

Evacuating people to the track

1. Purpose

This Standard mandates the requirements for ensuring the safety of evacuating people to the track in the Sydney Trains Network.

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2. Scope

This standard applies to all organisations that operate passenger trains, or manage stations or passenger platforms in the Sydney Trains Network.

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3. References

NGE 206 Reporting and responding to a Condition Affecting the Network (CAN).

Sydney Trains OSP 11 Train evacuation and detraining passengers when not at stations.

NSW Trains NTOSP 11 Train evacuation and detraining passengers when not at stations.

For station staff, the Fire and Evacuation plan for the station.

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4. General

Organisations that operate passenger trains are responsible for developing and implementing Qualified Worker-specific Standard Operating Instructions for their employees that give instructions for:

- detaining passengers to the track in non-life-threatening situations, and
- evacuating a train in a life-threatening situation.

Organisations that manage stations or passenger platforms in the Sydney Trains Network are responsible for developing and implementing Qualified Worker-specific Standard Operating Instructions for their employees that give instructions for evacuating people from a station or passenger platform to the track in life-threatening situations.

The organisations' Standard Operating Instructions must include the relevant requirements of *NGE 206 Reporting and responding to a Condition Affecting the Network (CAN)*.

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5. Assessing safety

In all situations, the safety of passengers and workers must be the priority.

In non-life-threatening situations, the Train Controller must give authorisation before passengers are detained from stranded trains.

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Before detraining or evacuating people to the track, Qualified Workers must consider, among other factors:

- has rail traffic been stopped from approaching the affected portion of track
 - has rail traffic been stopped on adjacent lines
 - if live overhead wiring is damaged or down
 - uneven, unstable or slippery walking surfaces
 - visibility
 - weather conditions
 - passengers with impaired mobility
 - diesel trains that have been stopped in tunnels.
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6. People with additional needs

When evacuating people to the track, Qualified Workers must be aware that some people might have additional needs. These needs might affect a passenger's ability to physically alight from trains or platforms, or to understand and follow instructions.

People's possible additional needs may include, but are not limited to:

- mobility impairment
 - sensory impairment
 - intellectual impairment
 - being responsible for small children, including those in prams.
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7. Assisting people with impaired mobility

Sydney Trains and NSW Trains

Only in life-threatening situations, mobility impaired people may be detrained or evacuated to the track by Sydney Trains and NSW Trains workers, without the assistance of Emergency Services.

Before detraining or evacuating a person with impaired mobility to the track, workers must assess the risks of detraining or evacuating the person immediately, or waiting for assistance from Emergency Services.

If there is a greater risk involved in detraining or evacuating the person, they must not be moved to the track.

In non-life-threatening situations, workers must tell the Signaller that the assistance of Emergency Services is needed. The Signaller must tell the Train Controller about the need for emergency services to assist. The Train Controller must then tell Emergency Services about the situation.

Other organisations

Other organisations that manage stations or operate passenger trains in the Sydney Trains Network must have procedures in place to:

- safely detrain or evacuate people with impaired mobility, and
- make sure that workers who may be required to evacuate people to the track in the Sydney Trains Network are competent to do so.

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8. Definitions

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| Emergency Services | NSW Police, NSW Fire Brigades, Rural Fire Services, Health Services NSW. |
| Qualified Worker | A worker certified as competent to carry out the relevant task. |

9. Effective date

21 July 2018