

3 November 2014

No: NRS 341

Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Watford Tunnel – Train Collision with location case door

For the attention of: all railway staff working trackside

Background: On 26 October 2014, a London Midland train travelling south through Watford Tunnel came into contact with the door of a signalling location case. The impact of the location case door on the train caused damage to the carriage including smashing the train door window.

The location case had recently been installed on the tunnel wall.

Investigations have commenced and involve: RAIB, ORR, Network Rail, the Principal Contractor and London Midland.



Location case with door missing



Damage to London Midland train

While we are investigating the causes of the accident, please take the time to consider the following and discuss in your teams:

- When working on location cases how do you positively confirm that the doors are closed and secured on every occasion before leaving the worksite?
- Are there other pieces of equipment or materials that you work with that may pose a similar risk? How do you make sure these are only ever left in a safe condition?