



Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd

SAFETY ALERT

ARTC NSW No. 25

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TRACK JACKS

An incident has occurred where an employee was injured operating a “track jack”, similar to the one below.

The employee was utilising the track jack in the replacement of sleepers on a panel of rail

The “track jack” had rail in the raised position; the employee accidentally activated the lever operating the holding clamps (before lowering the lifting rams). The rail dropped suddenly and the “track jack” fell onto the employee.

Luckily, the employee was not seriously injured

The configuration of the hydraulic system on the “track jack” allowed this to happen

Since the incident the hydraulic system has been modified so that the holding clamps can not be released whenever the lifting rams are in the raised position



ACTION TO BE TAKEN

- Advise all employees under your control of this Safety Alert
- Team Managers to contact their Plant Co-ordinators if they have “track jacks” that require modifying
- Cease using “track jacks” until they are modified
- “Track jacks” that are surplus to team requirements are to be returned to your Plant Co-ordinator
- Ensure a “sign-off” (for example, a Team Safety Meeting record) is obtained to verify that employees have been briefed on this Safety Alert