

**IMDM OUTER****Title: Line Blockage Irregularity- Petersfield****Incident**

On Sunday 05-08-18 at 13.15 hrs a serious Line Blockage irregularity occurred when a SWR train passed a team of two S&T staff on the Up Main line which was under a Line Blockage at the time. Fortunately, the team were in the cess and in the process of stepping into the track when they saw the train approach.

The circumstances were; a Line Blockage had been pre-booked through the GZAC as part of the agreed, verified and authorised safe system of work to allow the S&T team to pass through an area of limited clearance.

At 13.10 hrs the PiC/COSS had called the Signaller at Petersfield Box to take the Line Blockage as per the details on the RT3181. The protecting signal for the Up Main line was PF234, however the exit signals were controlled by Haselmere Signal Box. The Petersfield Signaller called the COSS back granting the line blockage at 13:14hrs when the train (1P42) was in the section.

The incident is subject to further investigation but on initial investigation, it would appear the Petersfield Signaller did not confirm with Haselmere Signaller that the Up Main, the line to be blocked, was clear of trains prior to granting the Line Block and issuing the Authority Number.

CCF Screenshot shows 1P42 within the line block at 1314

**IMMEDIATE ACTION TO BE TAKEN:**

When taking a Line Block where more than one signal box is involved, all COSS's or Protection Controllers will, prior to accepting the Authority Number ask the Signaller these 2 questions;

➤ 'Have you spoken to the Signaller(s) at the adjacent Box(es) and confirmed there are no trains within the blocked section?'

If the signaller does not confirm he/she has spoken to the other signallers, request that he/she does prior to accepting the Authority Number.

➤ 'Can you confirm all reminder appliances have been applied?'

If the signaller does not confirm all reminder appliances have been applied, request that he/she does prior to accepting the Authority Number.