

Ongoing improvement works in line with Network Rail's national operating strategy see the strategically important Durham Coast and Tees Valley Lines in the Northeast of England upgraded as part of the Durham Coast Resignalling Project. The project will see modernisation and improvements to signaling assets and control of project areas transferred to the York Rail Operating Centre (ROC) at commissioning, onto new Hartlepool and Middlesbrough workstations.

Pennant – Track Access were delighted to be chosen as suppliers of Driver Training material for the project which will be issued to all local operators for briefing of the planned upgrades to the affected drivers.

The Driver Training package produced included Pennant – Track Access' industry recognised Driver Training Videos and Driver Map Books, each containing enough detailed information about the new signaling to fully equip drivers prior to the commissioning date.

Drivers eye video was collected at the start of the project and edited to remove the existing, redundant signaling, while all new signals and lineside signs were modelled and then superimposed on the video to show the intended end result of the resignalling. A 3D model of the new Horden Station, currently under construction as part of a separate project, was even included for ultimate realism.

A professional spoken commentary and on-screen information graphics were then added to provide additional information and the whole package was delivered online via the Track Access Portal (www.trackaccessportal.com) with printed map books and USB memory sticks provided for offline viewing.

Paul Spence, Senior Project Engineer (Signalling) for the Durham Coast Resignalling Project at Network Rail commented "I found the experience working with you and the Pennant – Track Access team, from arranging the video capture through to the final versions of the driver training material, extremely straight forward and efficient. Which resulted in a quality product at the end. All that despite COVID-19 causing disruption throughout most of that period!"

