

Overtaken Road Rail Vehicle (RRV)

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

Ref: NRB 18/04

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Location: Distillery Sidings, Marykirk

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Overview

During a 29 hour possession the Works Delivery Track team were re-sleeping Marykirk Viaduct. This involved RRVs accessing at Hillside Access Point before traveling north to the viaduct. There were Liebherr machines on site to complete lifting and digging operations and Atlas machines which were intended to shunt trailers up and down the line between the site and the access.

The Liebherr RRVs were running trailers from Distillery Sidings to the access point. The site is long and narrow which resulted in some congestion on site.

To allow for easier access one of the Atlas machines was used to lift a trailer and an attached ballast box. Lifted together, they exceeded the safe capacity of the machine.

The Atlas machine had a log grab attachment fitted. Lifting chains were connected through the log grab rather than removing it and properly attaching the chains. This was a contravention of the contractor's policy. The Atlas machine was in dig mode meaning that the safe load device (a Rated Capacity Indicator - RCI) was inactive for the lifting operation. The trailer and ballast box were lifted and as the machine swung round it overturned, coming to rest on its side on top of the trailer.

Fortunately, neither the driver nor crane controller were injured.

Discussion Points

While we are investigating the incident please discuss the following with your team:

- How do we control movement of machines within a congested worksite?
- What should be contained within a lifting plan?
- How should a Crane Controller and POS Representative check whether an RCI is in operation before supervising a lifting operation?
- How do we identify what attachments should be used for each task involved on site?
- What signs would you look for to indicate whether staff operating or supervising on track plant were working safely?
- How should changes to lifting plans be reviewed, authorised and communicated?

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