

Network Safeworking Rules and Procedures

Responsibilities of Track Workers

Rule Number: 2031

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Document History

Version	Effective Date	Pages updated	Reasons for change
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Table of Contents

1.	Purpose.....	3
2.	General	3
3.	Responsibilities of Track Workers	3
4.	Interface between Track Occupancies	4
4.1	Information Sharing	4
5.	Passing Rail Traffic	4
5.1	Standing clear	4
6.	References.....	5
7.	Effective Date.....	5

1. Purpose

The purpose of this rule is to provide instructions detailing the responsibilities of *Track Workers* in the *Network*.

2. General

Track Workers engaged on works in the *Network* must be under the supervision of a *Protection Officer* who has access to:

- current information on the running of *Rail Traffic*;
- any relevant notices of working arrangements for that *Location*; and
- the *Network Safeworking Rules and Procedures*.



NOTE: *Track Workers* must expect the movement of *Rail Traffic* at any time, on any *Track* and in any direction in addition to the requirements set out in [Rule 1003 General Responsibilities for Safety](#).

3. Responsibilities of Track Workers

Track Workers responsibilities may include:

- coordinating maintenance or construction workgroups and *Associated Rail Traffic* in liaison with the *Network Controller*; and
- managing worksite *Protection* when appointed as a *Protection Officer* for the work.

Track Workers must report to the *Network Controller* any:

- faults or defects that could affect the operation of the *Network*; and
- breach of the *Network Safeworking Rules and Procedures*.

Protection Officers responsibilities include:

- determining safety measures required for *Occupation* of the *Track*;
- managing worksite *Protection*;
- obtaining *Work on Track Authorities*; and
- advising the *Network Controller* of any delay in returning the *Track* to service.

4. Interface between Track Occupancies

An interface between *Track Occupancies* occurs where two or more *Track Occupancies* are physically *Adjacent*.

4.1 Information Sharing

Protection Officers whose *Track Occupancies* interface with another *Track Occupancies*, must frequently share information concerning:

- anticipated movement of *Rail Traffic*; and
- *Rail Traffic* identification details.

Before authorising *Rail Traffic* to proceed to a *Location* managed by another *Protection Officer*, permission must be obtained from that *Protection Officer*.

5. Passing Rail Traffic



WARNING: *Track Workers* must be in a *Safe Place* for the passage of *Rail Traffic*.

All *Track Workers* have a responsibility to observe passing *Rail Traffic* for potential defects which may include:

- signs of alarm from passengers;
- loading irregularities;
- braking defects;
- dragging equipment;
- fire on a *Train*; and
- the absence or non-operation of an *End-of-Train Marker*.

The *Rail Traffic Crew* and the *Network Controller* must be advised of any irregularity on that *Rail Traffic*.

5.1 Standing clear

As *Rail Traffic* passes, *Track Workers* must:

- stand clear and remain in a *Safe Place*;
- make no movement that may be mistaken by *Rail Traffic Crews* as a movement into the *Danger Zone*; and
- unless responsible for displaying *Handsignals* to *Rail Traffic Crews*, make no movements and gestures that may be mistaken for *Handsignals*.

6. References

1003 General Responsibilities for Safety

7. Effective Date

3 February 2020