

# Lessons Learnt from a Significant Event



Date of issue: 17<sup>th</sup> December 2013

Issued By: Thameslink Programme, HSEA Team, James Forbes House, 27 Great Suffolk Street, London, SE1 0NS

Issue Number: TLP014

Title: Murphy's Yard Kentish Town – Authorisation of On-tracking prior to issue of Form C

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## Overview of Event

- On 6<sup>th</sup> October 2013, A Nominated Person (N.P.) suggested personnel could on-track machines without issuing a Form C permit.
- The N.P. had instructed the earthing parties to go to the necessary accesses once they had been booked in with the Engineering Supervisor. The N.P. tested the Overhead Line Equipment (OLE) at the Road Rail Access Point (RRAP) at Kentish Town and advised the earthing teams that they could apply earths as per their Switching Testing Earthing Details (STED) form.
- During the waiting period for all earths to be applied, the time pressure of the work was highlighted to the N.P. on a number of occasions by the Machine Controllers.
- The N.P. offered to facilitate the access of Road Rail Vehicles (RRV) on to the RRAP between already applied and tested earths. The machine controllers were not satisfied that appropriate safety measures were in place to provide a safe system of work for the machines and personnel, thus declined to access the RRAP.

## Underlying Causes:

There are a number of underlying facts that contributed to the event:

- The investigation has concluded that there was inadequate planning for track access times.
- The travel times from Murphy's Yard at Kentish Town, were longer than originally anticipated when planning for the earths to be applied.
- Isolation teams were delayed due to track access issues.
- Perceived peer pressure on the N.P. to take the Isolation in a more prompt manner may have led him to make the suggestion to on-track prior to him issuing Form C permits.

**FORM C (RT3116) OVERHEAD LINE PERMIT**

This form certifies that the overhead line Equipment (OLE) including return conductors and booster transformers are electrically isolated where necessary and earthed, and constitutes a permit-to-work on or near these.

**WARNING:** THE ISSUE OF THIS PERMIT DOES NOT MEAN THAT TRAIN MOVEMENTS ARE STOPPED ON THE LINES CONCERNED AND WHERE NECESSARY SUCH ARRANGEMENTS SHALL BE MADE IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RAIL BOOK GLETT 2008.

Issued To (Name): P. PHILLIPS Cert No: 57468720 Employer: CML

For the Purpose of carrying out the following work: RRV work The following equipment is earthed.

Equipment	Working Limits	in structure	Line(s)	Remarks
Overhead line Equipment	<u>F03 00-46</u>	<u>F02 01</u>	<u>FR SAKENK6, DR Benge</u>	
Excluding Return Conductors	<u>F03 00-47</u>	<u>F02 01</u>	<u>DR SAKENK6, DR Benge</u>	<u>not on DR Benge line</u>
Return Conductors	<u>within phase limits</u>			<u>not on DR Benge line</u>
Booster Transformers				<u>not on DR Benge line</u>

**ALL OTHER OVERHEAD LINE EQUIPMENT (OLE) INCLUDING RETURN CONDUCTORS AND BOOSTER TRANSFORMERS MUST BE REGARDED AS LIVE AND DANGEROUS AND MUST NOT BE TOUCHED NOR APPROACHED**

This permit is to be cancelled not later than 0600 Hours, on (Date) 6.10.13

Issued by: P. Phillips Signature: [Signature] Message Number: 0354 Date: 6.10.13

I undertake to ensure that all persons for whom I am responsible fully understand the extent of the isolation and the working limits before work commences.

Received by (Name): A. TAMBAC Signature: [Signature]

**Table 2:** If/when permit holder is relieved, continue on back of Form if necessary. List sites in charge of the work under this Overhead Line Permit and fully understand the condition, and have notified the Issuer or Electrical Control Operator.

Name	1	2	3	4
Signature:				
COSEOP Certificate No:				
Name of person relieved:				
Signature of person relieved:				
Date and time (hours):				

**Part 3:** The work for which this Permit was issued is completed. All persons for whom I am responsible and all materials are clear of the overhead line equipment (OLE) including return conductors, and booster transformers, and they have all been instructed that the overhead line equipment (OLE) including return conductors, and booster transformers, must now be regarded as LIVE and DANGEROUS.

*only returns my overhead line permit. The OLE is "fit" for the passage of electrical traction / not fit for the passage of electrical traction - or describe*

Name of T. TAMBAC Signature: [Signature] Employer: CML

Date: 6.10 Time: 04:30 Received by (Name): P. Phillips Signature: [Signature]

## Key Message:

- The N.P. has been placed on his employers 'At Risk Register' and will be monitored and re-assessed
- Planning must take account of required resources and travelling time to other locations. Failure to do so causes delay and may lead to personnel being put under pressure to make incorrect decisions.
- Never commence a work activity without first receiving a briefing and where required being issued a permit to work for the activity
- Personnel should be encouraged to challenge the safe system of work for any activity where they have concerns and they should be commended for doing so