

# SAFETY ALERT



ARTC NSW No. 9

Issued: 1-8-05

## RAIL SAFETY – Track Vehicles travelling over level crossings

**Background:** Two recent incidents in the Hunter Valley have highlighted the need for the Qualified Workers to correctly apply the ARTC Network Rules and Procedures when travelling over level crossings. Please ensure that the rules below are followed.

### ANGE 218: Type F Level Crossing Management

Rail traffic that may not activate track-circuits

If rail traffic needs to use a Type F level crossing operated automatically by *track circuits*, but the rail traffic cannot be relied upon to activate the track-circuits, *Drivers and track vehicle operators* must:

- Stop short of the level crossing, and
- Arrange to stop approaching road and pedestrian traffic, and
- Proceed over the level crossing only if it is safe to do so.

#### NOTE

*Track-circuit shorting clips* must not be used to activate level crossing warning equipment.

### ANWT 316: Track Machines

Travelling in convoy

Track vehicles travelling in convoy must travel as closely as is safely practical

Operators of track vehicles in convoy must maintain *effective communication*.

*If communication is lost, following track vehicle operators must:*

- Travel within *sighting distance* of the vehicle ahead, and
- Travel at *restricted speed* until communication is re-established.

The convoy must close up:

- If the leading vehicle stops, or
- Before entering a section, or
- Before working over a *level-crossing*

**Action Required:** The above working is to be adopted when traversing level crossings and is to be included in the pre-work briefing for the transferring of track vehicles. All employees must have a clear understanding of the working to be adopted.