

Safety Advice

Action required following a serious incident



Serious injury to an operative

Issued to: **Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and accredited contractors**

Ref: NRA20-12

Date of issue: 28/10/2020

Location: Grove Ferry, Kent Route, Southern Region

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Overview

On the afternoon of 24 October 2020 at Grove Ferry, Kent an operative was taking measurements of the track, for aligning sleepers, from the running rail on the adjacent line. There was an engineering train on that line. The engineering train was authorised to move and ran over the operative's hand, resulting in the amputation of two fingers.

All works were immediately stopped, but the incident was not reported to Route Control for over two hours. This delayed reporting to the Rail Accident Investigation Branch (RAIB) which should have happened immediately

The incident is being investigated by the Office of Rail and Road, RAIB and our principal contractor.

Discussion Points

- How do you protect all staff working beside any adjacent lines where engineering train movements are taking place?
- If acting as a COSS or Safe Work Leader do you always stay close to everyone in your work group?
- How do you check and confirm all your work group are away from the train before it is authorised to move?
- Make sure you know how train movements will be controlled and how you will be warned before any movements are made.
- If an incident happens does everyone know to inform Route control (or SCO 24/7 if relevant)?
- Take Five at any time if you are not sure about the working arrangements.

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