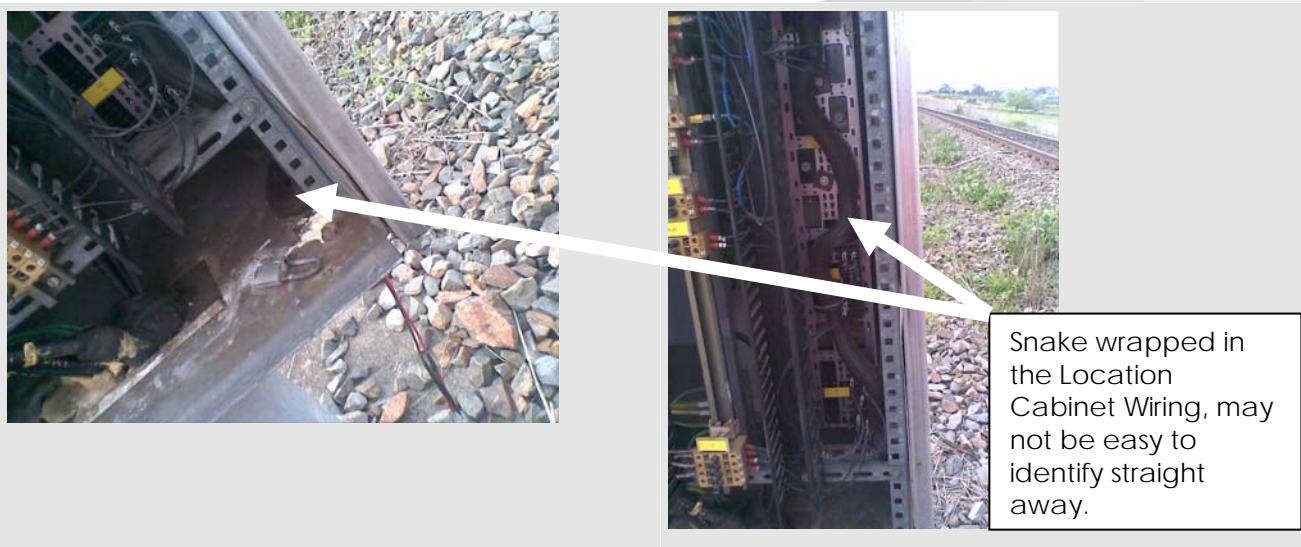


**ZERO HARM BULLETIN #ZHB11-08-02-BMD DATE: 25/08/11**

## Brown Snake Found in Location Cabinet



### What happened?

Recently, ARTC Maintenance Employees were on a call out to a failure at Aberdeen in NSW. The workgroup were investigating a track failure and opened a location cabinet to find a large brown snake lying against the Jeumont rail. As you can see it is as long as the height of the location Cabinet.

### Why did it happen?

- > Snakes will try and find places that are well concealed and warm particularly in the cooler months
- > Location cabinets are not opened all that frequently, hence, the potential for a reptile to squat during those cooler months.
- > Additionally, as we approach the warmer months and snakes become active for breeding, they may try to find places like cabinets, pits and pipes etc.

### Action required:

Remember:

- > As we approach the warmer months all Project Teams need to be vigilant that snakes are on the move particularly during the breeding season.
- > Some variety snakes can become aggressive during this time of year, therefore it is important to keep well clear and identify the risk on the daily Pre-Start
- > Undertaking an assessment of the work area and remember the **STAR** Principles.
- > Report all snakes/reptiles and other fauna activity to your Supervisor immediately. Project Team Members can contact local "Reptile Rescue" organizations for snake removal.

|   |               |               |              |
|---|---------------|---------------|--------------|
| <b>For further information contact:</b> | Phil Boon     | <b>Phone:</b> | 0402 868 370 |
| <b>Authorised by:</b>                   | Phil Anderson | <b>Phone:</b> | 49 621 049   |

Discuss at next available toolbox meeting/post on notice boards – (valid for 3 months, 25/11/11)