

Safety Alert

ARTC No. 112
Issued 12/07/2019

UK - Two Rail Workers Killed after Being Hit by a Train

Incident

This alert has been issued following an incident in the UK where two rail workers died after being hit by a passenger train.

On 3 July 2019, Rail Workers aged 58 and 64, were struck near Margam by the Swansea to London Paddington train. Two workers were pronounced dead at the scene and a third person was treated for shock but was not injured.

British Transport Police said it has been established that the three people were railway workers who were working on the lines at the time. The initial stages of the investigation suggest that the two men who died had been wearing hearing protection at the time, tragically, they could not hear the passenger train approaching.



The tragedy happened just three months after the UK Rail Accident Investigation Branch warned there were "too many near misses in which railway workers have had to jump for their lives".

All leaders are to discuss this incident with their teams and focus on the need to:

- Always seek this highest level of protection available to protect the work group from approaching rail traffic
- When introducing controls, you must consider the impact and if any additional risks have been introduced

This 'risk assessment' must form part of the Pre-Work Brief and be completed in consultation with the work team.

For your action

1. Place Safety Alert on display and make copies of this alert available to people who report to you (without regular email access) and ensure that the contents of the safety alert are discussed/explained to your staff.
2. If engaging contractors, ensure they are made aware of current ARTC Safety Alerts.
3. If you have any safety concerns with this Safety Alert, please speak directly to your supervisor.

Further information

- All Safety Alerts issued can be [found here](#).
- <https://www.bbc.com/news/uk-wales-48854010> further information can be found by clicking the attached link.
- Contact Cath Bowlzer, Principle Advisor Safety & Environment Interstate, on (02) 4941 9682
- Contact Brett Teasdale, Principal Advisor Safety Hunter Valley, on (02) 4978 9830.
- Contact Hinea Clark, Head of Health & Safety Inland Rail, on 0427 164 434