

# Safety Advice

Action required following a serious incident

## Cembre LD-1PR rail drill bell housing failure

**Issued to:** All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors

**Ref:** NRA 16/07

**Date of issue:** 21/06/2016

**Location:** Copley Hill Junction, Leeds

**Contact:** [Rashid Wahidi](#), Professional Head of Plant and T&RS



### Overview

A Works Delivery signals team were using a Cembre LD-1PR rail drill to drill bonds at Copley Hill Junction Leeds. When undertaking drilling operations the bell housing of the drill failed and fell apart. No-one was injured on this occasion, though there is potential for a staff injury from any future failure.

A later inspection discovered an age-related crack had developed in the housing which had led to the failure. Excessive movement was also detected in the clutch bearing which may have added to the vibration which lead to the crack.

The unit is 14 years old and has been in full service for all of this time. The servicing of this unit is undertaken by Torrent.

### Immediate action required

- All users and maintainers of the equipment must complete a full maintenance visual inspection of the equipment with particular emphasis placed on the bell housing component and items which are over 10 years old. The date of manufacture is stamped on the data plate of the machine.
- All drills which show a date of 2006 (06) or older should be quarantined and inspected at the earliest opportunity by a plant servicing technician.
- Any items identified as suspect from the visual inspection must also be quarantined, reported and inspected by a plant servicing technician.
- Equipment identified as unserviceable must be labelled, quarantined and not be issued for use before such time as new parts are fitted or the equipment is replaced. Equipment identified as serviceable can continue to be utilised.
- All faults identified should be reported to the equipment supplier so that repairs can be undertaken by a competent fitter and to [Chris Hayden](#).

Copies of Safety Advices are available on [Safety Central](#).