The MAINLINE project, launched on 1st October 2011, as now reached its end. During the whole project period, 26 technical deliverables have been prepared, 24 of them are available on the Results section of MAINLINE Public Website, and you are invited to read them.

MAINLINE has organised the following events in 2014. The presentations of both workshops are available on the Events section of the website.

MAINLINE FINAL RESULTS AVAILABLE

The MAINLINE project has received funding from the European Community’s Seventh Framework Programme [FP7/2007-2013] under grant agreement n° 285121
MAINLINE’s main outputs

**Life Cycle Assessment Tool (LCAT)** that evaluates whole life environmental and economic impact for maintenance and renewal activities of three specific rail assets – bridges, track and earthworks – and the corresponding user manual.

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**Guideline to the application of new technologies to extend life of elderly rail infrastructure**

**Guideline for replacement of elderly rail infrastructure**

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**Life Cycle Assessment Tool (LCAT)**

The Life Cycle Assessment Tool (LCAT) can compare different maintenance/replacement strategies for track and infrastructure based on a life cycle evaluation. This evaluation quantifies direct economic costs, availability and environmental impact costs. Three models have been developed in the project: one for metallic bridges, one for plain track and one for soil cuttings.

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**Asset Degradation and intervention strategies**

Work has been focused on performance cycles. A deterioration model has been developed for soil cuttings, track, metallic bridges and concrete lined tunnels. Model validation has been carried out and could be extended as more field data become available.

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**Methods to extend Life of assets**

Three bridges located in Sweden have been tested: one trough bridge and two metal truss bridges. For the Åby bridge an analysis and test to failure was performed after the bridge was moved to be replaced. A guideline for the application of the new technologies that can be used by infrastructure owners and their consultants and contractors was produced, in the form of deliverable D1.4 “Guideline for application of new technologies to extend life of elderly rail infrastructure”.

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**Replacement of assets**

Work has been focused on the investigation of construction methods that minimise the time and cost required for replacement of old infrastructure. The final result is a “Guideline for replacement of elderly infrastructure” (D3.4), in which costs, economical factors, logistics needed and environmental impact of selected techniques are presented. Infrastructure Managers will thus find guidance on how to determine the suitable methods corresponding to their specific demands.

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**Degradation Monitoring: gaps and opportunities**

The final deliverable is a “Report on monitoring and examination case studies”, in which two bridge case studies and one cuttings case study are presented. They were designed to validate new approaches to monitoring and examination for improved asset management.

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**Summary of MAINLINE results**

MAINLINE final results are presented in more detail in the book available on the website main page.