

Improving Possession Safety and Performance

Possession Protection Briefing requirements for LPA's

This information has been prepared to inform and reinforce Sydney Trains' employees and contractors of the requirements to adhere to both the Sydney Trains Network Rules and Procedures and all applicable possession procedures for the placement of possession protection during Local Possession Authorities.

Background

There have been three recent possession incidents where LPA protection has been incorrectly placed on the incorrect side of points by protection officers. This has resulted in protection being placed on live road. These incidents have involved both Sydney Trains' and contract protection officers.

Requirement

Before placing any form of LPA protection, either the Possession Protection Officer (PPO) or the Possession Protection Coordinator (PPC) must ensure the following requirements occur:

- Fully brief all protection teams on their protection requirements and provide them the protection pack as per Application of Possession Protection procedure which includes a clear track diagram and constraints register.
- PPO or PPC to highlight areas in the possession protection arrangements that need higher vigilance due to complex interlocking that could have similar impact as recent incidents.
- Each Protection team member is then required to demonstrate to either the PPO or PPC that they fully understand the exact location/s on the track diagram or possession map where they will be placing the protection they have been allocated.
- The PPO or PPC must then again confirm with the protection teams and obtain sufficient assurance that each protection team are certain and aware of the possession protection requirements
- PPO or PPC must remind all Protection Teams that if they get confused or are unsure of where their protection location is they MUST STOP go to a safe place and phone the PPO for assistance.

The Final Word

Each and every person who places possession protection has a responsibility to work in a safe manner and to be aware of, and comply with all applicable rules and procedures. Possession protection briefings must include the above requirements.

Possession Protection Coordinators/ Possession Protection Officers are to please ensure that this Notice is highlighted and discussed with all teams placing possession protection on behalf of AS&DC.



Peter Beardsley
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