

This is an uncontrolled copy. Before use, make sure that this is the current version by visiting www.railsafe.org.au/safe-tracks

System-generated electronic ASB form

This information has been prepared to notify industry stakeholders about the use of system-generated Absolute Signal Blocking (ASB) forms within the Advanced Train Running Information Control System (ATRICS).

Sydney Trains is introducing a new function to the ATRICS to generate ASB forms. This strengthens the safety of *NWT 308 Absolute Signal Blocking* and *NTR 432 In-service rail traffic inspections* and repairs, as ATRICS will implement engineering controls when a system-generated form is used.

Use of the system-generated ASB form will commence at Sydenham Control Centre in June 2018, other ATRICS Signalling locations will be progressively added following Signaller training.

The benefits of using this new function are:

- there are visual indications of ASB worksites on the Signallers panel
- ATRICS identifies the minimum set of signalling controls that need to be blocked to protect a worksite
- two block protection is proposed for each worksite as a default
- protection can be modified as needed to suit operations
- an automatic train-in-section check
- a random alphanumeric code is required to implement and remove protection
- re-establishing a suspended ASB is more efficient
- the system guides the process of compiling the form, making sure all the required information is entered.

Where the system-generated ASB form is not available, Signallers must use an *NRF 018 Absolute Signal Blocking (ASB)* form.

Who will use the system-generated ASB form?

Only ATRICS-qualified Signallers will use the ATRICS system-generated ASB form.

Is any training required for Signallers to use the system-generated ASB form?

Yes, training is being progressively delivered to all ATRICS-qualified Signallers.

Can a Signaller start using the system-generated ASB form once trained?

Signal Box Operations will issue an instruction to notify when Signallers can start using the system-generated ASB form.

Will system-generated ASB forms be available at non ATRICS locations?

No, Signallers at non ATRICS locations must continue to use *NRF 018 Absolute Signal Blocking (ASB)* form.

What does this change mean for the ASB number?

The ASB number for a system-generated ASB form will be a random alphanumeric code generated by ATRICS e.g. **35A6F8**.

A new ASB number will be issued by ATRICS when an ASB is re-established after being suspended.

What impact will there be on Protection Officers?

As they do today, a Protection Officer, will request the Signaller for ASB at a specified location.

Protection Officers will still be required to compile *NRF 015C Worksite Protection Plan* and record the ASB number provided.

Each time an ASB is re-established, ATRICS will generate a new ASB number. The new ASB number must be recorded on *NRF 015C Worksite Protection Plan*.

The most recent ASB number for a worksite must be used to suspend or end the ASB.

What impact will there be on Drivers, Trach Vehicle Operators and Train Technicians?

As they do today, a Driver, Track Vehicle Operator or Train Technician will request the Signaller for protection at a specified location.

Driver, Track Vehicle Operator or Train Technician will still be required to record the protection number provided.

For more information on the system-generated ASB project please contact Damien Eve:

damien.eve@transport.nsw.gov.au, or
02 4962 9008



See online for all
Safeworking information

www.railsafe.org.au