



Health, Safety, Quality and Environmental Alert

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24-15

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AMG/F/HSQE/001

Track Access/Egress

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(To be posted on HSQE Notice Boards for a Period of 1 MONTH from date of issue)

Background:

Further to a Near-Miss incident on Tuesday 17th March 2015 where operatives chose to access track to carry out works using an unauthorised access point and narrowly missed being struck by an oncoming train.

The incident is currently under investigation by Network Rail and Rail Safety Solutions and further details will be communicated following conclusion of the investigation.

In the interim period may I take this opportunity to re-iterate that GE/RT8000/HB1 (Rule Book) determines that you must use an authorised access point, if provided, to get onto the operational Railway.

Actions to be taken:

Controllers of Site Safety (COSS) shall:

- Include reference to the designated access/egress points for works on the infrastructure within the COSS briefing prior to accessing track
- Consult and brief the Safe System of Work Plan and relevant extracts from the Hazard Directory and Sectional Appendix relevant to the work location

Operatives shall:

- Undergo COSS briefing prior to accessing track
- Sign to acknowledge understanding of the COSS briefing
- Not access track without the COSS briefing
- Not access track from Station Platform Ends
- Not take short cuts to access track where it is perceived to be a shorter route

It must be noted that Rail Safety Solutions has developed and implemented a 'Worksafe' policy and procedure whereby operatives may select to stop work without fear of repercussion, where such work is deemed to be unsafe until such times as the situation is re-assessed.

Similarly Rail Safety Solutions operates a Close-Call system and any event with the potential to cause harm may be reported to ensure action is taken to assess and resolve the situation.

To assist with all such events please speak with a Rail Safety Solutions representative and for events out of office hours the Company has in place on-call managers who may be contacted to help manage the process and has arranged a dedicated out of hours number as follows:

Ken Davison: 07880 035872

Dan Thompson: 07880 035863

Out of hours number: 01332 229963