

Emergency Equipment for Infrastructure Maintenance Rolling Stock

Incident

This alert has been issued following an incident where a Ballast Regulator became disabled on track and did not have sufficient emergency equipment on board to adequately warn other rail traffic. ARTC require that all infrastructure maintenance rolling stock must carry on board functional emergency track safety equipment at all times when operating on the network.

A definition of an infrastructure maintenance rolling stock vehicle is: a vehicle that has a Gross Vehicle Mass (GVM) of more than 5000 kg, or a vehicle that is capable of self-propelling at more than 15km/h.

It is a mandatory requirement to have effective communications equipment prior to accessing the ARTC network along with the minimum safety equipment listed in the table below relevant to your area of operation.

Minimum Safety Equipment Required					
	Red Flags	Green Flags	Multi Colour Hand Lamps	Audible Track Warning Signals (Detonators)	Track Circuit Shorting Clips / Jumping Cables
NSW	2	2	2	12	3
VIC	1	1	1	24	1
QLD	2	2	2	12	3
SA	1	-	-	12	-
WA	1	-	-	12	-

Sufficient Safeworking forms, as required by relevant state network rules, policies and procedures, are also to be carried in the infrastructure maintenance rolling stock vehicle at all times.

Operators are required to ensure that all portable emergency equipment is on hand and has been checked prior to entry onto the ARTC network. The competent rail safety worker is responsible for ensuring the rolling stock has the appropriate emergency equipment prior to accessing the ARTC network. Any ARTC personnel that require any items listed above should contact their relevant Plant Coordinator or Inventory Controller.

The requirements listed have been referenced from ARTC NSW Safeworking Rules, Procedures and TOC Manual, Victoria TA20 , RAS Manual & Australian Standard AS7523.4 - 2013 Railway Rolling stock Emergency Equipment— Part 4: Infrastructure Maintenance Equipment.

For your action

1. Place Safety Alert on display and make copies of this alert available to people who report to you (without regular email access) and ensure that the contents of the safety alert are discussed/explained to your staff.
2. Ensure a method of sign-off is obtained (eg via tool-box/safety meetings/morning briefings etc) to verify that the safety alert has been distributed and discussed.
3. If you have any safety concerns regarding this safety alert please speak directly to your supervisor.

Further information

All safety alerts issued can be [found here](#).