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Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Failure of Iveco 5.5t RRV Front Rail Gear

For the attention of all Network Rail users of Iveco 5.5t Road Rail Vehicles.

Background

Whilst attempting to deploy the front rail gear of an Iveco 5.5t Road Rail Vehicle (RRV) when on tracking at the start of a shift, it became apparent that the axle would not align with the rails correctly. A subsequent inspection of the vehicle found that one of the rail gear arms that connect the rail axle to the vehicle body had broken in half. There were no injuries or damage to infrastructure, but this could have led to a derailment, posing a risk to the safety of the vehicle operators.

Immediate Action Required by Users

All Phase 1 Iveco 5.5t RRVs must not be used in rail mode until further notice. Phase 1 vehicles include those fitted with a flatbed body, with vehicle registration numbers starting FJ62, FN62 and KX62. Phase 1 vehicle use in road mode is still permitted.

The vehicle manufacturers, LH Access, will make arrangements to carry out an inspection of the vehicle rail gear.

Phase 2 Iveco 5.5t RRVs, which include welding vehicles with registration numbers starting FL63, FN63 and FG63 may continue to be used in both road mode and rail mode until further notice.

Investigation

An investigation is underway to establish the root cause of the failure and prevent future reoccurrences.



Example of 'Phase 1' Iveco 5.5t RRV with flatbed.



The failed front nearside arm that connects the rail axle to the vehicle chassis.