



Network Rail
The Quadrant:MK
Elder Gate
Milton Keynes
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Network Rail Safety Bulletin

Temporary Road Traffic Management at Level Crossings

For the attention of Project Planning and Construction Teams

Background:

Two recent incidents have highlighted increased risk where temporary traffic management is used near automatic level crossings. On both occasions, collision with a train was narrowly avoided.

In the first incident a Network Rail contractor was working adjacent to the crossing to install safety enforcement equipment. A lorry driver was confused by temporary traffic signals which conflicted with the automatic crossing signals. The lorry driver saw a green aspect from the temporary traffic signals, then the lit wig-wags and a green lollipop-type signal on the back of the stop sign for traffic approaching the other way.

In the second incident temporary traffic management had been set up at an Automatic Half Barrier crossing for work on an under track crossing adjacent to the level crossing. Visibility of the level crossing wig-wags was reduced by the nature of the work on site. A lorry drove onto the crossing past the lit wig-wags as a train approached after seeing the green light of the temporary traffic signals.

Action required by everyone directly involved in these types of works:

- The Pre-Construction Information Pack (PCIP) must highlight the potential conflict between highways and rail traffic for works on or near all Level Crossings. Construction Phase Plans must be prepared and accepted by the Network Rail Project Manager; providing assurance about traffic management arrangements.
- When planning such works consideration must be given to road closures, or possessions, to carry out the works, preferably with either no highways traffic or no rail traffic to prevent collisions. Remember that rail plant and engineering trains may cross level crossings at any time.
- When working in the vicinity of any level crossing contact the signaller to make them aware of the nature of the work that is taking place.
- Use a competent Level Crossing Attendant to manually lower barriers to ensure the safe passage of trains.

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