

Frontline UPDATES



TES24-204 v1.0

Lessons learned: A train struck protection that had been placed in error on a line open to train movements.

RECENT INCIDENT OVERVIEW



everyone
home safe
every day

What happened?

A train struck detonator protection that a TES2000 Possession Support (PS) worker had placed in error on a line open to train movements.

CAUSE

The PS had mistakenly used the incorrect access point as he had been to that area before, was working from memory, and believed that the access point was the same one that he had used previously.

LESSONS LEARNED

- Always ensure that rosters and Safe Work Packs (SWPs) are checked thoroughly and understood before use;
- Never assume things, or work from memory alone;
- At arrival on site, always verify that you are at the correct access point by checking that the railway infrastructure on site matches the infrastructure (signals/points/structures/access point information) detailed on the safe work pack;



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LESSONS LEARNED

- Always ensure that you fully comprehend what you are hearing, speaking or repeating back when using Safety Critical Communication; specifically check that the railway infrastructure reference numbers that are being communicated to you match the ones at site and on your safe work pack
 - **NOTE: All Communication that involves activities on or near the line is considered to be Safety Critical;**
- Always check and verify all information provided - your safety depends on it.



CONSEQUENCES

- The PS was temporarily suspended from duties, was sent for a drugs and alcohol test and experienced a period without work whilst a safety investigation was being conducted.
- A series of mentored shifts followed before being allowed to work alone.

TIME TO THINK - UNSAFE BEHAVIOURS

- Have you ever carried out a task from memory rather than verify that you are actually at the correct location and working safely?
- If you are concerned that you do not know how to carry out a task properly or safely or that the plans or instructions that you have been given are unworkable, too difficult, or unsafe in any way:
 - STOP WORK.
 - GO TO A PLACE OF SAFETY.
 - TAKE 5 MINUTES TO THINK CLEARLY ABOUT THE SITUATION.
 - CALL THE TES2000 ON-CALL REPRESENTATIVE FOR SUPPORT AND FOR FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.
 - DO NOT RE-COMMENCE WORKING UNTIL:
 - You have agreed a safe system of working with the TES2000 On-Call Representative,
 - The correct plans / documentation are in place,
 - You have received an authorisation code from the TES2000 On-Call Representative.

SAFETY FIRST - EVERYONE HOME SAFE