



Reporting Derailments

Background

TfNSW has become aware of derailment incidents that have occurred at Transport for NSW (TfNSW) rail worksites during and outside of rail Local Possession Authority (LPA). Not all these derailments have been reported in line with Office of the National Rail Safety Regulator (ONRSR) requirements.

According to the Reporting Requirements for Notifiable Occurrences Guidelines “A Derailment is an incident where one or more rolling stock wheels leave the rail or track during railway operations”

Derailments that are notifiable:

- Any derailment of rolling stock (including a train) on an open or closed running line or in a yard or siding.
- Where, following investigation, a wheel is found to have left the head of the rail on a running line and subsequently re-railed.

Derailments that are not notifiable:

- Wheel sets not attached to rolling stock in repair shops.

2 Actions, Recommendations and Lessons Learned

2.1 Actions

Project delivery (principal contractors) working on TfNSW Rail Sites are reminded that as part of TfNSW rail accreditation obligations all derailments need to be reported to ONRSR and logged in the TfNSW incident reporting system. This includes any derailment of plant running on high rails where the track geometry has altered or sections of rail track cut and removed during rail track alterations or repairs.

In addition, rail safety worker post incident drug and alcohol testing and rolling stock mandated recertification procedures are to be carried out within the correct timeframe for all derailments.

All rail related incidents in the rail corridor must be communicated by the principal contractor to the Rail Transport Operator's PPO i.e., Sydney Trains. In addition, the TfNSW project and safety representatives are also to be notified as part of TfNSW Safety Management System requirements.

2.2 Recommendations

TfNSW representatives are to make sure project delivery partners (principal contractors) working on TfNSW rail sites are aware of the following:

- Reporting notifiable occurrences is a legal requirement imposed on rail transport operators under section 121 of the RSNL. All derailments (including those in construction zones) must be reported and subsequent drug and alcohol testing must occur.
- Rail Transport Operators must ensure a notifiable occurrence is reported in the form, contains all the information, and is made in the manner, required by the Regulator in accordance with Regulation 57(4) of the RSNL National Regulations.

Note: Please ensure all relevant people in your business (including third parties) are aware of this safety bulletin and are informed of its content and recommendations. It should be communicated through your normal communication channels (e.g. email, safety briefing or toolbox meeting) and also placed on notice boards.

3 Further information

Further information relevant to this safety alert can be obtained by contacting email: Amanda.tarbotton@transport.nsw.gov.au

3.1 Specific legislation	3.2 Related information
Rail Safety National Law 2012 NSW, Section 121	Reporting Requirements for Notifiable Occurrences Guideline June 2019

Authorisation

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing. However, because of advances in knowledge and understanding, users are reminded of the need to check that information on which they rely is up to date and to check the currency of the information with the appropriate person.