

No: NRS 322

Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Thwaites Personnel Carrier Runaway

For the attention of all owners, maintainers and users of GOS (Philmor) converted Rexquote/Thwaites Personnel Carriers and Rexquote/Thwaites 5T, 6T and 8T dumper variants.

Background

On Sunday 11th May 2014, whilst off tracking at the Green Lane access point near the Bristol end of the Severn Tunnel, a Thwaites personnel carrier ran away approximately 45 meters down a gradient and collided with a trailer attached to the back of another road rail vehicle. An initial investigation has found the rail axle interlocking was not functioning correctly and that the rear rail axle brakes were unable to hold the vehicle on a gradient while the front axle was being raised.

There were no injuries, but the personnel carrier and trailer sustained minor damage.

Note - The GOS (Philmor) converted Rexquote/Thwaites personnel carrier is based on the Rexquote/Thwaites 5T dumper, which also has the same rail axles as the 6T and 8T dumper variants.

Immediate Action Required by Users

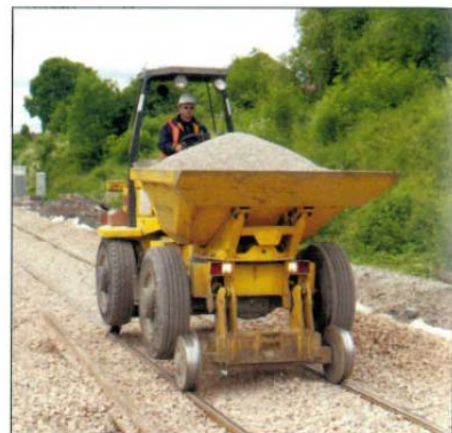
The following machine types must be withdrawn from service immediately:

- GOS(Philmor) Rexquote/Thwaites personnel carrier
- Rexquote/Thwaites 5T swivel skip dumper
- Rexquote/Thwaites 6T swivel skip dumper
- Rexquote/Thwaites 8T swivel skip dumper

A further bulletin will be issued once the failure mode is properly understood.



Example of GOS (Philmor) converted Rexquote/Thwaites personnel carrier



Example of Rexquote/Thwaites 5T swivel skip dumper