



Infrastructure Projects Southern

Home Safe

The Southern Region's Weekly Safety Update

15 June 2016

Walking the wrong line - learning

Last week, we reported that a workgroup carrying out surveys on the Reading line went outside their possession limits, after walking in the wrong direction from their starting point. The COSS tested the conductor rail at the beginning of their shift and found that it was not live. However, when the group suspected that they had walked in the wrong direction, the COSS re-tested the conductor rail and found that it was live.

Initial investigations suggest that the SSOW packs were issued on the night and not in advance. One COSS had recently worked in an adjacent worksite, which may have been an influencing factor. Worksite marker boards and access point signage seem to have been overlooked or misinterpreted.

Remember...

The Southern Shield Charter mandates that signs are to be erected at rail access points indicating line direction and speed.

SSOW packs must be supplied at least one shift in advance of works.

Time out Take 5



Time out Take 5's are a pause in the work being undertaken to allow the team to reassess the working environment and any risks or hazards that are present. They can be called by anyone, anytime throughout the shift and should always take place at the point of work.

Time out Take 5's are mandated as part of the Southern Shield Charter and are a great way of quickly re-assessing your environment to identify any hazards or improvements that can be quickly rectified.

You can find some examples of effective Time out Take 5's here.



Click on the shield above to access our website

Other incidents this week

- A bobcat being used to load a skip was exiting the building at Waterloo International, when it drove over a floor channel. As the machine rode up over the floor channel, it came into contact with the building glazing, breaking a pane of glass.

- A vehicle was broken into and a laptop was taken from site at Waterloo. Always ensure you do not leave valuables on display in vehicles.

- Staff returning to work after the weekend at Sarre Sub Station found that two storage containers had been broken into and a quantity of small tools / plant was stolen. The British Transport Police have been advised.

- A Close Call was raised at Whitton during the installation of rebar to the lift pit. The process of extending rebar meant that the original access route into the lift pit was no longer a safe access route. As a result, handrails and an access ladder were installed.

Lessons learnt...

Ensure that temporary works are considered in the planning of works.

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Safety Flash: Lifting incident

As part of the Thameslink programme, a Glass Reinforced Concrete panel became detached from a vacuum suction lifting device (GGR 1000) and fell to the ground, hitting the lifting spider crane outriggers and the newly installed escalator. The panel was being lifted as part of the works to install cladding on an elevation of a new retail unit.



Fortunately, there were no injuries but there was some damage caused to the panel and the outrigger of the spider crane. The cause has not yet been established, but an initial summary report has been issued with the immediate actions that have been taken. [You can find the full bulletin here.](#)

Immediate actions...

- Please review any operations that are planned to use vacuum suction lifting in the light of this incident and the [summary report here](#).
- All staff involved in these types of operations should be briefed on this incident.

Best practice possession stickers

During the weekend possession at Arun River Bridge, shift specific colour coded stickers were issued during each round of briefings to help identify who had or hadn't received the required briefing.



The site team came up with the idea following an incident on site where an operative was found to be in an area of the site where he had not been briefed on the risks. As the works required around 60 people per shift and shift times being staggered, this method avoids uncertainty of who has or hasn't received the required information. [You can find more information here.](#)

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If you would like a colleague to receive Home Safe, please contact
Daisy.Read@networkrail.co.uk

Hydration station

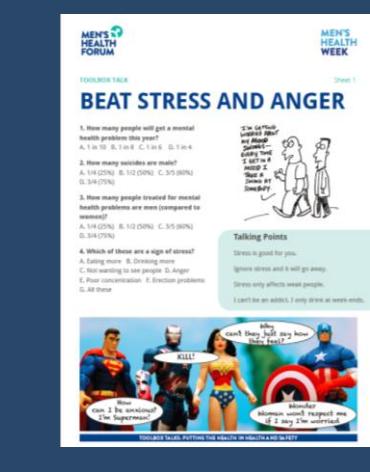
Following a construction review notification, it was reported that a good practice had been spotted at Stewarts Lane where a hydration station is situated on site for the workforce. A great idea by the team to ensure colleagues stay hydrated, particularly over the summer months.



Men's Health Week

This week is Men's Health Week and this year's theme is stress and how we deal with it. With one in four of us likely to develop a mental health problem this year, the odds are about the same as France or Germany winning the Euro 2016 football. In other words, it's likely to happen sooner or later if we let stress build.

[You can find information and useful material on the men's health forum website including a toolbox talk on beating stress.](#)



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