Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Risk of Electric Shock from Signalling Power Supplies

For the attention of all staff and contractors who access Stations and Lineside
Following three recent electric shock incidents, Network Rail has identified a design shortfall in a number of Location Cases, Supply Terminal Pillars, Functional Supply Points (FSP) and Relay Rooms, herein all referred to as FSPs. In general, FSPs will be of metallic construction but also included are those of wooden construction. A plan has been developed to provide a permanent solution which is being rolled out.

Because of this potential danger, you are advised not to touch lineside FSPs, unless your job requires you to do so and you have tested the equipment first. Contact includes leaning on a cabinet and placing tools or lunch bags against a cabinet.

Never assume the equipment is safe, always test before touch

Never undertake an activity unless you have been trained, assessed as competent and have the right equipment

For your safety when in the vicinity of FSPs, you are reminded that you must obey the Life Saving Rule of Test Before Touch.

You must

1. Use only an approved testing device and understand how to use that device
2. Test the testing device, then test the FSP to be touched, then re-test the testing device.
3. If you find that there is an unsafe voltage, move away from it and not touch any other metalwork (for example another cabinet or a fence)
4. Report this to your supervisor and Fault Control
5. If the public have access to the FSP, stay adjacent to the FSP to keep the public away until assistance arrives

Please note that the issue of this Safety Bulletin does not affect the issue of Safety Bulletin 278 which applies to staff and contractors who work on this type of equipment as part of their normal duties.

A guidance note is available for this Safety Bulletin and further information, if required, can be obtained from Robert Wilson, Principal Engineer, Energy Services on robert.wilson2@networkrail.co.uk or 07885 430847