

NATIONAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

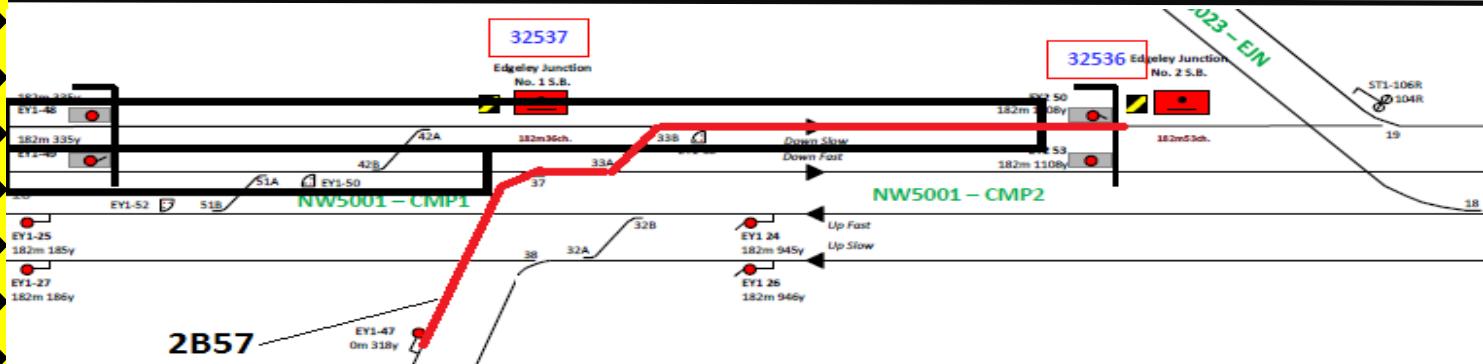
Form: F3.27A

Issue: 01

Date: 03/12/2019

Issue: 1 NR/OPS/ 94 Date: 29/07/2020

Train signalled into an Engineering Possession



Summary of Incident:

The PICOP for Item 126 had taken possession of the Down Slow Main line to the approach of EY2 50 signal and the Down Fast Main line on the approach to EY1 37 points. The signaller at Edgeley No 2 was unaware that the T3 possession had been granted. At approximately 23:38 the signaller at Edgeley No 2 observed that 2B57 was approaching EY1.47 signal and gave a line clear on the Down Slow Main line. The signaller at Edgeley No 1 then reversed EY1 33 points and cleared EY1 47 signal for the train to proceed onto the Down Slow Main line. At 23:40 the driver of 2B57 contacted the signaller at Edgeley No 2 to inform them that they had brought their train to a stand due to having a Possession Limit Board and detonators in front of the train.

Learning Points:

- The signaller at Edgeley No 1 failed to send 2-2-2 (block line for protection purposes) to the signaller at Edgeley No 2.** Had this been done then the block instrument for the Down Slow Main line would have been at Train-On-Line, thus preventing the signaller from giving a line clear.
- The Signaller at Edgeley No 1 had failed to sufficiently protect the T3 possession in that No.33 crossover had not been locked in the normal position with a reminder appliance applied.** If this had been done then EY1 47 signal could not have been cleared for that route.
- This was a complex possession involving numerous signal boxes. It was agreed on the night that the signaller at Manchester South SCC would “take the lead” for the possession arrangements.** This is not an official method of work and contributed to the miscommunication between the signallers at Edgeley No 1 and Edgeley No 2.
- The PICOP cannot currently be relied upon to contact every signal box within the possession.** If another signaller is involved with the possession arrangements, the signaller speaking to the PICOP must:
 - tell them what the possession arrangements are
 - get their assurance that they will keep to these arrangements.

