750 V dc conductor rail system

Never assume equipment is isolated – always test before touch.

Brief

- ❑ Only touch the conductor rail if a conductor rail permit has been issued for the relevant section
- ❑ Always prove the testing device before use
- ❑ Where possible, reprove the device after use
- ❑ Always test a conductor which you assume has been isolated but is capable of being made live using an approved device before entering risk level 1 (or zone 1) of the conductor rail
- ❑ You should re-test if you have moved beyond conductor rail gap, or onto a different track
- ❑ The test must be directly performed by the COSS and confirmed to each individual before entering risk level 1 (or zone 1) of the conductor rail. Where joining a workgroup who are in contact with a conductor, if there is any doubt about the extent of the worksite, the test must be performed again by the COSS.
- ❑ Approved devices only indicate if a conductor is live, not if it is safe to touch. Conductors must be isolated, and made dead, before touching

This lifesaving rule applies to

- ❑ All components which may be energised at 750 V dc. This includes but is not limited to:
  - Conductor rail
  - Hook switches
  - Controlled track isolators and switches
  - Other trackside switches
  - Track current relays
  - Conductor rail heating systems
  - Cables

This lifesaving rule does not apply to

- ❑ Local (depot) isolations

Learning for the future

- ❑ Every report of electric shock shall be formally investigated using the fair culture process
- ❑ A Close Call should be raised when a conductor is tested live and it is not expected to be live

Guidance/Notes

- ❑ The risk assessment process is also explained in the DCCR keypoint card NR9934
- ❑ Care must be taken around hook switches, which may have energised parts, even though the conductor rail they are mounted to is de-energised.