



# MULTIGAUGE TURNTABLES

## A CASE STUDY IN SYMMETRY

To state the obvious, the track on a turntable must match the track approaching the table regardless of which end of the table is connected for access!

When multi-gauge track is in use, this becomes more involved and there are two different design approaches.

### SYMMETRICAL

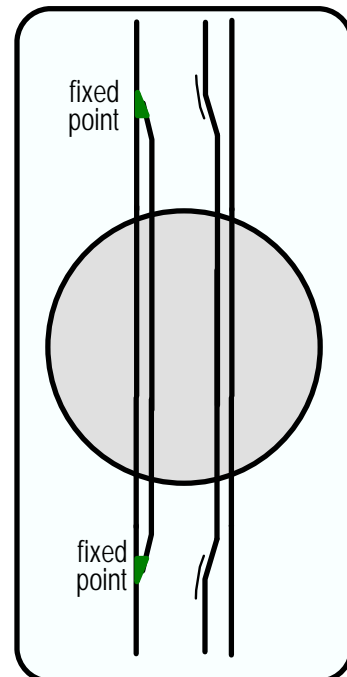
Symmetrical multigauge turntables use both rails for each gauge laid on a common centre-line. This is an unusual configuration for the rest of the rail yard and conversions of the track arrangement are required on each approach to the turntable. If the yard involves broad and standard gauges, there is insufficient room for the normal standard gauge rail head and special rail is laid (see below)



Triple gauge symmetrical  
(Note the standard gauge thin railhead)



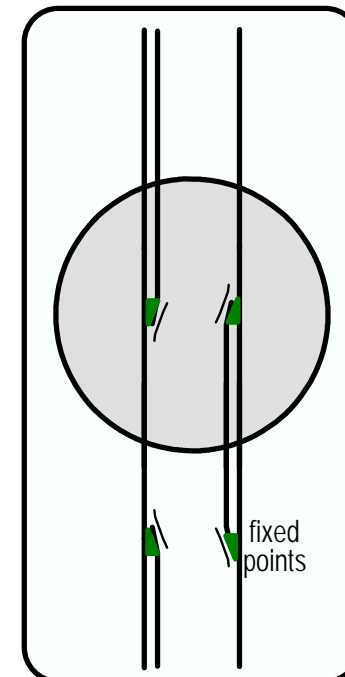
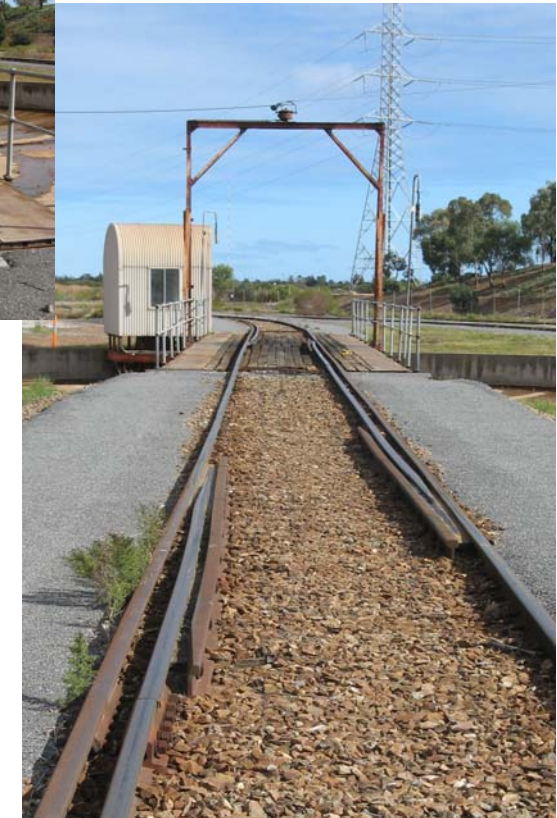
Dual gauge symmetrical



Typical layout

### ASYMMETRICAL

An asymmetrical design uses a common rail table track with a transition in the centre. Transitions required on the approaches depend on the dominant yard configuration and whether the turntable is accessed from one or both ends of a given turntable rotational position. A common rail table design is not suitable for triple gauge operations.



Typical layout  
(yard layout - common rail on left)

For illustration purposes some photographs are from other illustrations.