

SAFETY ALERT

ARTC NSW No. 12



Issued: 1-3-06

RAIL SAFETY – Near Miss while using NAR Protection

Background: 2 employees were narrowly missed being struck by a train while using NAR Protection. The employees were working in a dual track area with bi-directional running. A train was observed approaching in the Up direction from beyond a curve in the track. Visibility was good. It appeared that the train was on the Up track. Standing on the Down side of the Down track, the employees gave the train the all clear signal from within the Danger Zone. As the train came around the curve, the employees realised the train was travelling in the Up direction but on the Down track. Both employees had to jump clear to avoid being hit. The train was travelling at approximately 120 kph (33.3 metres per second)

Please see the ANGE 200 below in relation to safe places and ANPR 711 in relation to lookouts.

ANPR 711

General

The Danger Zone is all space within 3m horizontally from the nearest rail and any distance above or below this 3m, unless a *safe place* exists or can be created.

network procedures

Lookouts

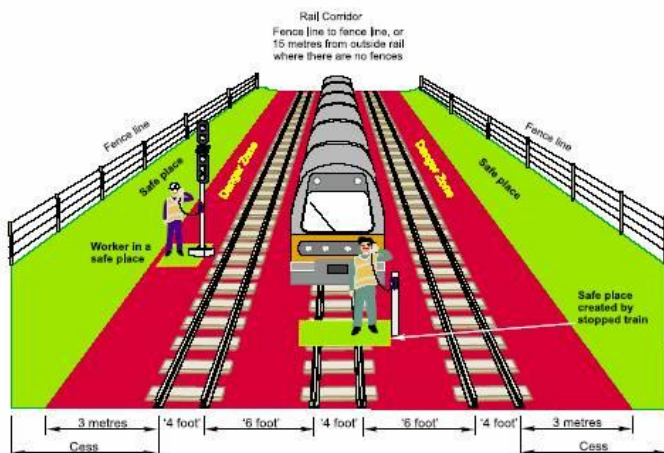


FIGURE 1: Workers in safe places

Giving warning

Lookout

1. Agree with the *Protection Officer* how workers will be warned about the approach of rail traffic.
2. Stand or walk in a *safe place* where you can see approaching rail traffic and be within sight and hearing of the workers.
3. If you cannot do both of these safely, tell the *Protection Officer*.
4. Keep a continuous lookout for the approach of rail traffic.
5. If you see or are told that rail traffic is approaching, warn the workers.
6. Only if workers are in safe places, face the approaching train or track vehicle and *handsignal* ALL CLEAR to the *Driver* or *track vehicle operator*.
7. Wait for the *Driver* or *track vehicle operator* to acknowledge the ALL CLEAR handsignal.
8. Make sure that the line is clear before telling the *Protection Officer* that it is safe for work to resume.

Effective date

5 September 2004

Action Required:

- Lookouts must only give the ALL CLEAR handsignal when all workers are in a safe place (including themselves) See ANGE 200 and ANPR 711 above.
- All Protection Officers and employees to be advised of this incident via daily pre-work briefs and Team Safety Meetings.

Note:- THE ONLY SAFE PLACE WITH NAR IS OFF ANY LIVE LINE!