



A Higher Level of Reliability



The Sperry School of Rail Testing

Match your expertise to ours with our comprehensive training program.

Sperry Rail Service

a Rockwood Company



We teach our employees – and yours – everything we know.

For over 80 years, Sperry has been leading the way in rail flaw detection solutions. We founded the Sperry School to give our employees and customers unprecedented access to our depth of knowledge and an opportunity to learn from recognized experts in the field. In fact, over 90% of our graduates achieve Level II certification.



Expert training from instructors with decades of experience.

The Sperry School of Rail Testing was developed and is lead by a Level III certified instructor with over 40 years experience in nondestructive testing. The head of the Training Laboratory has extensive rail experience including over a decade manufacturing rail testing components.

"The Sperry School did a terrific job educating our employees on all facets of rail flaw detection. The hands-on training in the lab and on the test track helps us make better decisions in real life situations, ultimately reducing inspection time and saving money for our organization."

Al Mauldin, Engineer
Rail Testing, Norfolk Southern.

Ample learning opportunities inside...

Our well-equipped facility includes a modern lecture and demonstration room featuring live and video demonstrations for engaging learning. A simulation room lets students learn signal interpretation in a realistic setting.

...and outside the classroom.

Our extensive rail laboratory includes the most inclusive collection of rail defects in the world. A ¼-mile test track allows students to practice using actual equipment to identify defects. This one-of-a-kind track incorporates an extensive array of rail flaw defects, both manufactured and provided by railroads.





Small class sizes guarantee individual attention.

The highly specialized and complex nature of rail testing demands close interaction between instructors and students. As a result, we allow no more than 6-8 students per class. Daily written homework assignments and quizzes, plus written and practical final exams reinforce training.

Hands-on training for real-world application.

Each student is issued a complete testing kit, including a hand-test instrument, search units, and other inspection tools. Extensive lab time allows students plenty of opportunity to familiarize themselves with testing equipment prior to arriving in the field.

Resource materials.

Every student receives useful resource materials – including our Handbook for Ultrasonic Hand Testing of Rail, The Sperry Rail Defect Manual, and our reference text, Basic Ultrasonics. In addition, we issue printed texts of our courses to students. The value of these materials goes beyond exam day, and provides handy reference when deployed in the field.



Broad course offering for every experience level.

The Sperry School of Rail Testing offers all the training and certification courses you need from one provider. Regardless of experience level, you can enroll your entire workforce for consistent academic quality across all levels.

Level I Rail Testing	Test System Familiarization
Level II Rail Testing	Roller Search Unit (RSU) Maintenance
Hand Testing	Induction Testing
Portable Rail Flaw Detectors	Personnel Qualification & Certification
Gates & Gains	10-week Chief Operator Class
B-Scan Interpretation	Management Overview Seminars



The Sperry Legacy

In 1928, Dr. Elmer Sperry invented rail testing by developing the world's first non-destructive method of detecting internal life-threatening defects in rail by applying induction techniques, saving countless lives in the process. The Sperry Defect Manual, first published in 1934 and continually updated, is considered the de facto authority on rail testing. His prowess made him one of the most prolific inventors in America, second only to Thomas Edison, amassing over 400 patents in his lifetime. Dr. Sperry's dedication to precision through improvement and service underscores everything we do today.



For more information on Sperry solutions, please visit www.sperryrail.com or contact one of our offices:

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