Product Overview
Nortrak® designs and manufactures trackwork for Class I railroads, mass transit systems, street car lines and industrial applications. It leads the industry in both volume and trackwork technology.

Our trackwork manufacturing facilities in the USA, Canada and Mexico use both modern and traditional manufacturing techniques and equipment to meet our customers’ needs.

Our brand has a range of in-house designed and manufactured trailable and non-trailable switch stands to offer our customers. Elevated Ball or Tri Handles are available and position indicators can be altered to meet many requirements.

We design, fabricate and supply high quality pre-stressed concrete turnout ties which have received widespread acceptance across the continent by heavy haul, transit and light rail owners and operators.

Our turnout tie range also includes hollow steel ties (“HST”), designed in house to meet the requirements of both original and retrofit purposes. Insulated ‘blue rods’ complement this product.

Our foundry in Decatur IL supplies a growing range of manganese steel, plastic pads, insulators, and ductile iron castings to the rail and other industries.

Our plastic extrusion division has the ability to design and manufacture a number of different products.
Development of innovative solutions to solve customers’ challenges and reduce Life Cycle Costs is a key element of Nortrak’s philosophy. Solutions for Heavy Haul, LRT and high speed transit are everyday work for Nortrak.

Railroads constantly seek improved life or greater load carrying capacity from their trackwork and transit facilities constantly seek higher speeds and smoother ride quality. Nortrak has the unique North American ability to solve these problems by combining modern manufacturing, sound engineering, material technology, blending the best of European and North American knowledge.

Improving Life Cycle Costs of trackwork by measuring not only the price of the product but the total cost of ownership is another unique talent of Nortrak. Field experience and operational know-how allows Nortrak to offer the best technical and also the best cost solutions by minimizing forces acting on a turnout and optimizing product design and materials.

At Nortrak, innovation applies to manufacturing as well as products. New technology equipment and leading edge processes are used at our facilities to improve quality and productivity.
Leading edge technology such as Finite Element Analysis (FEA), NUCARS and other simulation programs can be applied to calculate the dynamic and kinetic factors as early as the design stage. Calculations are checked in controlled field tests, validated with tools such as Strain Gauge Measurement and feedback modified for continuous design improvement.

Nortrak’s Engineering is just part of the overall quality that goes into every Nortrak product.

Leveraging VAE Group’s extensive experience in the High Speed Rail (HSR) sector in Europe, mainland China, Taiwan and Korea, Nortrak has staff dedicated to the design of trackwork for all classes (6 thru 9) of HSR for the North American market. Designs tailored for individual customer needs may include Kinematic Gauge Optimization (KGO), tangential switches, moveable-point frogs, wheel-rail optimized rail cant and elastomeric support for both slab and ballasted track solutions.
We extend our ability to provide the right technology solutions by offering a range of specialized switch machines and a wide variety of asset monitoring equipment.

Fixed Infrastructure Asset Monitoring (FIAM) is taken to the next level by the MiniLogger. Using a simple traffic light principle to show at a glance which asset is in alarm, it is not specific to any particular type of railway asset or application. This means that potential adjustment problems with switch machines and track circuits can be identified and corrected before they cause failures.

The PHOENIX MB intelligent journal and wheel monitoring system is one of a range of state of the art rolling stock monitoring products on offer. A key feature of the system is the multiple beam technology that scans each journal and wheel of a passing train at 8 separate locations, allowing for extremely accurate readings.

The new generation MISTRAL wind and airflow sensor system and the ATLAS FO wheel geometry defect detection system are two more of the asset monitoring products designed to aid improved rolling stock utilization and safety.

For many years, Nortrak has enjoyed the success of its RACOR® line of manual switch stands, and of the hybrid RACOR AUTOMATER® HP, which combines the fully tradable 22 stand with a solar or AC powered electro-hydraulic drive. In the event of a loss of power, a hand pump (located in a lockable compartment) can be used to manually throw the points. The most recent addition to the RACOR line is the AUTOMATER HT. In this case HT stands for Hand Throw, because the manual fallback hydraulic hand pump on the AUTOMATER HP has been replaced with a robust mechanical hand throw lever. This means that if problems develop with communications or power systems, or even if the hydraulic actuator, hoses and motor are completely removed from the machine, the AUTOMATER HT can still be operated in manual mode in the same way as a traditional main line switch machine. Setting the selector lever from POWER mode to HAND mode mechanically disengages the power drive from the switch points, and allows the operator to gain control of the points through movement of the hand throw lever. With the AUTOMATER HT, if anything happens to affect the power drive, there is no need for yard crews to refer to special fallback instructions, and maintenance forces don’t need to be called out on overtime for repairs.

We also offer the voestalpine CSV-24 embedded power switch machine, CSV-34 embedded manual switch drive, and Unistar-HR heavy rail power switch machine. Housed in a low profile, watertight, stainless steel box, these machines are setting the benchmark for switch machines in light rail systems using either girder or T-rail.
GLOBAL COMPETENCE – LOCAL PRESENCE
Nortrak is able to draw on a world of experience and knowledge.

COMPANY HISTORY

Established in 1981 as an industrial supplier of railroad track components, the company started to manufacture trackwork in 1983 in Richmond, BC, Canada.

In 1990, Nortrak and Voest-Alpine Eisenbahnsysteme, an Austrian company with over 140 years of trackwork manufacturing experience, entered into a joint venture for the North American market and the company became known as Nortrak.

In 1992 and 1996 respectively Nortrak opened its facilities in Birmingham, AL, and Cheyenne, WY.

2004 saw the company acquire the assets and business of Meridian Rail Track Products Corp. (at that time the largest supplier of trackwork into the North American market) and of Rail Products and Fabrication Inc. This added the Pueblo CO, Newton KS, Chicago Heights IL and Seattle WA (foundry) operations to the company’s manufacturing sites. The Seattle foundry was closed in 2009.

Nortrak’s concrete tie manufacturing operation was established in 2007, operating out of the company’s Cheyenne premises. By this time the Cheyenne facility had been expanded by over 70% to some 154 000 sq.ft.

The same year, the now named VAE GmbH purchased the remaining minority shareholding in Nortrak.

In 2008 Nortrak purchased a majority shareholding in DAMY Cambios de Via, S.A. de C.V.DAMY, located in Guadalajara, Mexico, thereby adding to our portfolio the leading Mexican trackwork producer with over 40 years of successful supply into our home market.

The assets and business of Leading Edge Enterprises Inc of Decatur IL were acquired in 2009. It now operates under the Nortrak banner, producing a wide range of cast ductile and manganese steel products, as well as molded plastic items.

Throughout our history Nortrak has sought to satisfy our customers’ needs by consistently expanding our range of high technology products and services.

USA
- Birmingham, AL
- Cheyenne, WY
- Chicago Heights, IL
- Decatur, IL (Foundry)
- Newton, KS
- Pueblo, CO
- Seattle, WA
- Southlake, TX

SALES OFFICES

CANADA
- Richmond, BC

MEXICO
- NORTRAK-DAMY
- Guadalajara, JA
- www.damy.com

www.voestalpine.com/nortrak
Call us on one of the numbers listed on our web site

- Nortrak is a member of the VAE GmbH group of companies. With sales and production companies in over 20 countries across the world, the group has a depth of trackwork knowledge unrivalled by any other producer.

www.voestalpine.com/vae
- VAE GmbH is, in turn, a wholly owned subsidiary of voestalpine AG. Dedicated to innovation and technological excellence, the voestalpine group consists of some 360 facilities in over 60 countries worldwide.

www.voestalpine.com