

PROFILE

Olivier GRASSIN

Olivier has been a Testing Officer at the RATP Test and Measurement Laboratory for 10 years. He is one of 7 in the EMR team (measuring human exposure to electromagnetic fields and performing measurements on rolling stock) in the Electrical division.



April 2022

Organisation, planning and performance are familiar words to Olivier Grassin. When assigned a test request, he and his team manage everything from A to Z!

He is in charge of the organisation, contacting the customer to assess the needs and discuss the reliability and performance of the test. On the planning side, Olivier and his team are responsible for managing the schedule, including the different deadlines and any unforeseen events. The tests may take several weeks to perform and first involve preparing the equipment to check that the various instruments are properly calibrated before going out into the field. The equipment must be operational before testing begins.

A daily routine involves various measurements performed out in the field or directly in-house at the Test and Measurement Laboratory on equipment used by experts.

Each test is different and Olivier needs to understand the phenomena that businesses face. It includes type approving equipment, assessing it to see if it meets the regulations in force, and performing measurements for future projects.

Olivier is involved in an array of measurements, including:

- Measuring insulation and electrical resistance, and dielectric strength to check that a product is well manufactured.
- Measuring immunity to electromagnetic fields, requiring Olivier and his colleagues to disrupt the power supply of a piece of equipment to observe its behaviour for qualification.

- Measuring HF (high frequency) current conducted in the rails to make sure that the commissioning of new rolling stock does not interfere with signalling.
- Measuring direct current in the rail tracks to assess return traction stability with a view to validating the opening of a line.

Olivier enjoys the variety of the tests, which go beyond the scope of railways!

He performs measurements on other fixed installations, including escalators, lighting, lighting power stations and rectifier units. Olivier conducts power assessments on electrical bays and measures human exposure in offices and workshops, as well as for the 2025 bus project in Paris. For this project, he and his team performed tests to measure passenger and employee exposure to electromagnetic fields emitted by new onboard technologies.

Olivier is active on all fronts, managing the success of services provided, ensuring that deadlines for issuing reports are met, delivering solutions on unexplained phenomena, and reporting with the teams and customers.

There is never a quiet day!



HIS CAREER IN THREE STAGES

2001

★ Joined RATP as a Senior Technician at the Torcy workshop. Worked on rolling stock reliability (RER A) for 7 years, acquiring valuable experience for his current position.

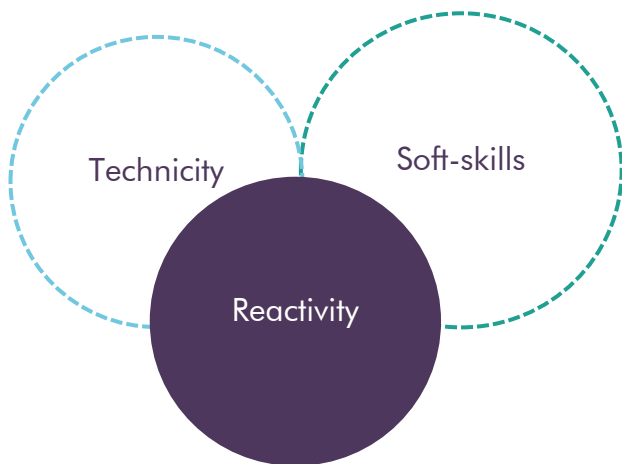
2009

★ Head of maintenance team in the Rail Rolling Stock (MRF) Department at RATP. Spent 3 years maintaining and repairing RER rolling stock.

2011

★ Joined the Test & Measurement Laboratory (LEM) in the Electrical division.

3 WORDS THAT DESCRIBE YOUR JOB?



AN ASSIGNMENT THAT STANDS OUT?

"In 2016, working on the Moroccan HSL. It was the first project in Africa and we set off for several months of adventure."

"We were called on to make sure that the traction current was stable in the stretches of rails. It was an interesting and unusual project because we had to develop a system based on teams working trackside due to the difficulty in transporting the equipment. We had to move around in a vehicle to validate each kilometer of track.

While the system was complicated, it was a complete success and the tests were marvelous."

"I have very good memories of this project, of the unknown, of discovery, the usefulness of our expertise, working alongside the drivers, and the rapport and interaction beyond the professional environment."



WHAT MAKES YOU PROUD IN YOUR JOB?

"Understanding an unexplained phenomenon. I'm proud to deliver a response to the customer and play a role in understanding a particular phenomenon. I also feel proud to be involved in qualifying a piece of equipment."

A QUOTE OR WORD TO ROUND OFF THIS INTERVIEW?

"If you want to go fast, go alone; if you want to go far, go together."
African proverb

