PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
SAFEBUILDING RULES AND PROCEDURES

9010
PROTECTING WORK FROM RAIL TRAFFIC ON ADJACENT LINES
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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this procedure is to provide instruction on the Protection of Workers from Rail Traffic on Adjacent lines, in the Public Transport Authority (PTA) Network.

2. GENERAL

Rail Traffic on lines Adjacent to Work on Track is a danger to Workers. Workers must be protected from all Rail Traffic.

Excluding Rail Traffic from Adjacent lines gives the highest level of Protection.

WARNING

Adjacent lines may be under the control of a different Train Controller or Access Provider.

During the Safety Assessment for the work, and as Protection needs change, the Possession Protection Officer (PPO) or the Protection Officer (PO) must decide on the best means to reduce the risk from Rail Traffic on Adjacent lines.

3. MEANS OF RISK REDUCTION

If the Safety Assessment indicates that Workers need to be protected from Rail Traffic on Adjacent lines, the PPO or the PO must choose one or more of the following means to reduce the risk.

3.1. LOCAL POSSESSION AUTHORITY

A Local Possession Authority (LPA) may be taken out over Adjacent lines to exclude Rail Traffic.

3.2. TRACK OCCUPANCY AUTHORITY

A Track Occupancy Authority (TOA) may be taken out over Adjacent lines to exclude Rail Traffic.

3.3. ABSOLUTE SIGNAL BLOCKING

Absolute Signal Blocking (ASB) may be used to exclude Rail Traffic on Adjacent lines.

3.4. LOOKOUT WORKING

Lookout Working may be used to provide Warning of approaching Rail Traffic on Adjacent lines.
4. DEMARCATION FENCING

WARNING

Demarcation Fencing is only a Warning that a boundary exists. It may not stop Workers from entering a Danger Zone on an Adjacent line.

Demarcation Fencing is an easily seen, continuous boundary marker. Demarcation Fencing used within the PTA Network must be of a type approved by the PTA.

5. USING DEMARCATION FENCING

The PO must:

- put appropriate Protection or safety measures in place to protect Workers installing Demarcation Fencing;
- make sure that the Demarcation Fencing is installed before starting other work;
- make sure that the Demarcation Fencing can withstand disturbances caused by passing Rail Traffic;
- keep Workers and equipment on the safe side of the Demarcation Fencing;
- if necessary, place Competent Workers to make sure that Workers stay within the Demarcation Fencing;
- make sure that the Demarcation Fencing is kept in good condition throughout the work; and
- make sure that nothing is stacked or placed against the Demarcation Fencing.

6. REFERENCE

Rule 3025 Temporary Speed Restrictions

7. EFFECTIVE DATE

1 November 2018