

ANWT 310

## Lookout Working

### Applicability

NSW

SMS

### Publication Requirement

External Only

### Document Status

Issue/Revision #	Effective from
2.0	11 October 2015

## Purpose

To prescribe the rules for working in the *Danger Zone* without a *work on track* authority using *Lookouts* as the only safety measure.

## General

If a safety assessment shows that it is safe, some kinds of work *may* be done in the *Danger Zone* without a *work on track* authority.

Lookout Working is one of those methods of working.



**If the safety assessment shows that a work on track authority is necessary, work must not be done using the Lookout Working method.**

If the Controlled Signal Blocking (CSB) method is available, it is the preferred method.



**The Lookout Working method must not be used for work on the overhead wiring, work that breaks the track or alters track geometry or structure.**



**Lookout Working must be only used where the visibility conditions allow clear sighting of *rail traffic* (terrain, fog, heavy rain or dust may restrict visibility).**

Work in the *Danger Zone* using the Lookout Working method must be done in daylight hours only, for a maximum of two (2) hours.

If access for additional time is required, this must be treated as a new request for access.

## Tools

Only *light, non-powered hand tools* may be used for work using the Lookout Working method.

## Safety measures

Lookouts are the only safety measure used in this method of working in the Danger Zone.

## Safe Places

An easily-reached *safe place must* be available if this method is used.

Workers must be able to remove themselves, tools and materials to a safe place immediately when told to do so by a Lookout.

## Protection Officer

There must be a *Protection Officer* for the period of the work.

A Protection Officer's primary duty is to keep the worksite and workers safe.

A Protection Officer must be satisfied that other work will not interfere with *protection* duties.

A Protection Officer must:

- tell workers about the *locations* of safe places, and
- determine the number of Lookouts needed to protect the work, and
- be the only person to speak to *Network Control Officers* about safety arrangements.

## Placing Lookouts

The Protection Officer must:

- make sure that the locations of Lookouts and the visibility conditions give the Lookouts enough sighting distance, and
- make sure that when rail traffic approaches, Lookouts can warn workers in time to allow them to:
  - react to the warning of the approach of rail traffic, and
  - move themselves and their equipment to a safe place before the rail traffic arrives.

To give sufficient warning time, additional Lookouts may be used.

Only one additional Lookout may be placed in each direction from which rail traffic may approach.

An additional Lookout must remain within sight and hearing distance of the Lookout closest to the worksite.

The Protection Officer must:

- reassess safety measures if conditions such as visibility, change, and
- make sure Lookouts do not work continuously at the same location for more than 60 minutes.

### Communication with Network Control

Work in the Danger Zone must not begin until the Protection Officer has spoken to the Network Control Officer about the use of Lookout Working.

The Protection Officer must tell the Network Control Officer:

- their name and contact details, and
- the location of the work, and
- the type of work to be done, and
- the intended start and finish times.

The Protection Officer must also get information about rail traffic movements likely to occur at the work location during the period of access from the Network Control Officer.



**Information about likely rail traffic movements is provided only as a guide for rail traffic movements and is not to be relied upon as the only safety measure.**

### Keeping Records

The Protection Officer must keep a *permanent record* of:

- safety measures for worksites, and
- communications with the Network Control Officers about safety measures.

The Network Control Officer must record in permanent form the details of the use of Lookout Working.

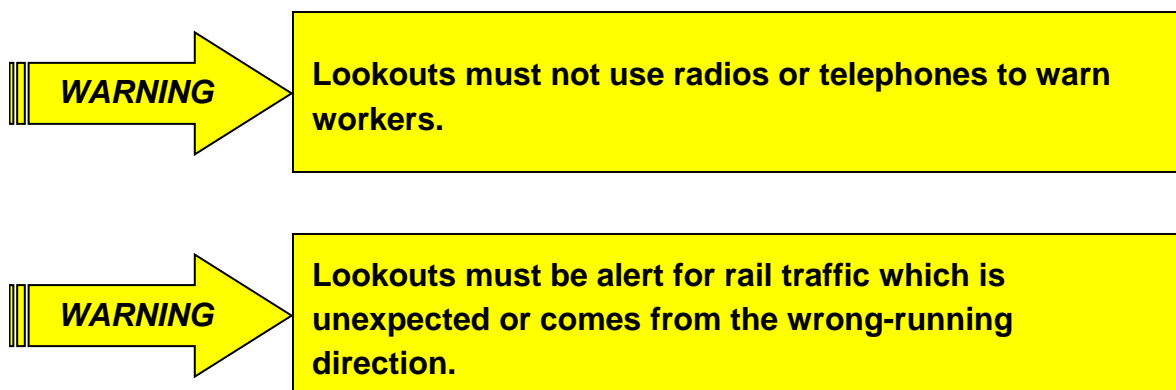
## Lookouts

Lookouts must:

- keep watch for *rail traffic* approaching the worksite from any direction, and
- warn workers immediately if rail traffic approaches the worksite.

Lookouts must not:

- manage the passage of rail traffic, or
- do any other work.



## Ending Lookout Working

The Protection Officer must tell the Network Control Officer when work is completed and the workers and their equipment are clear of the Danger Zone.

## Related ARTC Network Procedures

ANPR 711	Lookouts
ANPR 712	Protecting work from rail traffic on adjacent lines

## Effective Date

11 October 2015