Innovative Solution used for Emergency Recovery in Italy

Mobile interlocking platform restores CBI operations at Melzo Scalo Station

March 3, 2015 – the RCS Region South team has successfully completed the challenging emergency commissioning of a new INTERFLO 250 mainline solution at the Melzo Scalo station in Italy.

Flash flooding in November 2014 submerged the station building at Melzo Scalo where our system has been operating for nearly ten years. The flooding stopped all operations at this important road-rail hub and caused significant delays on the Milan to Venice rail line which runs through the station.

The INTERFLO 250 solution comprises our EBI Lock 950 computer-based interlocking (CBI), related controllers and an SCMT rail control system.

As soon as the area was approved safe, RCS began activities to support our Italian customer, RFI, to set up a temporary automatic block solution for the four-track line in the disrupted section. This step was successfully completed in three days.

At the same time, in RCS Rome, the team was brainstorming how to deliver a new interlocking at a temporary site and in only a few months. The decision taken was to adapt the existing design in order to house the equipment inside four shipping containers installed on a railway wagon that is now ‘parked’ on a secondary track.

Overcoming many challenges, the new interlocking was successfully commissioned on February 18, in a record three months. This is an innovative solution to provide emergency recovery and install a mobile CBI. Once the permanent location is rebuilt, a further new INTERFLO 250 solution will be installed, and the current system will be used as for mobile recovery.

Congratulations to all involved on this achievement, reflecting our flexibility and teamwork to achieve customer satisfaction.