

- Damage to seals
- Ineffective penetration of lubricant

Ref: IRIA017
Issue: 1
Date: 9th of April 2026

FOR RAILWAY STAFF

Best Practice

- Identify seized or stiff rollers
- Carefully part the **rubber seal using a scraper**
- Apply Interflon Lube TF using an aerosol with straw:
 - Spray down the side of the roller where the seal has been separated
 - Repeat on the opposite side
- Allow product to penetrate and restore movement
- Check roller operation after application

Do not:

- Force movement of seized rollers without lubrication
- Damage seals excessively during application

Operational Impact

- Restores roller functionality without removal
- Reduces friction and mechanical load
- Improves switch performance and reliability
- Minimises maintenance time and intervention