

Safety Bulletin

A serious incident has taken place



Person struck by falling over head wire

Issued to: **All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors**

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Location: Dollymans Bridge at S30/19 on the Up Southend

Contact: Annette McStein, Safety Manager
OCR
annette.mcstein@networkrail.co.uk



Overview

During planned renewal of an OLE wire run, it was discovered that the planned methodology was unable to be applied. Following review by the site management the decision was made to revert to the contingency plan to manually de-wire.

A re-brief of the manual methodology and the associated hazards and controls was undertaken and the work re-commenced.

As the work progressed, some of the supporting temporary materials failed which resulted in the contact wire dropping to the ground uncontrollably, striking the injured person on the head and shoulders.

The injured person was wearing his hard hat, which took most of the impact, however he had pains to his back and forearm and was taken to the local hospital by ambulance for a check-up. The injured person was later released and is currently recovering at home.

Discussion Points

While the investigations into the accident are underway, please discuss the following points with your teams:

- What assurances do you have when making late changes to planned tasks that all risks have been assessed and controls are implemented, briefed and understood as required?
- Are the "Take 5" principles applied before, during and after your work?

- Are the methodologies and processes checked to ensure they are still applicable as the work progresses?
- Who can authorise late changes to a safe system of work / SWP?

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