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Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Axle Lock Check Valves on Colmar RRVs

For the attention of all owners of Colmar RRVs (T4300, T7000 and T10000 models) and POS Representatives

Background

Following a recent low speed derailment of a Colmar T4300 RRV, a number of faults have been found in the axle lock check valves located on top of each hydraulic ram on the floating axle. These have included broken springs and build-up of contaminants in the hydraulic oil.

The contaminants in the oil have a direct effect on the correct operation of the axle lock check valves, reducing their effectiveness to operate as designed and lock/unlock the floating axle. Additional checks on the axle lock check valves and amendments to maintenance plans have previously been recommended to mitigate the risk of this fault following NIR 2321 in 2007.

Immediate Action Required by Users

All Colmar RRVs must be inspected with immediate effect and the following action taken:

- Thorough and detailed inspection of the affected axle lock check valves components.
- Based on the outcome of the detailed inspection, repairs to be carried out in line with instructions previously issued in NIR 2321.
- Review maintenance plans for all Colmar RRVs to ensure that removal, cleaning and checking of the axle lock valve blocks are included every 250 hours or 2 months for the first year. If no issues are raised within the year then the frequency can be reduced to annual.
- Amend maintenance plans if necessary.
- POS Representatives to verify that inspection has taken place before deploying the vehicle on the operational infrastructure.



Example of affected Colmar RRV



Axle Lock Check Valve