

No: IGS 232

Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

Cable Protection from Rail Delivery

For the attention of all employees involved in delivery and receipt of rail onto the infrastructure



Damaged
Rail

Impedance
Bond



Background:

A recent incident occurred whereby electrical cabling was damaged following a delivery of rail. The rail was laid using supporting saddles to protect the cabling, in this instance the saddles were not raised enough to keep the rail completely off the cable. In another area rail was directly laid onto cabling without any cable protection; the heating and cooling effects of the recent weather conditions caused the delivered rail to expand and contract and consequently cut through the insulation of the traction return and other cables. The rail foot was damaged by arcing rendering this piece of rail unusable.

These are not isolated incidents; often the position of rail when delivered to site has created an additional hazard. There is a risk of cable damage when rail is delivered at any location and as this incident has shown the risk is increased in DC Line 3rd rail areas.

Action Required:

- During the rail delivery site walk out all relevant cabling and other track furniture requiring protection are to be identified and recorded on the Lineside Equipment Protection Form by the rail recipient and the Network Rail Delivery Contractor.
- Agreed and appropriate protection is to be actioned prior to the planned rail delivery by the recipient of the rail.

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