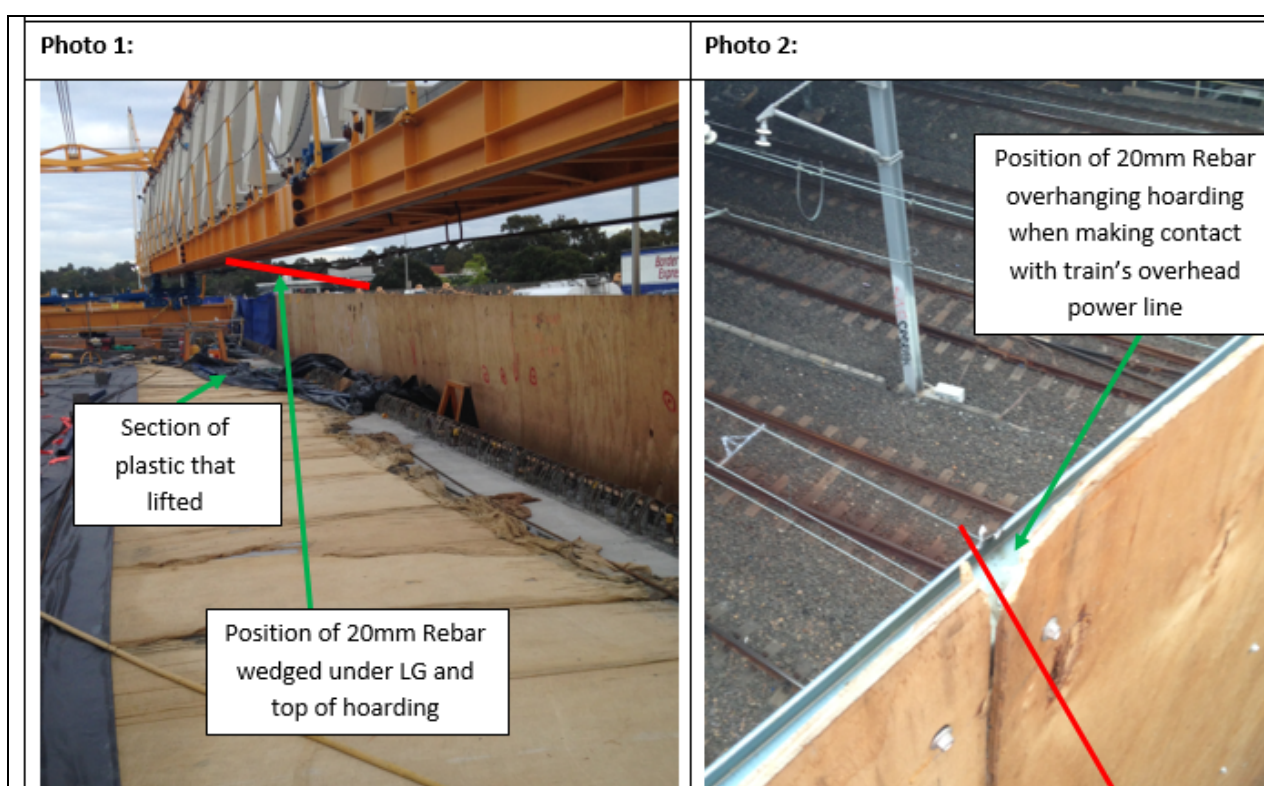


SHEQ Alert

Incident No.	N1023.W1.PP.131016.00102483
Date of Incident	13 th October 2016
Business Unit	NSW & ACT
Alert No.	NSW0004

Strong wind gust lifts plastic sheeting from deck curing

Site	WestConnex - M4 Widening
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Classification	Actual Damage: 3A	Potential Damage: 2P
Contact Details	Name: Paul Cunningham	Position: Safety Manager
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Incident Description

Following a concrete pour of a bridge deck over a railway, hessian and plastic sheeting weighed down by reinforcement bar, was being used to aid the curing of the concrete. At 2.35am on Thursday the 13th of October a strong gust of wind caused a section of plastic sheeting to lift along with 3 individual pieces of reinforcing bar. An 8.5 meter length of 20mm reinforcement was wedged between the top of hoarding and underside of the LG causing an arced on the train's 1500v overhead power lines. Two smaller U-shaped bars of 20mm reinforcement landed on the tracks below.

Sydney Trains were notified at 3.11am of the Incident and a rail crew mobilised. The rail crew cleared the track and inspected the train's overhead power line and deemed it safe for rail operations at 4.40am. The contact to the underside of the LG was to a clamp on the launching wire rope Northern truss. There was no

visual damage to the wire rope. The LG was subsequently stood down until an independently inspection was completed of the electronic systems. No persons were injured and an Incident investigation was initiated immediately.

Preliminary Findings / Underlying Causes

Investigation of the incident is continuing. However, preliminary findings have identified the following contributing factors / deficiencies:

- **Risk Management** – The method for weighting the plastic and hessian was standard practice and this hazard was unforeseen.
- **Environmental Conditions** – The hoarding on Span 8 over the rail corridor created a wind tunnel.
- **Environmental Conditions** – Strong weather front (extreme Westerly gust of wind) – Inclement weather.

Reminder

Project Managers / Persons involved in planning / co-ordination / performing similar activities are reminded of the importance of the following controls:

- Assess the weighting method of hessian and plastic for concrete curing tasks.
- Investigate if chemical curing options can be applied to concrete curing processes.

Actions

- RPB JV removed the plastic, hessian and weighting materials from the deck post Incident on Span 8 post investigation (Planned works for that morning were to remove this as the curing time for the concrete on this span had been achieved).
- RCPBJV conducted housekeeping inspections on all spans to ensure all materials were secure
- RCPBJV have implemented an alternate method of securing hessian and plastic for concrete curing with the use of sandbags.

Document Information

Date Prepared:	03 rd November 2016		
Prepared By:	Name: Paul Cunningham	Position: Safety Manager	Signature: <i>Paul Cunningham</i>
Approved By:	Name: Patrick McCormack	Position: Project Director	Signature: <i>Patrick McCormack</i>