

# Blackpool Tram Track Renewal: 2002

## Project Particulars

Value: £70,000

Duration: 10 weeks

Client: Birse Civils Ltd

Engineer: Blackpool Borough  
Council



Blackpool's tram system is being upgraded to a full light rail transit system to seam the towns of the Fylde Coast. This phase of the scheme involved 875m of train tram track replacement together with its track bed and drainage. The generic track design, to full rail track specification will not only be compatible with the existing rolling stock but also compatible with all future LRT vehicles. Blackpool Borough Council, Birse Civils Ltd and Greyhound Plant Services worked closely to achieve maximum rail renewal in the minimum time, whilst maintaining single line running of trams throughout the construction time of just 10 weeks.

The project involved the excavation and renewal of all track ballast, relaying geogrid and geotextiles beneath the ballast and providing drainage to either side of the track. The works were phased to minimise disruption; the critical aspects of the phasing centred around the track and sleeper removal and replacement due to the requirements of maintaining tram movements.



Greyhound provided height and slew restriction to the satisfaction of Blackpool Borough Council to enable controlled working in the confined space under live overhead cables adjacent to the live tram rail.