

## HSE Bulletin (Ref.2in2014)

# Tripping hazards; redundant screw spikes and coach screws

Date of issue: 27 January 2014  
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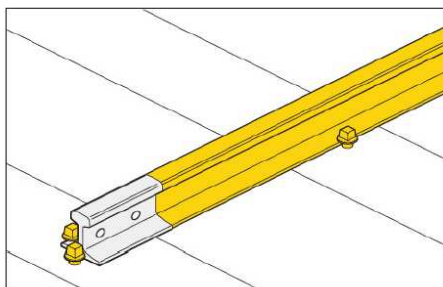
### Background

Last year there were more than 70 reported incidents where those undertaking track patrols have tripped on screw spikes or coach screws which were left in the sleepers within the 4ft where rails are temporarily stored. Rails are normally stored in the four foot before a rail job is due to take place as it simplifies the work required. Timescales are usually tight and these screws are used to secure rails and are sometimes missed when the team leaves site.

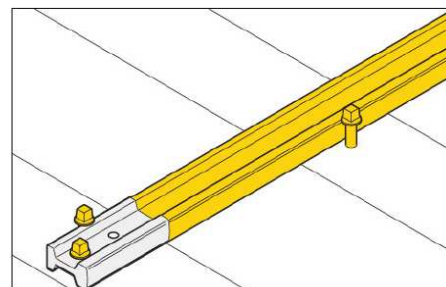
Screw spikes



Secure and store flat bottomed rails in the upright position.



Secure and store plain bullhead rails on their sides.



### Instruction

Always remember to remove screw spikes or coach screws used to prevent the rail(s) moving during storage. Staff are also reminded to ensure that rail ends are highlighted using white paint to prevent them becoming a tripping hazard.

Whenever you remove a section of stored rail from the four foot, ensure all steps are followed in accordance with Work Instruction *W1216 – Securing rails in the four foot*, to remove potential tripping hazards caused by redundant screw spikes or left over coach screws.



You must remove all screw spikes and coach screws at the same time to avoid tripping hazards.



Wherever possible you should remove redundant rails at the end of the work.

**Please communicate this alert to your teams, projects and suppliers as appropriate**

Incident reference	Various	
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