

Safety Bulletin

A serious incident has taken place

Accident with cleaning machine at London Euston

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

Ref: NRB 16/09

Date of issue: 24/06/2016

Location: London Euston Station

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Overview

During the early hours of 8 June a contractor's cleaning machine operative drove a T7 cleaning machine along platform 2 at Euston station to clean the platform surface.

The operative noticed a piece of rubbish between the tactile surface and the platform edge and decided to pick up the rubbish using a hand-held litter grab while still driving the cleaning machine.

The operative approached the piece of rubbish and lent to the left of the machine to retrieve it using the litter grab; at the same time the front wheels of the cleaning machine ran onto the tactile surface.

This resulted in the operative losing control of the cleaning machine which then made a sudden movement toward the platform edge and fell onto the track.

The operative suffered a swollen ankle but fortunately didn't sustain any major injury.

Discussion Points

Whilst we are investigating the causes of this incident please discuss the following with your teams:

- What could the operative have done differently in order to retrieve the piece of rubbish safely?
- How do you assess the risks of undertaking the routine tasks that you undertake?
- If you witness an obstruction of a line that could be open to rail traffic what would your first action be?
- If you need to work on a platform how do you make sure you do not get within 1.25m of the edge?
- Why is it important not to use any kind of hand held device when driving any kind of vehicle?
- What actions should now be considered to help prevent a reoccurrence of this type of incident?

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