

9th April 2014

No: IGS 319

Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Electric Shock to an Employee at Hamilton Square Station, Merseyrail, Liverpool

For the attention of all Network Rail and Suppliers staff

Background: On the 27th February 2014 at Hamilton Square Station, Merseyrail, Liverpool, an employee of Network Rail received an electric shock whilst working on a telecom customer information system fitting (CIS), as per the photograph below.



The injured person had isolated what should have been the mains input cable (the live leg of the mains input) by removing a fuse, and then tested for live electrics before touching the equipment. However the polarity of the cable from a line filter unit was reversed for electrical flow and the injured person received an electric shock from the equipment (240V AC) due to incorrect wiring during installation. A subsequent examination of the CIS unit revealed it had been wired incorrectly (reverse wired), and several others in the immediate vicinity (Hamilton Station) were found to be in a similar state and corrected.

Immediate Action Required by all persons affected:

- Relevant staff to be briefed regarding the Life Saving Rules.
- All relevant staff to ensure mains supplies are isolated, to test all wires for live current and to conduct a test to earth before touching. Relevant staff should not rely on the removal of fuses or testing of the live leg only.
- All relevant staff who fault/inspect CIS units to be made aware of this incident, and the remedial actions and control measures required.
- An investigation has commenced and the findings will be issued in due course

Issued by: Neil Marsh Head of S&SD Network Rail Telecoms