

what happened...

Briefer's notes



Briefing notes

OTP MACHINES ARE EXTREMELY POWERFUL AND CAN BE DANGEROUS. WHETHER YOU OPERATE THEM, OR WORK WITH OR AROUND THEM, IT'S UP TO ALL OF US TO FOLLOW THE RULES. THEY'RE THERE FOR A REASON, TO HELP KEEP OURSELVES AND OUR WORKMATES SAFE.

Work around OTP machinery?

If you do, here's a few key points to remember:

- When on-site, always try and keep well away from the machines. If you do have to move past them, keep as much distance as you can and keep your wits about you
- Just a single lapse in concentration could prove fatal, so always stay alert and be on your guard
- Just because you can see the machine operator, doesn't mean they can see you. There are blind spots for drivers and they change all the time.
- Don't forget OTP machines can move forwards, backwards and rotate 360 degrees. Always be aware of the direction any machines around you are travelling in. And remember, red lights don't always mean they are travelling away from you
- Always obey any instructions given by the Machine Controller/Banksman. It could save you from a nasty accident.
- Make sure on-site housekeeping is being carried out. It will help reduce the chance of an accident with OTP

Are you a WPP or Task briefer?

If you are, it's your responsibility to check a worksite for any hazards or risks. Make sure your checks include the following track conditions:

- Plain track, both jointed and continuous welded rail
- Cant
- Radius curve
- Gradients
- Switches and crossings
- Raised check rails and guard rails
- Track twist
- Points in a possession (trailing/facing)
- Level crossings
- Bridges
- OLE
- Buried services

Are you an OTP Operator?

If that's your role, here's a few things that could help avoid a nasty accident for you or your workmates:

- Know the OTP capabilities and never override safety devices
- Always check general condition, calibration and/or maintenance dates of a machine before you use it
- Make sure you know exactly what you're loading and unloading and put it in a place that's safe to do so
- Only use plant and equipment that you are trained to use
- Always keep to the speed limit

But the most important thing to remember is always BE AWARE!

- Be aware of any potential dangers: derailment, runaways, collisions, overturning, speeding...
- Be aware of your ever-changing environment: the weather, the noise, the number of people and OTP machines on-site...

