

JULIEN MASSY PROFILE



Julien Massy has been Head of the **Signalling Systems** Section at **DGII ME** for 16 years. The section is responsible for track circuit and vehicle shunt drop tests and measurements on the French national rail network (RFN).

What does Julien's job entail?

For the track circuit part, he performs tests directly on specific test bases such as Briouze and Vaires-sur-Marne, although a large share of the tests are conducted at DGII ME premises in Saint Ouen. He also steps in when different types of malfunctions arise: occupied section (light staying on red when no train is present), signal shut-off or flutter when a train approaches, etc.

Julien and his team instrument the track circuits and other associated components in problematic sections using voltage and current sensors, as well as digital analysers. These measuring devices enable him to break down the electrical signals recorded and study their shape and amplitude to locate the interference phenomenon.

For the drop shunt part, Julien and his team install monitoring systems to check that the automatic signalling is able to detect trains. These measurements are conducted on the entire railway network, particularly at some more sensitive sites using standalone measuring stations.

These measuring stations issue warnings when rail traffic causes significant residual voltage, when it fails to comply with the operating thresholds established.

These stations are also able to recognise the type of passing train and apply the relevant measurements.

Julien and his team respond to requests for type approval of the drop shunt capacity of rolling stock, checking the combined performance of the rolling stock and infrastructure from a signalling perspective. He therefore has to check that the quality of the electrical contact is good, a critical factor in rail traffic detection.

Julien's role?

He is the point of contact for on-site operations and customers, he organises schedules, prepares quotations, manages the team's costs, assigns jobs to staff, and lends his technical expertise.

He is the contact point for the Business Engineers on drop shunt matters as well as for services such as track insulation.

His days are varied and punctuated by technical meetings and administrative work, although some days may be spent entirely out in the field conducting tests or accompanying his teams on test sites.

While schedules are, of course, planned, various emergencies, unforeseen incidents and other eventualities then crop up. "Even though my days are generally planned, they never turn out as expected."

Every day, Julien does make a point, however, of touching base with his teams on ongoing and forthcoming matters.



YOUR CAREER IN THREE STAGES

2004

Three-year work/study programme at DGII ME as an apprentice engineer (CEFIPA-CESI vocational training centre for apprentice engineers - Paris)

2007

Hired by SNCF as a test engineer

2015

Took up his position as Head of the Signalling Systems Section

Three words that describe your job?

Anticipation

Adaptation

Specialisation

What makes you most proud in your job?

"Playing my part to ensure that the trains run better by working on innovative systems."

What is your best memory of an assignment for Eurailtest?

"Drop shunt tests for the launch of the RZD car in 2015. We had to perform type approval tests on the drop shunt capacity of the RZD sleeper car as part of a partnership between SNCF and the Russian railway network.

Tests on hauled stock are rare and always exacting to organise and perform. This was the first hauled stock to undergo these tests since the X3997 Picasso autorail was removed from service, the only power unit at SNCF that enabled us to conduct these tests.

This was an important operation to put together because these tests had to be conducted for the first time at the Plouaret site during its launch. A large number of SNCF representatives were there on site (AEF, DGII ME, EAST).

A QUOTE OR WORD TO ROUND OFF THIS INTERVIEW?

"The only way to do great work is to love what you do".
Steve Jobs

