

PROTECTING PEOPLE, ASSETS & RAIL OPERATIONS

Specialists in rail depot safety, protection and control, delivering integrated solutions for rail depots and maintenance facilities across the UK and worldwide.

Optimising Safety & Control



Depot Protection Systems

Protecting people, assets and infrastructure during rail vehicle movements.



Depot Control / LOPS

Safe, reliable control of points, routes and rail vehicle movements.



Personnel Warning Systems

Detecting approaching rail vehicles and providing clear audible and visual warnings.



Interlocking Solutions

Electronic and trapped key interlocking for depot equipment, infrastructure, access and rail operations.





ABOUT FIRSTCLASS

ENGINEERED FOR SAFETY BUILT ON EXPERIENCE

Established in 2017 following a buyout from Beck & Pollitzer, FirstClass builds on 25+ years of safety and control systems experience, designing, manufacturing and supporting turnkey solutions for Rail, Marine and Petrochemical customers worldwide.



Engineered around your operation

Every application is different. We engineer solutions around each customer's infrastructure, operating procedures, integration requirements and required safety outcomes.



Integration & supportable technology

Our systems use proven, widely supported technology and can integrate with existing infrastructure, equipment and third-party systems, avoiding unnecessary replacement where practical.



UK engineering, global delivery

Designed and manufactured in the UK, FirstClass systems are delivered and supported across the UK and internationally, working with operators, manufacturers, contractors and project teams.



Lifecycle partnership

From concept and engineering through commissioning, maintenance, modifications and upgrades, we support customers and their systems throughout the complete operational lifecycle.



Full Project Life Cycle Services Offered

- ✓ Concept
- ✓ Design
- ✓ Engineering
- ✓ Manufacturing
- ✓ Installation
- ✓ Commissioning
- ✓ 24/7 Service Support
- ✓ Hardware & Software Engineering
- ✓ Long Term Maintenance Services
- ✓ Fault Trends / Data Analysis
- ✓ Feasibility Services



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Rail

With over 25 years' experience across rail and safety-critical industries, FirstClass Safety & Control designs, engineers, manufactures and supports integrated safety and control systems for rail facilities worldwide. From new installations to upgrades and extensions, our solutions are engineered around individual operational requirements.

We also support, maintain and upgrade legacy and obsolete systems, integrating existing and third-party equipment where appropriate, backed throughout the project lifecycle by our engineering, commissioning, diagnostics and maintenance expertise.



Marine

FirstClass Safety & Control designs, upgrades and supports Alarm Monitoring Systems (AMS), automation and control systems for vessels and marine plant worldwide. Our expertise includes engine and machinery monitoring, propulsion and auxiliary systems, power management, alarm management, process control and PLC and pneumatic control.

From new systems and automation upgrades to obsolescence and legacy-system support, our engineers develop practical solutions around the vessel, existing equipment and operational requirements. Experience includes RFA vessels, tankers, Diving Support Vessels, tugs, RoRo vessels and superyachts.



Petrochemical

FirstClass Safety & Control provides specialist support, maintenance, modification and upgrades for Emergency Shutdown (ESD) and safety systems within petrochemical platforms and plants. Our engineers have decades of experience supporting safety-critical and legacy systems, including SIL2 and SIL3 applications and installations where effective OEM support is no longer available.

Services include 24/7 technical support, planned maintenance, fault monitoring, modifications, spares, repair and retrofit solutions. Where modernisation is required, we assess what existing infrastructure can safely and practically be retained before developing the appropriate upgrade.





FIRSTCLASS

DEPOT PROTECTION SYSTEMS



The Next Generation

FirstClass Depot Protection Systems protect people, assets and infrastructure by establishing and enforcing safe conditions for rail vehicle movements within depots, workshops and maintenance facilities. Designed to SIL2 requirements and engineered around each facility's infrastructure, operating procedures and Safe System of Work, solutions can incorporate vehicle detection, signalling, points control, operator interfaces, RFID, audible and visual warnings, SCADA and equipment interlocking.

Systems can be delivered for new-build facilities or used to upgrade, extend and integrate with existing depot protection infrastructure. Our application-specific approach combines proven, supportable technology with flexible system design, helping provide the required safety functionality while retaining suitable existing equipment where technically appropriate.



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Depot Protection System features:

Personnel protection

- ✓ Protects personnel working in areas where rail vehicle movements may take place by establishing and monitoring defined safety conditions.

Controlled movements

- ✓ Helps ensure rail vehicle movements only proceed when the required protection conditions have been satisfied and the movement is authorised.

Real-time monitoring

- ✓ SCADA can provide system status, alarms, event history, diagnostics and operational traceability, supporting operators and maintainers throughout system operation.

Integrated interlocking

- ✓ Interlocks rail movements with relevant depot equipment, infrastructure, access and operating conditions so connected systems operate within the required safety sequence.

Flexible system design

- ✓ Application-specific solutions can support new-build, upgrade, extension and integration projects, using proven, supportable technology and retaining suitable existing infrastructure where appropriate.



Where protection and movement control are both required, FirstClass can combine Depot Protection and Depot Control functionality within an integrated Depot Operations System, coordinating personnel protection, points, routes, signalling, vehicle detection, warnings and equipment interlocking.

Typical Features & Interfaces

- RFID personnel/vehicle identification and pictorial log-on/log-off
- Vehicle detection, treadles and movement monitoring
- Movement beacons, sounders, warnings and signalling/aspect control
- Derailers and vehicle movement protection
- Points control and interlocking
- OLE/OHL status, isolation and access interfaces
- Gantry, access control and CCTV interfaces
- Depot equipment interlocking – such as doors, turntables, cranes, jacks, wheel lathes and exhaust extraction systems
- SCADA, remote diagnostics and operational status
- Historical event and alarm data logging



Scan the QR code or contact us to discuss your Depot Protection requirements

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FIRSTCLASS

DEPOT CONTROL / LOCALLY OPERATED POINTS SYSTEMS (LOPS)



**Flexible - Reliable -
Excellent
Performance**

Depot Control Systems and Locally Operated Points Systems (LOPS) provide safe, controlled operation of points and routes within depots, sidings and maintenance facilities, supporting efficient rail vehicle movements while reducing reliance on manual point operation. FirstClass designs solutions from individual locally operated powered points through to sophisticated automated depot-wide control, incorporating route setting, position detection, signalling, SCADA and safety interlocking. Designed around each facility's infrastructure and operating procedures, systems can be delivered for new-build projects or used to automate, integrate, upgrade and extend existing control infrastructure. Local, centralised and automated operation can be provided according to the required operational scenario.



Depot Control / LOPS features:

Safe points control



Provides controlled operation of powered depot points with clear indication of point position and status, supporting safe rail vehicle movements.

Local, centralised or automated operation



Points and routes can be controlled locally, centrally or automatically, providing the appropriate level of control for different areas and operating scenarios.

Route control & safety interlocking



Position detection, signalling and safety interlocking confirm the required route and help prevent conflicting or unsafe points and rail vehicle movements.

SCADA, status & secure access



SCADA provides clear system status, control, alarms and operational information, while secure login can restrict control functionality to authorised personnel.

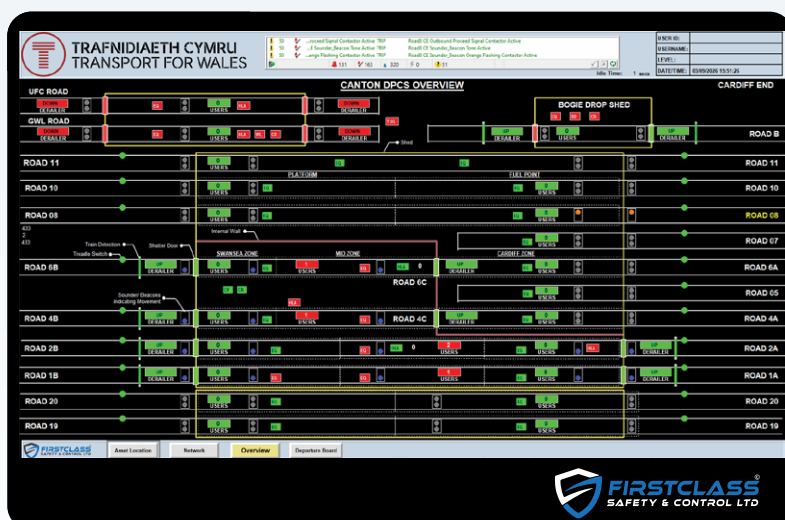
Degraded mode, upgrade & integration



Defined degraded-mode functionality can support controlled operation when required, while systems can integrate with Depot Protection, signalling, mainline and third-party infrastructure.

Typical Features & Interfaces

- SCADA and flexible operator interfaces
- Powered points control and position detection
- Route setting and route indication
- Points and safety interlocking
- RFID and secure operator authorisation
- Timetable-based movement control where required
- Depot Protection System integration
- Mainline and third-party signalling interfaces
- Remote diagnostics
- Historical event and alarm data logging



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PERSONNEL WARNING SYSTEMS

Our Personnel Warning Systems detect approaching or moving rail vehicles and provide clear audible and visual warnings to personnel working within depots, sidings and maintenance facilities. Configured around each site's layout, vehicle movements and operating requirements, systems can use train detection, local controls and supervisory interfaces, operating independently or integrating with wider depot safety and control systems.



INTERLOCKING SOLUTIONS

FirstClass provides electronic and trapped key interlocking solutions that ensure rail movements, depot equipment, infrastructure and access operate only when defined safety conditions are satisfied. From individual equipment interfaces to depot-wide applications, solutions are engineered around the facility's equipment, operating procedures and safety sequences and can integrate with existing, third-party, Depot Protection and Depot Control Systems.



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