

# Safety Bulletin

*A serious incident has taken place*

## Train strikes 'gantry rail' placed in cess

**Issued to:** All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and Achilles registered contractors

**Ref:** NRB 15/09

**Date of issue:** 27/04/2015

**Location:** Derby Road, Felixstowe

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## Overview

On 20 April 2015 a gantry rail which had been positioned for the plain line renewals works at Derby Road moved due to expansion.

The gantry rails are used as part of the renewals temporary works and had been joined on site into 709 foot lengths two weeks prior to the main works.

Due to heat expansion the rail came into close proximity of the adjacent running rail and was struck by a passing train.

Whilst this did not cause significant damage to the infrastructure or the train, the potential for damage was high.

## Discussion Points

Please discuss the following with your teams:

- How do you know that you have effective risk assessments for all your temporary works?
- How do you consider both actual and potential site and environmental conditions such as hot weather in early spring?
- How is risk considered when determining the split between main and preparatory works? Would your current arrangements help prevent a similar incident to this?
- How and when would consideration be given to measures such as a supplementary inspection regime and watchmen for sites identified as high risk?
- As a precautionary measure IP-Track will require that DPE approval is obtained from for any sites where rail lengths greater than 709' are proposed prior to core works (welded or plated), this is a temporary measure until the findings of the investigation are delivered.