

Procedures

NPR 708 Using X, Y and Z keys

Description

This document describes the procedure for using X, Y and Z keys.

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Introduction

Removing an X, Y or Z key (maintenance releasing switch key) from its cabinet allows signals to clear only in the normal running-direction. It prevents bidirectional signalling in a section.

There may be up to three cabinets at a location. Removing any key is sufficient to prevent bidirectional signalling.

FIGURE 1: Z key cabinet.



Preventing bidirectional signalling in a section

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Warning

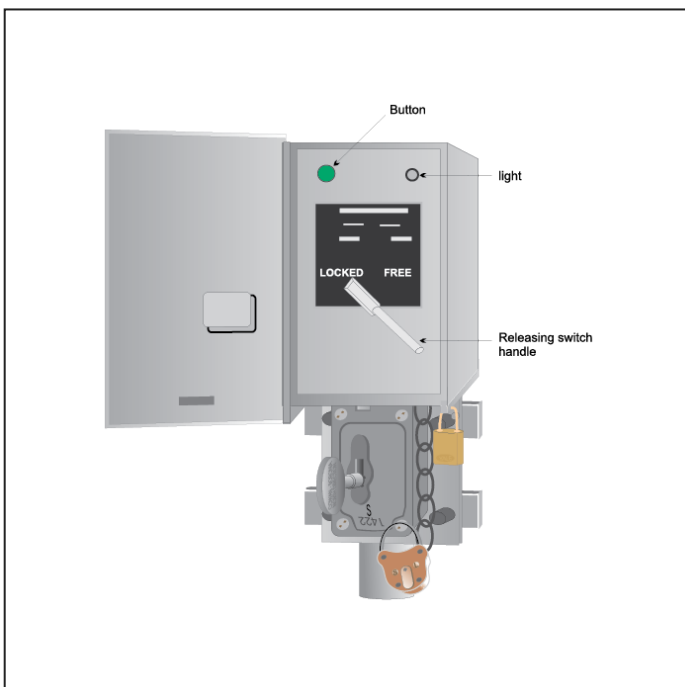
Unless an X, Y or Z key is taken, protection against rail traffic approaching from both directions must be provided for worksites.

When a Qualified Worker requests authority to remove an X, Y or Z key, the Signaller asks the Network Controller to authorise the release of the key.

Qualified Worker

- 1 Ask the Signaller for authority to take the X, Y or Z key for the section.
- 2 Make sure the indicator light is **ON**.

FIGURE 2: Z key cabinet open; button and switch handle available.



- 3 Push the button.
- 4 Turn the releasing switch handle to **FREE**.
- 5 Remove the key from the lock. Check that it is the correct key for the section.
- 6 Secure the key.

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Restoring bidirectional signalling in a section

Bidirectional signalling is possible only when all keys are in their locks.

Qualified Worker

- 1 Insert the key into the correct lock and turn the key.
- 2 Turn the releasing switch handle to **LOCKED**.
- 3 Tell the Signaller that the key has been returned.

Signaller

- 4 Tell the Network Controller that bidirectional working is now available.

Keeping records

Network Controllers, Signallers and Protection Officers must make a permanent record of the removal and return of X, Y and Z keys.