



# Home Safe

The Southern Region's Weekly Safety Update

28 June 2017

## Operational Close Call lessons learned

In last week's edition of *Home Safe* we reported that works were stopped after a member of the Victoria re-signalling scheme was seen using a steel tape in close proximity of the third rail. A Close Call was raised as a result of this incident and the incident is under investigation by IP Signalling.

### **Learning from this incident is now available...**

If the tape measure had come into contact with the live conductor rail there would have been the potential for significant injury or death through electrocution.

Where ever possible work adjacent to a conductor rail should be undertaken with an isolation. Network Rail Standard NR/L3/MTC/RP0152 – Working on or adjacent to a conductor rail also states the following:

- For work within 300mm of a live conductor rail** – Fit sufficient conductor rail shields to prevent accidental contact with a live conductor rail.
- For work not as close as 300mm to a live conductor rail** - If it is likely that any person, tool or any equipment will encroach within 300mm of a live conductor rail, the conductor rail shall be protected with a conductor rail shield.

Standard NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA20 Task Risk Control Sheet, referenced in the standard, states: where there is a possibility that tools could contact the conductor rail, confirm that the tools greater than 300mm in length shall be insulated to BS8020. Do not use metal (conducting) measuring equipment or tapes. Their use is prohibited.

## Uneven at Havant



A Close Call was raised after a member of the team in IP Wessex spotted that two of the coper stones were causing a trip hazard at Havant Station. The stones buckled and were raised above the normal platform level by around 30 millimetres. This was causing a tripping hazard to the public at the platform edge, and also potentially a risk of a person being hit by a train.

**Remember... See it, Fix it, Report it.**

Click on the shield below to access the Southern Shield website.



### **Delivery driver**

A delivery driver wanting to access a site used an authorised access through a school, but not during the authorised hours. While the driver manoeuvred his vehicle he struck and damaged a light column. The incident is currently under investigation.

### **No edge protection**

A Close Call was raised after an operative was spotted on the back of a flatbed with no edge protection whilst taking a delivery of cable drums. As a result works were stopped and they were asked to install edge protection.

**Remember... there is a working at height hierarchy of methods in the Southern Shield Charter.**

### **Wasps**

Did you know that last year there were seven incidents of wasp stings in the southern region? For example an operative suffered multiple wasp stings whilst carrying out devegetation works, when he stood on a wasps nest. A toolbox talk has been written to give you more information around the dos and don'ts when around wasps and what the common symptoms of wasp stings are. This and other toolbox talks can be found on the Southern Shield website.

## Twisted ankle

An operative twisted his right ankle whilst moving cables on a site in Brockley. The incident was not reported at the time but when he went home and removed his boot the ankle was swollen and was causing pain. He attended his local A&E the next morning and his injury was diagnosed; he was told to rest. As a result of this he was unable to attend his next scheduled shift. The incident is under investigation.

**Remember... if you have an accident on site always report it immediately to the site supervisor or designated first aider.**

## Southern Shield EAP

The Southern Shield Employee Assistance Programme (EAP) is available to everyone who works in the IP Southern region. This includes all our tier two and three supply chain and also includes individuals such as specialist plant operators and agency staff. It is a free, confidential counselling and information service available to you. This includes not only psychological and trauma services but any issues which affect your ability to perform at work.

**0800 358 4569**

24/7 Confidential Service

Outside UK: +44 141 271 7540

For online support join vClub at [validium.com](http://validium.com)

Username: **southernshield**

Password: **homesafe**



## Points run through at Sole Street

An Operational Close Call was raised after a points run through occurred at Sole Street. The points were run through in the normal position by an RRV. Further information about this incident can be found [here](#).

**Remember...the last line of protection in preventing a points run through is the Machine Controller physically checking the points are set correctly before the movement is commenced. The Machine Controller failing to check the points before the movement is the most common cause of a points run through.**

Here are some details of the [roles and responsibilities of a Machine Controller](#).

## Operational Close Call at Queens Road

An Operational Close Call was raised after a cable came into contact with a frame when an operative was removing DC cables from circuit breakers. This caused an earth fault loop to be formed which resulted in the circuit breaker tripping out (fail to safe). The supervisor contacted the ECR who reset the circuit breaker. The incident is under investigation. BCM Construction has released a [lessons learned document](#) and a [presentation](#).

## In other news...

### Summer briefing

BAM Nuttall held their summer safety briefings on their sites recently. The briefings covered:

- A company update
- A Southern Shield update
- Details about BAM Nuttal's EAP.

Remember Southern Shield has released a Step up for Safety Summer 2017 briefing pack which you can use to brief your teams.



### Summer spike

In a recent edition of *Home Safe* we reported on the summer injury spike. Southern Shield have released [a briefing pack](#) to take steps to tackle the challenges ahead and to make sure everyone goes home safe every day. The S&SD team have been analysing potential causes for the spike. They examined a number of factors including:

- Hours worked
- Light and heat
- Sleep.

Another factor they also examined was water, and if a lack of could be a significant contributing factor to accidents. [Here are some questions about water availability on your site](#).

