

NATIONAL OPERATING PROCEDURES

TRANSFERRABLE LESSONS FROM SERIOUS OPERATIONAL
INCIDENTS / INVESTIGATIONS

Form: F3.27A

Issue: 01

Date: 02/09/17

Transferable Lessons from Serious
Operational Incidents / Investigations

Issue No: One

Date Issued: 18th August 2020

Operational Close Calls / Accidents Involving DC Third Rail

Insert Picture / Diagram:



Summary of Incident:

Two safety investigations into incidents involving members of staff that come into contact with a Live DC 3rd rail, have identified that on both occasions the Electrical Control Room had *not* been advised of these serious incidents / accidents by either the team on site, or by the Route Control Team.

Learning points:

- Whilst it was fortunate that there were no serious injuries, **DC Handbook 17 -Section 6.1** requires contact to be made to the Electrical Control Room 'when an incident or other emergency requiring, or likely to require, the electricity supply to be switched off'.
- Whilst it was considered that the electrical supply was not required to be switched off immediately after these incidents, there is still the potential for the supply to be discharged later once any damage has been assessed to the conductor rail equipment.
- Electrical Control Room Operators (ECRO), once aware of any incident involving contact with the DC 3rd rail, *may* be required to implement various procedures with the aim of protecting life, asset and operational continuity.

Points to consider and further actions and precautions:

- Always contact the Electrical Control Room to report an incident involving yourself, or a colleague that has been in contact with the DC 3rd rail (including any tools / equipment).
- If you become aware of an incident involving potential contact with the DC 3rd rail, *never* assume that this has been reported to the Electrical Control Room, instead follow up by reporting the incident yourself to the Electrical Control Room Operator.

Briefed out to:

Operations / Maintenance / Capital Delivery Functions

Possession Management Function