

No: NRS 303

Network Rail Safety Bulletin

High Visibility Coats and Jackets with Hoods

For the Attention of: All Network Rail Employees, Principal Contractors and Contractors who may go lineside.

Background:

It has come to our attention that new High Visibility coats and jackets are being supplied with hoods attached. This Safety Bulletin highlights the dangers of wearing a hood lineside.

A hood will reduce your ability to hear the sound of an approaching train or any other vehicle operating on the infrastructure. A hood will also impair your sight by limiting your peripheral vision. Anything that reduces your vision and/or hearing is likely to increase the time to respond to an approaching train and **must not** be worn on or near the line or lineside.

Immediate action required to all persons affected:

If you order a new High Visibility coat or jacket **the hood must be removed immediately** so that it is not worn on or near the line or lineside. The hoods being supplied are detachable by 'pop buttons', so it can be easily removed.

Key Message:

If you have to go lineside it is unsafe to wear a hood of any kind. Hoods impair or reduce your sighting and hearing of an approaching train. Please remove the hood immediately from any new High Visibility coat or jacket if, at any time, your duties require you to go on or near the line or lineside.

Pop button allows the hood to be detached from the coat or jacket.

