

OPERATIONS MANUAL

Form: 5-18A

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TEMPLATE FOR BRIEFING OF SERIOUS OPERATIONAL INCIDENTS

Immediately Transferable Lessons from level crossing incidents

Information for Signallers and Front Line Operational Staff

On Thursday 9th March, at approximately 04:14, the Signaller operating panel 1 at Feltham ASC authorised the driver of 6J61 to exit an engineer's possession after confirmation that the detonator protection had been lifted. A route card was required for the movement as there were two sets of points and a CCTV level crossing within the route that 6J61 needed to traverse. The Signaller forgot to lower the barriers at Strawberry Hill level crossing and as a result 6J61 traversed the crossing with all barriers in the fully raised position. The driver of 6J61 observed the barriers were not lowered, stopped his train after passing the crossing and reported the incident to the Signaller. Fortunately no members of the public were inside the crossing limits when the incident took place.



Reason Incident Occurred:

- The Signaller failed to correctly follow the route card instructions, which included lowering the level crossing barriers and placing the auto raise switch into the manual position.
- The Signaller failed to ensure that the portion of line concerned was clear and safe for the movement as per rule book module S5.

Points to Consider:

- Do you thoroughly read route cards and have them checked where possible?
- Are you aware of the requirements of rule book module S5 to ensure that the line is clear and safe for the movement?
- What are the potential consequences of allowing a train to enter an open CCTV level crossing?
- Do you allow sufficient time to plan and check your method of working prior to implementation?

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