1. The CIS-LS allows detecting contact wire wear and position fast and efficiently with one single system.
2. CIS-LS combines a camera system for recording the wire wear (illustrated) and a laser scanner for detecting the contact wire position.

Detection of wire position and wear

Position and wear of contact wires are important parameters for an efficient, condition-based catenary maintenance. With its Low Speed Contact Wire Inspection System, Fraunhofer IPM offers a combined optical measurement system for recording the vertical and horizontal position of up to four contact wires simultaneously while also measuring their degree of wear. CIS-LS is the only system worldwide to measure wire position and wear contactlessly in one single measurement process. The CIS-LS comprises:

- Contact Wire Recording System CRS*
- Wire Wear Monitoring System WWS*

Reliable operation at up to 60 km/h

The Contact Wire Inspection System CIS-LS is mounted on the roof of an inspection car. The system is suitable for use at speeds of up to 60 km/h. A processing unit inside the inspection train provides the operators on site with processed position data that has already been compensated for the train’s roll, which is recorded separately. Additional features, such as the automatic cleaning of the measurement window, ensure that the system operates reliably and requires little maintenance. The CIS-LS features its own lighting unit and can be operated reliably at any light situation, including at night, in tunnels, or under bridges.

Camera-based wire wear detection

A camera is used to identify the level of wire wear. The residual thickness of contact wires with a round cross section is calculated from the width of their sliding surface. The CIS’ camera-based measuring

* More detailed information on the individual systems is available on separate product sheets.
unit records the sliding surface and uses this information to derive data about the degree of wear. At a speed of 40 km/h, a reading is taken every 13 mm.

Laser scanner for detecting wire position

The laser-based measuring unit (CRS), used to record contact wire position, was significantly upgraded for integration into the CIS. Higher scan frequencies have improved the system’s precision. The measurement range has been extended to 10 meters, while the sampling rate, i.e. the number of measuring points per scan, has been increased sixfold.

Modular system

The modular setup of the CIS-LS’ acquisition unit comprises the WWS and CRS. As a one-box solution, the system can be mounted flexibly on a broad range of measuring vehicles, on the sole condition that the LED-panel be placed nearby. A customer friendly software features the analysis of the catenary system.

Railway Measurement Technology at Fraunhofer IPM

Fraunhofer IPM develops optical measuring systems for monitoring the condition of rail infrastructure. Experts in measuring techniques and optics, designers, electrical and software engineers work together on supplying turnkey solutions for the special requirements of infrastructure operators and providers of surveying services. The robust measuring systems are deployed throughout the world and are characterized by their speed, precision and reliability.

Other railroad measurement systems made by Fraunhofer IPM:

- High-Speed Profiler HSP
- Clearance Profile Scanner CPS
- Wire Wear Monitoring System WWS
- Contact Wire Recording System CRS
- Laser Pole Detection System LPS
- Contact Wire Inspection System CIS
- Sector Profile Scanner SPS
- Tunnel Inspection System TIS