

	Health, Safety, Quality and Environmental Alert	Alert number: 45-15	Document Reference: AMG/F/HSQE/001
	RIDDOR accident at Sydney Gardens	Issue Date: 30/06/15	Author: Steve Milroy

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

Background

On the 20th May 2015 a Colas Rail Surveyor (Rail Systems) sustained a strained left ankle after losing his balance while hoisting himself down a retaining wall (approx. 1.35m high).

The control point from which the survey was taking place was beyond the retaining wall. The control points have to be 2.6m away from the track and it led to it being positioned beyond the wall.

What was not clear was the means of accessing the control point

The ways to access the control point was to return to the access point, walk along Sydney gardens to a gate that would safely place you behind the wall.



The accident happened at 03:45, 15 minutes before the end of the possession

Actions Required

- Always have a suitable risk assessment in place before commencing any activity.
- Always ensure you are briefed on means of access and egress.
- Time vs Risk: Always ensure that time allocated to the task is sufficient to come off track safely.
- Assess situation regularly to ensure safe access and egress to specific points or locations.
- Don't assume: challenge the way the work is being carried out and intervene if you feel the method of work is potentially unsafe.

Source: Colas Rail