

# Safety Advice

Action required following a serious incident

## Tandem lifting 60ft concrete sleeper track panels with road rail excavator cranes

**Issued to:** Project managers, crane controllers and lift planners, engineering supervisors, Network Rail POS holders, RRV plant suppliers and RRV operators

**Ref:** NRA 15/01

**Date of issue:** 02/04/2015

**Location:** N/A

**Contact:** [Paul Conway](#), Professional Head, Plant and T&RS



This picture is for illustrative purposes only – only scrap track panels are permitted to be lifted using unprotected chain slings.

## Overview

Following previous incidents and work undertaken by a cross industry Tandem Lifting Working Group it was determined that:

"It was not proved possible to demonstrate that any existing road rail excavator cranes in rail mode, could safely tandem lift 60ft concrete sleeper track panels, in order to 'panel-out' or install panels on or from the adjacent line."

This practice was therefore prohibited on Network Rail Managed Infrastructure under Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin 197.

### Immediate action required

The prohibition is still in place for all machines **except** where they have been assessed and approved by Network Rail for tandem lifting 60ft concrete sleeper track panels in rail mode.

The vehicle engineering certificate found in the cab of the vehicle should be referred to for this approval.

Note: M&EE Code of Practice COP 0008 details the correct load re-rating planning process to be used for tandem lifting operations with road rail excavator cranes.