

No: NRB 15/02

Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Heathrow Express Train Collision with Trolley Airport Junction, Stockley

For the attention of: All those who work or plan works on the infrastructure

Background:

On the morning of the 28th December a Heathrow Express train struck a trolley on the UP Airport Line at Stockley. The two operatives who were placing the trolley jumped clear of the train just before the impact. This was very close to being a multiple fatality.

The works were the commissioning of the new Stockley Flyover, which is part of the Crossrail project.

The investigation and subsequent recommendations are being jointly completed by Network Rail and Carillion

Underlying causes

- The activity being undertaken (lay out troughing) was un-planned and had not been addressed in the Task Briefing Statement
- The COSS was not with the operatives when the incident occurred and had not briefed them.
- Poor communication between ES, COSS, Supervisor and the operatives is a contributory factor.

Immediate Action Required by all persons affected:

- Individuals must take personal responsibility to not start work if they have not been adequately briefed by their supervisor and the COSS **or** if they doubt the competency of either.
- If the Safe System of Work requires a COSS then works do not start without the COSS being present

