

Possession Notice

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Improving Possession Safety and Performance

Reinforce Requirements on the Application of Configuration Possession Protection

This information has been prepared to inform Sydney Trains' employees, Blue Collar Contract Labour panel members, protection officers, contractors and TfNSW to reinforce the requirements and adherence to both the Sydney Trains Network Rules and Procedures and all applicable possession procedures for the placement and removal of configuration possession protection.

Background

Since January 2017, there have been three recorded incidents where configuration possession protection has either been incorrectly placed or removed from track.

Highlighted Incidents

- At Unanderra on 8th January 2017, a contracted protection officer incorrectly **placed** additional possession protection on a live line
- At Flemington Junction on 23rd April 2017, a contracted protection officer incorrectly **removed** possession protection, leaving protection on the live line and the possession area unprotected
- At Granville on 20th May 2017, a contracted protection officer incorrectly **placed** possession protection on the live line, leaving the possession area unprotected

Requirement

1. The Asset Scheduling and Delivery team must reinforce (as part of the standard possession protection induction briefing) with protection officers placing configuration protection that:
 - If a protection officer is unsure about placement of protection then either the Possession Protection Coordinator or the Possession Protection Officer must be contacted and clarification sought
 - Ensure that the incidents highlighted within this possession notice are discussed as a lessons learnt at all briefings prior to the commencement of any work or activity from Weekend 48 (27th – 28th May 2017) for configuration track possessions
2. Blue Collar Contract Labour (Protection) Panel members are to bring to the immediate attention of all protection officers either directly or indirectly hired by that company the following requirements:
 - Highlight the incidents within this possession notice and the seriousness of the potential consequences
 - Reinforce the requirement for all protection officers to utilise the possession protection pack material which is supplied as their primary resource guide. The pack is to include a constraints register and applicable coloured track diagrams
 - If any protection officer is unsure of the placement of possession protection, the protection officer must immediately stop what they are doing, move to a safe place, contact and seek clarification from either the Possession Protection Coordinator or the Possession Protection Officer managing the placement of possession protection

The Final Word

Each and every person placing or removing configuration possession protection has a responsibility to work in a safe manner and to be aware of and comply with all applicable rules and procedures.

If a protection officer has any doubt in relation to the correctness of protection requirements, or locations when placing possession protection, they must stop, reset and seek advice.

Managers please ensure that these instructions are provided to all Protection Officers, Project Owners and Supervisors.



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Date: 22/5/17