



Infrastructure Projects Southern Home Safe

The Southern Region's Weekly Safety Update

Step Up for Safety

Step Up for Safety is a national safety initiative which started on 27 June and will run throughout the summer.

The initiative has been rolled out nationally across Infrastructure Projects following the success of the Southern Region back to work briefings in January and the significant reduction in accidents during that period.

Historically we have also seen an increase in accidents over the summer period when people return to work from holiday or are carrying out unfamiliar tasks covering for people on holiday.

The Step Up for Safety briefing can be found [here](#). Along with [Time Out Take Five](#) and accompanying [notes](#).



Close Call – a life saved?

A large gap left between scaffolds at Whitton has been reported as a Close Call. Bricklayers were constantly stepping over the gap as they were constructing the internal and external lift shaft walls together.

The work was stopped and the scaffold company were on site 20 minutes later and rectified the problem.



Railway safer than ever – but more to do!

For the first time a year has passed without a railway worker losing their life on Britain's railway. The Office of Rail and Road (ORR), announcing the achievement, said that Britain's railway network is "safer than it has ever been". Further information on this can be found [here](#).

Remember: we can't rest until everyone gets home safe every day



Click on the shield above to access our website

Site security

Workers arrived on site at Northfleet and discovered that there had been an attempted cable theft and in another location the cable that had been cut. There was an onsite security guard and cable alarms but this didn't deter the thieves. The British Transport Police were called. As a result of this incident further measures are now being considered to prevent a similar incident occurring in the future. **Are your sites as secure as they can be?**

Be vigilant

In Aldershot a concrete hut was seen to be leaning over in the direction of the track. An email was sent to the Maintainer and a Close Call was raised. The following week it was seen that no action had been taken. It was decided that it was too dangerous to leave any longer and the hut was dismantled and removed.

Loose escalator panel falls at London Bridge

During the escalator installation process, a steel end plate at the top of the escalator being installed detached and fell 10 metres to the new concourse level below. The escalator was one of a pair being installed to provide access to platform level.

Immediately prior to the plate falling, the installation team noticed it was loose. To read the full briefing from the Thameslink Programme please click [here](#).

A Time Out Take Five

The underbridge deck of a bridge at Aldershot High Street had come to the end of its useful life and was being replaced to mitigate performance risks. A Time Out Take Five was held during the works when it was noted that multiple trades were undertaking various activities on the bridge, causing congested working practices. As a result, all the non-critical activities were suspended, to allow the workers involved in critical path activities to operate in a less congested environment.



Well done to all who helped and ensured that work was carried out in a timely and safe manner.

Cut 5 out of 5

At Stewarts Lane depot a colleague was preparing to paint a roof truss underneath the new roof. The back of his finger came into contact with one of the tek screws protruding through the underside of the roof. The screw split his Cut 5 glove and caused a minor cut to the back of his finger. He received first aid to clean the wound and then continued working.



Lesson Learned...

Always place end caps on the longer tek screws which stick through the underside of the roofing before painting works commence.

Material fall

Two members of staff were walking into the Cottons Centre office at London Bridge when a large screwdriver fell from a window cleaner's cradle six floors above them. Luckily the screwdriver narrowly missed both people.

A Close Call was raised and the contractor was stopped from working. An information pack giving advice on the correct use of small tools at height can be found [here](#).

Flooding at Waterloo

Flooding was reported at the London Underground escalators 8, 9 and 10 at Waterloo Station. After heavy rain fall, water found its way through openings in the Orchestra Pit slab to infiltrate escalator barrels. This was possible because the Orchestra Pit is now open to the elements following removal of sections of the BRUTE deck. The escalator was taken out of service and access was closed to the Bakerloo line.

A threat too far

At Northfleet a resident saw works taking place which prevented him from taking a short cut across a construction site. The resident issued personal threats against the staff, who suspended work due to the nature of the threats. The Police were called and attended the site.

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