

Safety Advice

Action required following a serious incident



Immediate quarantine of Manitou 160 ATJ Plus and 160 ATJ Plus RC based MEWPs

Issued to: All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors

Ref: NRA 17/01

Date of issue: 03/03/2017

Location: Cowlairs, Scotland

Contact: Olufemi Okeya, Principle Engineer



Overview

At approximately 01:35 on 3 March 2017 a Rail Product ART 17 TH MEWP accessed at Cowlairs Road Rail Access Point to carry out Overhead Line Equipment installations as part of the Edinburgh to Glasgow Improvement Programme (EGIP).

While the machine was in travelling mode the boom rotor assembly holding the basket failed resulting in the basket falling backwards onto the track. The basket was about 1 metre above rail head level at the time with one operator and light tools in the basket. The operator was not injured.

All other machines on site were off-tracked and quarantined. A prohibition has since been placed on the use of these machines by the companies involved. All known MEWPs based on the Manitou models (160 ATJ PLUS & 160 ATJ PLUS RC) have been placed on the Do Not Use list until Non-Destructive Test (NDT) inspection has been completed and machines confirmed to be fit for purpose.

Those specifically identified are:

- Rail Products UK/Manitou ART17T
- Rail Products UK/Manitou ART17T(H)
- Neotec SkyRailer 400RR

While the exact cause of the failure is not yet known, it is believed to be a manufacturing related defect. This defect potentially affects all Manitou 160 ATJ PLUS models and Manitou 160 ATJ PLUS RC models (both rail mounted and construction variety).

The known converters for the Manitou base models (160 ATJ PLUS & 160 ATJ PLUS RC) have been informed and are arranging NDT inspections of their fleets produced for use on rail.

Immediate action required

- All MEWPs based on the Manitou models 160 ATJ PLUS and 160 ATJ PLUS RC (both rail mounted and construction variety) are to be quarantined **IMMEDIATELY**.
- NDT inspection must be conducted and where confirmed as fit for purpose, evidence of inspection and confirmation shall be sent to the contact above before a machine can be removed from the Do Not Use list. This shall include as a minimum:
 - 12 digit number;
 - EAC number and expiry date;
 - Converter name and contact number;
 - Evidence of NDT inspection;
 - Confirmation of fitness for purpose.
- All other known conversions (where not specifically identified above) are to be reported IMMEDIATELY to the contact above so that they may also be placed on the Do Not Use list.
- An investigation is being carried out by the companies involved and further action may be necessary once the outcome of the initial investigation is known.

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