

MEETING - July 2005

'Ballast - is there an easier way to maintain it ?'

By Dr Peter Claisse MA PhD CEng MICE and
Dr Chaitanya Calla PhD of Coventry University.

14th July 2005

1815 hours in the Boardroom at Network Rail offices in
the Mailbox

On the Victorian railways ballast was specified to be “no bigger than will fit into a man’s mouth”. In the years that followed far smaller particles were used but with the advent of mechanical tamping the old larger sizes returned. This helps the tampers but research at Coventry has shown that if smaller stone was used (at least in the crib) much of the tamping might not be needed.

The speakers will present some of the results from this industry-funded project and discuss how they might be used to save money and improve ride quality on the modern railway.



Testing the system – Full scale and model scale.