

Possession Notice

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Improving Possession Safety and Performance

STOP RESET when Placing Possession Protection for LPAs

This information has been prepared to inform Sydney Trains' employees and contractors to reinforce the requirements and adherence 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

Last night there was a reported near miss involving contractors placing possession protection at Glenfield where the Driver stated that he had to apply the emergency brake. The incident is under investigation but what is not in dispute and is very concerning, is that once again the protection was being placed on the wrong side of the points, ie: on the Live Road. This incident occurred even though the Protection Support staff had reportedly been briefed and were in possession of a track diagram that very clearly showed all of the protection required for the possession.

Requirement

Before taking any form of track possession tonight ALL PPOs are required to:

- Make all staff and contractors aware of last night's incident at Glenfield and reiterate the importance of fully understanding the protection requirements and remaining FOCUSED throughout their shift
- Reinforce the fact that if they are placing protection in a location, they believe that they are within a possession. When they get it wrong, the track is LIVE and they are in DANGER of being seriously or fatally injured so one member MUST always act as a LOOKOUT
- Ensure that at least one member of each team engaged to place protection is very familiar with the location that they are protecting
- Fully brief all protection teams on the requirements of their protection and provide them with a clear track diagram and constraints register detailing the instructions
- Advise all staff and contractors that if there is the slightest doubt as to the location, requirements or they somehow lose situational awareness, they are to STOP, move to a SAFE PLACE and ring the PPO for further instructions

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.

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



Peter Beardsley
Associate Director, Asset Scheduling and Delivery Coordination

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