



Network Rail
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Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

OLE Double Clevis ('808') in Tensioning Arrangements - Risk of Catastrophic Failure

This Bulletin is for the attention of:

All Network Rail and contractor staff who work on or with overhead line equipment (OLE).

Background:

A number of double clevis ('808') components have failed recently in the line. An analysis of one of the failed fittings has concluded that it the fitting failed as a result of a manufacturing defect.

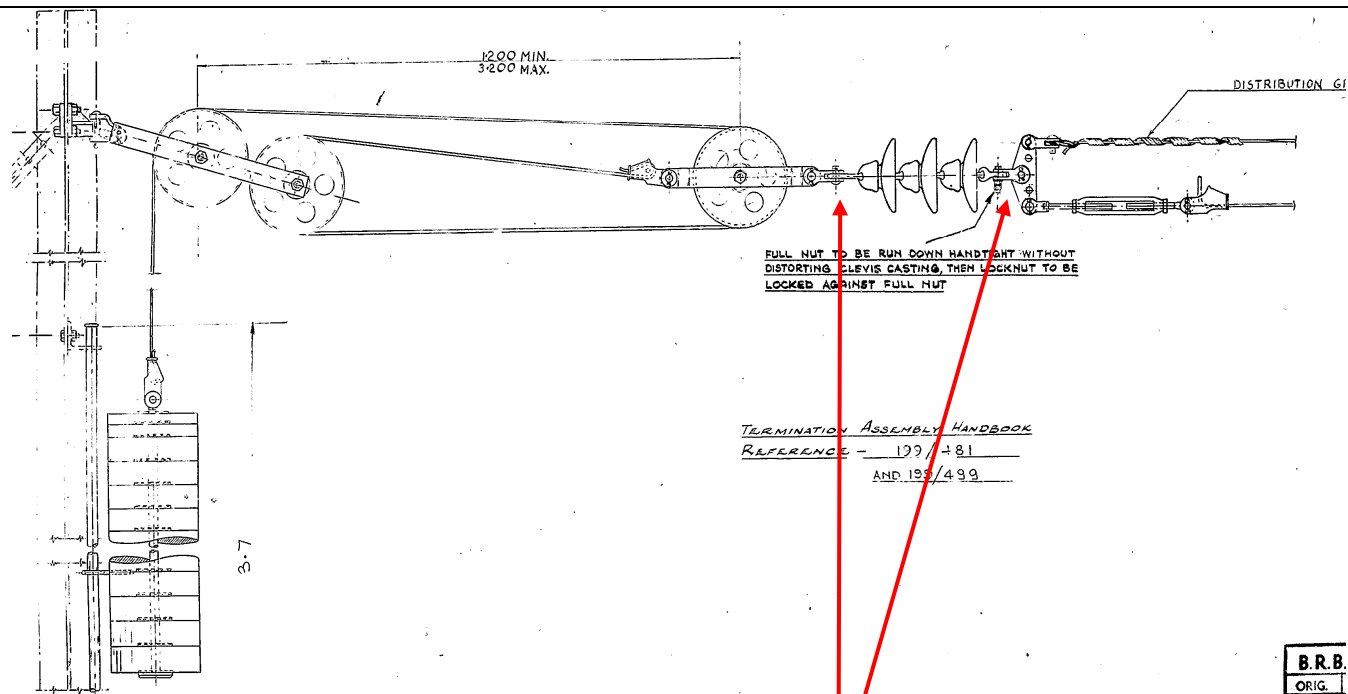
The arrangement that is at particular risk is in tensioning assemblies, where the double clevis connects an equalising plate to an insulator. The component is at risk of failure when carrying out work

1. on balance weight arrangements
2. when replacing contact or catenary wire by rigging up onto the equalising plate
3. following a dewirement, where the clevis has been subject to shock loading.

A failure of a double clevis in this arrangement will cause a dewirement and has the potential to cause serious injury to anyone working in close proximity.

Action Required:

1. Brief all OLE staff of the risk of failure of the double clevis
2. Inspect the double clevis by using the camera on a pole and / or **as the first activity** during high level inspection. Any double clevis showing signs of cracking, fatigue or any opening of the clevis legs shall be replaced **before** carrying out any work on the wire run concerned.
3. Always inspect the double clevises following any dewirement affecting the wire run concerned.
4. No work is to be carried out on balance weight or tensioning assemblies, or any other work carried out requiring a rig being attached onto an equalising plate, without a safe system of work being in place to mitigate the risk of failure of the double clevis.
5. ***Suitable safe systems of work will depend on the work activity being carried out. For further details contact your local E&P Engineer and/or Workforce Development Specialist.***
6. Any suspect or failed components shall be quarantined and Martin Croton notified.
(martin.croton@networkrail.co.uk - 07771 828 728)
7. For further technical details contact Andy Mackintosh
(andy.mackintosh@networkrail.co.uk - 07920 155992)



B.R.B.
ORIG.



Figure 2. –Double Clevis shown in balance weight arrangement