

Safety Bulletin

A serious incident has taken place

Train collision and derailment

Issued to: All Network Rail line managers

and Achilles registered

contractors

Ref: NRB 15/13

Date of issue: 21/08/2015

Location: Logan, Ayrshire

Contact: Bill Cooke, Head of S&SD IP

Track



The collision site

Overview

On 1 August 2015 at approx. 11.15 a.m. an engineering train travelling at 28mph in a track renewals worksite collided with the rear of a stationary engineering train which was on the same line.

This resulted in the locomotive and a further 18 wagons being derailed. Several wagons and the locomotive sustained extensive damage.

Fortunately, the driver of the train was not seriously hurt. The line was blocked for two weeks while the extensive recovery took place.

The incident is being investigated, both by the industry and the Rail Accident Investigation Branch, RAIB.

RAIB has issued an Urgent Safety Advice.

Discussion Points

While we are investigating the causes of this incident please discuss the following with your teams:

How could we better plan possessions and worksites to reduce collision risks?

What are the difficulties associated with reaching a clear understanding on:

- the limits of any permitted movement;
- any relaxation of the 5mph maximum speed normally applied;
- that movements must be made at caution, meaning that the driver must be capable of stopping within the distance they can see to be clear.

How do we ensure there is clear understanding about any specific instructions when communicating with engineering train or On Track Machine drivers?

How do we monitor the clarity of safety critical communications in worksites?

What action would you take if you considered that safety communication was inadequate?