

No: IGS 209

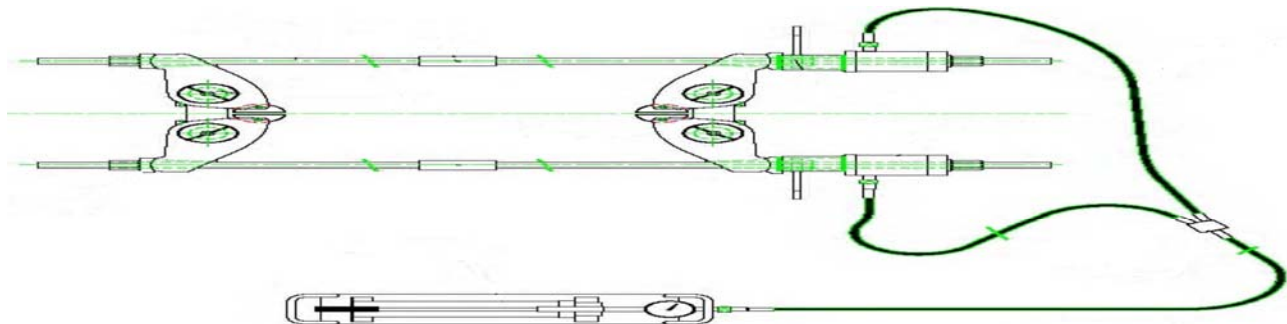
Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

Light Weight Stressing Kit, Model THR542

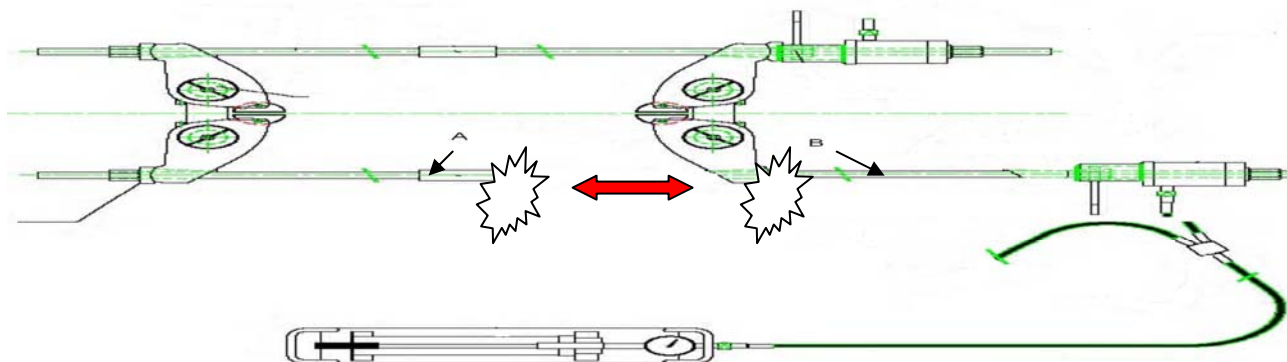
This bulletin is for the attention of: IMDM's, Training, Maintenance Workforce HSE Advisors, All Network Rail Maintenance Staff

On 13 October 2009, the Light Weight Stressing Kit, model THR542 was used under T3 protection to replace a rail defect at Middlesbrough on the Down Goods line 15m10ch. It failed in use when the connecting tie bar parted at one end of the joining nut allowing the tie bar to be propelled approximately 5 metres along the track.

The sketch below shows the setup of the equipment used.



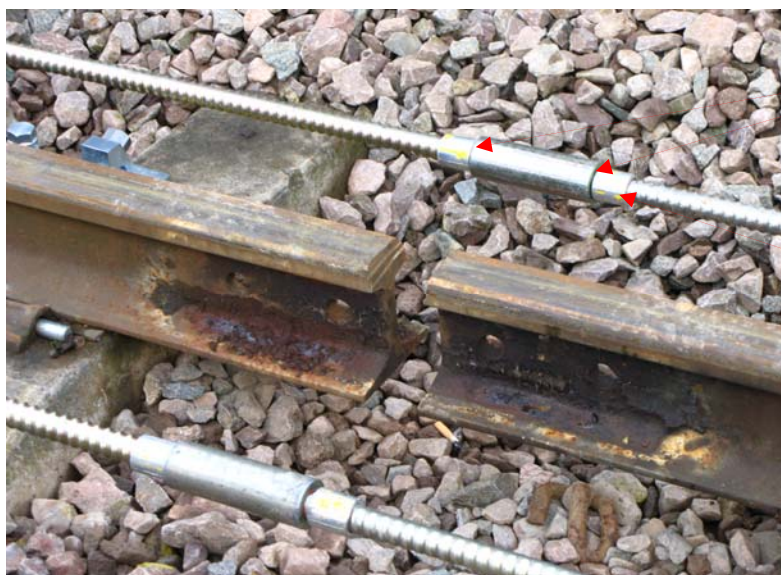
Following the incident the investigation concluded that the centre union nut (part A) was inadequately screwed to the connecting tie bar (part B). This caused part A and B to detach from each other under hydraulic pressure.



Actions:

1. Operators should check that the two Tie bars are fully engaged and that the indicator collars are equally spaced from the joining nut before any pressure is applied to stress the rail.

See diagram below:



This is the correct alignment

Indicator collar

2. Equipment should be used within 3 months of training by persons newly certificated competent to use the Light weight stressing kit model THR542.

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