

HSE Bulletin (Ref4in2014)

Risk of electric shock from running rails carrying low voltage charge during Engineering Hours

Date of issue: 12/03/2014

Background

An incident occurred recently on the track when an operative received a minor electric shock when he touched the running rail while picking up a piece of equipment he had dropped.

Operative received a minor electric shock while picking up a piece of equipment he had dropped.

It is important to note that where the agreed scope of Work excludes disturbing the running rails then the Technical Officer to remove the track fuses; meaning that a small electrical feed (approximately 15v) to the track circuit remains.

of works and Safe System of Work there is no requirement for the removal of track fuses that a small electrical feed remains.

This electrical feed has the potential to cause a minor electric shock if the running rails are touched.

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Instruction

Protection Master's and Site Person in Charge's must:

- brief employees and contractors on the potential presence of a low level signalling voltage on the running rails.
- remind employees and contractors to avoid contact with running rails unless specifically required to do so by their work activities and;
- remind employees and contractors to avoid standing on rails as this has the potential to cause slips, trips and falls.

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

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