

# Suspending a system of Safeworking

## Purpose

To prescribe the rules for suspending a system of Safeworking in the Network.

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## Principle

A system of Safeworking may be suspended only if the methods of special working will not allow train services.

A system of Safeworking may be suspended only on the authority of the Sydney Trains:

- Director Safety and Standards, or
- Manager Network Rules and Projects.

The suspension may be implemented or ended by an authorised officer.

Officers implementing the suspension must be assured that:

- workers can carry out their duties safely
- rail traffic travelling under the suspension of the system of Safeworking can do so safely.

During suspension of a system of Safeworking, the method of working introduced in its place must use as much as possible of:

- the principles of the suspended system of Safeworking
  - the normal procedures of the suspended system of Safeworking.
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Before suspending the system of Safeworking, the implementing officer must:

- determine that a method of special working will not allow train services
- issue instructions about the method of working to be used
- direct that movements be safe, and that conflicting movements be prevented.

The implementing officer must arrange for copies of the instructions to be given to:

- Network Controllers for the affected areas
- affected Signallers at attended locations
- affected Train Crews and Track Vehicle Crews
- other affected workers.

#### **Ensuring safety**

The implementing officer must make sure that the instructions:

- specify the limits for the authorised movements
- do not permit conflicting routes to be set
- specify how signals at **STOP** are to be passed.

The implementing officer must be assured that:

- effective communication will be established between affected Qualified Workers
- previously issued Proceed Authorities in affected portions of track have been cancelled or fulfilled

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- unless authorised in the instructions, intermediate signal boxes and local control panels in affected areas will not be switched in or out
- if necessary, rail traffic in the affected areas has been restrained
- before it is authorised to do so, other rail traffic will not enter affected portions of track.

The implementing officer must make sure that the instructions require that:

- level crossings, worksites and obstructions are protected
- facing points for movements are secured
- if available, fixed signals are cleared.

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### Ending the suspension

The Director Safety and Standards or the Manager Network Rules and Projects, must arrange for an authorised officer to:

- give Network Controllers for the affected areas instructions to end the suspension of a system of Safeworking
- make sure that Network Controllers advise affected workers.

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### Network Procedures

*NPR 721 Spoken and written communication*

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safeworking

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## Effective date

30 September 2018

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