



Australian Rail Track Corporation Ltd

SAFETY ALERT



ARTC No. 62

Issued 14/09/2012

NSW

Track Work Authority

ARTC has become aware that there have been instances where during a Track Work Authority (TWA), speed restrictions have been issued to train crews via the 'train radio' after the train has passed the inner handsignaller.

All Rail Safety Workers involved in the use of a TWA are to ensure they are fully conversant with the requirements of ARTC Network Rule ANWT 306 Track Work Authority and ARTC Network Procedure ANPR 702 Using a Track Work Authority, and in particular the requirements for rail traffic approaching worksites.

Protection Officers, Supervisors and Handsignallers **must not** use the train radio to advise train crews of speed restriction requirements unless in an Emergency situation.

Extract from ANWT 306 Track Work Authority (page 8 of 12)

Approaching worksites

Before authorising inner Handsignallers to allow rail traffic to approach worksites, Protection Officers must make sure that:

- workers are in safe places, and
- the track is unobstructed and safe for the passage of rail traffic.

Only Protection Officers may tell Handsignallers whether to allow rail traffic to proceed, and at what speed.

Extract from ANPR 702 Using a Track Work Authority (page 4 of 19)

Managing rail traffic approaches to worksites

Protection Officer

1. Decide the appropriate speed for rail traffic to transit the worksite.
2. Tell the inner Handsignaller whether to signal Drivers and track vehicle operators to:
 - travel through the worksite at normal speed, or
 - travel through the worksite at caution, or
 - stop and be told about special travel conditions.