



Lessons learned - A TES2000 PICOP Granted Permission To Set Up A Worksite Outside Of Possession Limits

WHAT HAPPENED?

After having been given permission from the Darlington Signaller to extend a possession (Part 2), a TES2000 Person In Charge of The Possession (PICOP) gave authorisation for protection to be placed and for the Engineering Supervisors (ES's) to set up six worksites B, C, D, E, F and G. However, worksites E and G were not planned to be set up until later (Part 3) when the possession would be extended to encompass the location of Worksite G.

The result of this error was a potential for track workers to be exposed to lines open to train movements.

UNDERLYING CAUSE

Although the PICOP had made accurate hand-written planning notes on blank paper that were in use throughout the task he misread his own written planning notes.

During his investigatory interview, the PICOP said that the notes he made would have been less likely to misread if he had left lines in between the notes he made for each part (1,2,3) of the possession and

had used asterisks to highlight the worksite that was not included in part 2 of the possession.

LESSONS LEARNED

When making notes prior to carrying out safety critical duties you need to ensure that they are sufficiently detailed, clearly legible and adequately formatted in such a way that will ensure you are easily able to follow them accurately at the point when you need to use them to deliver safety critical instructions.

TIME TO THINK – UNSAFE BEHAVIOURS

- Have you ever hastily scribbled out notes that make sense at the time of writing but then find they are difficult to decipher when you go to make use of them sometime later?
- If you are not sure that your notes make sense, do not start work or give instructions for work to start until you have checked your original planning documents.

SAFETY FIRST - EVERYONE HOME SAFE

