

## HSE Bulletin (Ref.: 24 in 2013)

# Walking In the Track Environment

Date of issue: 14 October 2013

Date of expiry 1 April 2014

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### Background

There has been a recent increase in reported incidents of operatives walking or standing on rails and sleepers when working or walking in track environments. This practice is and always has been prohibited due to:

- The inherent health & safety hazards that walking on rails and sleepers or through junction work / points and crossings presents regarding slips, trips and falls.
- Physical damage caused to running rails (potentially causing signal failures) and to conductor rails.



### Instruction

- When walking or working in the track environment, do not stand or walk on any rail or sleeper.
- Those responsible for planning and managing works must identify a safe walking route to and from worksites and ensure that this is a briefed before operatives access the track.
- Site Persons in Charge should include regular reference to not walking on rails and sleepers during work briefings or tool box talks. Protection Masters should include the necessity of not walking on rails and / or sleepers during all safety briefings.
- Site Persons in Charge, Protection Masters and LU representatives on site must also lead by example and report all incidents of walking on rails to the LU Incident Line: 0844 292 0292

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

Incident reference	N/A
For more information contact	Mike Power
Approved by (HSE Snr Manager):	James Terry