

Justification:  
Instruction

**(Maintenance)**

## Private Owner Circular Letter 643 Issue 2

Title

Balanced  
Maintenance

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### AUTHORISATION

Authorised by:



J. Collinson, Head of Traction & Rolling Stock Engineering

## **1. INTRODUCTION**

POCL 643, Issue 2 has been amended to include details of a Balanced Maintenance panel (decal) that needs to be applied to all wagons maintained under such a regime, if the General Repair plate is left in place.

## **2. INSTRUCTION**

### **2.1 Definition of Balanced Maintenance**

Balanced Maintenance is defined as:

*An arrangement whereby major overhaul work, previously carried out at General Repair, is carried out over a nominated period of time such that all aspects of repair, maintenance and overhaul are addressed within the General Repair periodicity.*

The essence of Balanced Maintenance is that it minimises downtime and limits the movement-to-works costs. As such it is carried out at opportune times to suit operational needs. This approach does not, however, negate the requirement to undertake all elements of a General Repair and shall never compromise the 'safety of the line'.

### **2.2 Balanced Maintenance Documentation**

Where a wagon's maintenance documentation includes Balanced Maintenance events, it is essential that the following issues are strictly controlled:

- Timing of Balanced Maintenance events.
- Precise instructions in the context of tank wagons.
- Precise instructions when wear is identified.
- Authorisation of repair(s).
- Check-sheets for events (record retention and traceability).
- Competence of outstation staff to carry out the scope of work.
- Tooling and overhaul/site facilities are suitable to encompass the full scope of the maintenance activities.

All 'Balanced Maintenance' plans shall commit to definitive actions at specific mileages and/or time based backstops. Owners shall ensure that an auditable system is in place to substantiate balanced maintenance events and have been fully actioned, including check-sheets.

### **2.3 Transition to a Balanced Maintenance regime**

In moving from General Repairs to a Balanced Maintenance regime sufficient controls shall be in place to ensure that no aspects of repair, overhaul or maintenance extend beyond the timescales that were prescribed for General Repair.

**2.4 Identifying wagons subject to a Balanced Maintenance regime**

In order to identify that wagons are subject to a Balanced Maintenance regime, one or the other shall apply:

- a). The General Repair plate shall be removed.
- b). A panel (decal) shall be affixed to the wagon body that states 'Balanced Maintenance'.  
The suggested layout and positioning of such a panel is shown in Figure 1.

**3. SCOPE**

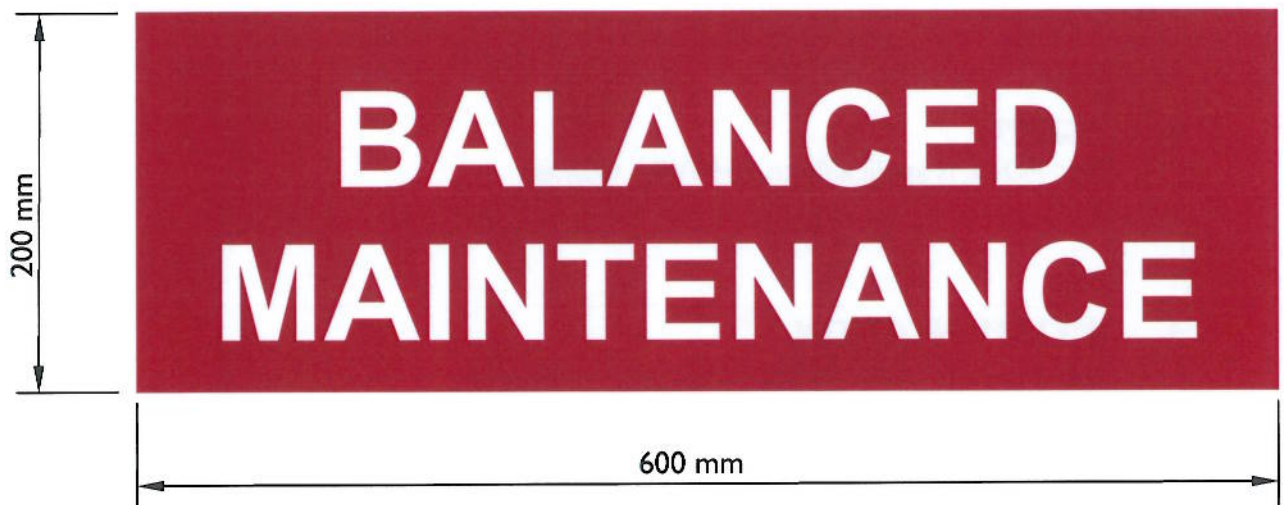
This POCL is applicable to all PWRA Owners.

**4. IMPLEMENTATION**

This document shall be implemented immediately.

In the event of any query arising, or clarification required, please contact:

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Notes:

- a). Lettering to be 50mm high
- b). Panel decal to be affixed adjacent to the wagon's Maintenance Panel

Figure 1 Suggested layout and positioning of a Balanced Maintenance panel (decal)