

No: IGS215

Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

GEISMAR THR542 STRESSING EQUIPMENT

This bulletin is for the attention of: IMDM's, IME's, TME's, Track SM's, safety improvement team training, Maintenance Workforce HSE Advisors and all Network Rail track maintenance staff holding competence in the use of this equipment.

Background

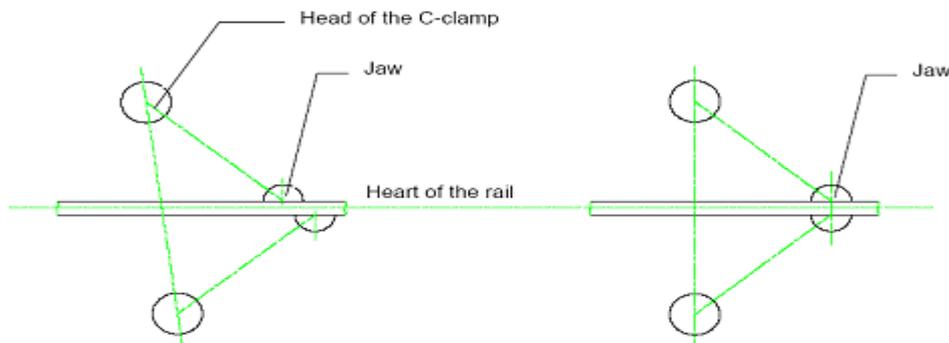
There have been a small number of incidents where, due to initial misalignment of the jaws, the wing nuts securing the 'thrust-blocks' to the yoke have sheared.

The following actions must be taken:-

1. Wing-nuts will be removed with immediate effect. The function of the wing nut and thrust block assembly is to act as an aid during the assembly process and their removal will not affect the ability to correctly align the jaws.

The stressing equipment shall not be used with the wing nuts in place.

2. Operators shall check that jaws are correctly aligned opposite one another before commencing operations, as shown below



Incorrect Positioning
Which can be due to movement of the
'thrustblock'

Correct Positioning
Obtained by 'thrustblocks' in correct
position

3. The operators shall monitor and check that the jaws at both ends remain aligned throughout the operation.
4. Eye protection shall be worn at all times when operating stressing kit.

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