

23rd January 2013

No: NRS 274

Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Securing of Rail for Road Haulage

For the attention of all staff involved in loading, securing and haulage of rail.

Background:

On Thursday January 17th 2013, a flatbed lorry was transporting a load of 60ft serviceable rails along the public highway to a heritage railway site. The load shifted resulting in one 60ft rail becoming displaced and dropping on the road.

The driver of the flatbed stopped traffic until local Police took control of the situation. Arrangements were made for a local haulage firm to supply a HIAB to reload the rail onto the lorry. Fortunately this incident resulted in no injury or damage to road or property.



Immediate Action Required by all persons affected:

Whilst the incident remains under investigation and until further notice, all staff involved in planning the loading, securing and carriage of rail by road should seek advice and guidance from the Road Haulage Planning Centre by contacting Wayne Gould on 07887 896261 before arranging the delivery of rail by road.

Please note that friction of steel products can be reduced by as much as 50% in freezing conditions. This means extra restraints are needed to make loads safe.

Arrangements for road haulage of rail should be made through the Road Haulage Planning Centre with requirements sent by email to DHLroad@networkrail.co.uk.