

5th July 2010

No: IGS 233

Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

Access Gates with the potential to foul the running line and position of safety.

For the attention of all Network Rail and Contractor staff

Background:

A recent incident occurred in the Elstree area when the first passenger train of the day collided with a pair of palisade access gates. These gates had been accidentally left open upon completion of recent engineering works and were foul of the running line. Whilst no-one was hurt, this incident resulted in severe damage to the gate and minor damage to the First Capital Connect Unit. The consequences could have been far worse, particularly if someone had been in the vicinity.



The damaged gates.



New gates fitted that can only open outwards.

Action Required:

All staff are requested to do the following:

- **Advise your Supervisor** of the location of any access gates that open onto the Infrastructure and have the potential to foul the line or obstruct a position of safety whilst open, (including any that are disused or belong to third party).
- **WITHOUT EXCEPTION** access gates must be closed and locked when not in use. This includes whilst you are working nearby and after every access to and egress from the rail infrastructure.
 - ❖ Please be reminded that every member NR staff or contractors must ensure the Network Infrastructure is left in a safe condition before leaving site.
 - ❖ If you see an access gate left open take positive action; close it and report the incident to your team leader immediately.

This Safety Alert must be displayed for 28 days on the safety notice board