PUBLIC TRANSPORT AUTHORITY
SAFEWORKING RULES AND PROCEDURES

2001 WALKING IN THE DANGER ZONE
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1. PURPOSE

The purpose of this rule is to provide instructions for Workers on Walking in the Danger Zone in the Public Transport Authority (PTA) Network.

2. GENERAL

Workers must not walk in the Danger Zone where there is a practical alternative. Walking in the Danger Zone is:

- walking from place to place within the Danger Zone; and
- doing no work other than placing or removing Protection for a worksite or Rail Traffic.

2.1. THE DANGER ZONE

The Danger Zone is everywhere within three (3) metres horizontally from the nearest rail and any distance above or below this three (3) metres, unless a Safe Place exists or can be created.

2.2. SAFE PLACE

A Safe Place is defined as a place where Workers and equipment cannot be struck by Rail Traffic.

A Safe Place is:

- at least three (3) metres clearance between the Worker and the nearest rail line;
- behind a structure or barrier erected to provide Protection;
- behind a designated Safety Line; or
- a place created following the use of a rule that stops Rail Traffic.
3. WALKING IN THE DANGER ZONE

Before entering the Danger Zone, Workers must check that Track(s) are Clear of approaching Rail Traffic.

WARNING
Rail Traffic can approach from either direction at any time.

Where Workers must walk in the Danger Zone:

- an easily-reached Safe Place must be identified and communicated to all Workers; and
- visibility conditions must allow enough Sighting Distance for Workers to reach the Safe Place before the arrival of Rail Traffic.
3.1. WHEN WALKING IN THE DANGER ZONE

When Walking in the Danger Zone, a Worker must:

- wear compliant high-visibility clothing and safety footwear;
- where possible, walk in the direction of approaching Rail Traffic;
- look frequently in both directions for approaching Rail Traffic;
- carry a light during the hours of darkness and when visibility is limited;
- not step on Points, interlocking equipment or on rails; and
- carry equipment to enable communication with Train Control.

4. RAIL TRAFFIC CREW

Rail Traffic Crew may need to walk in the Danger Zone to perform tasks associated with the operation of Rail Traffic. This includes, but is not limited to:

- operation of Points and associated Infrastructure;
- vehicle examination, including preparation to enter the PTA Network;
- preparation of Disabled Rail Traffic for assistance; and
- minor repairs or other tasks, en route.

Rail Traffic Crew must assess the risks of Walking in the Danger Zone and may include risks associated with:

- the required tasks;
- Rail Traffic on Adjacent lines;
- the ability to communicate with the Train Controller;
- the ability to communicate with other Workers in the vicinity; and
- operation of Rail Traffic.

**NOTE**

Where required the Rail Traffic Crew must arrange for Adjacent lines to be protected as per Procedure 9010 Protecting Work from Rail Traffic on Adjacent Lines.

5. REFERENCE

Procedure 9010 Protecting Work from Rail Traffic on Adjacent Lines
6. **EFFECTIVE DATE**

1 November 2018