

Safety Alert

A serious incident has taken place



Track worker trapped between two RRVs

Scope: **Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and accredited contractors**

Ref: NRX20-02

Date: 06/03/2020

Location: Manor Park, Anglia Route

Contact: [Suzanne Kay](#) - Head of Safety & Sustainable Development, Capital Delivery



Overview

On 22/02/2020 two Road Rail Vehicles (RRVs) were being used for work on overhead line equipment. Both machines arrived at structure 06/17, Manor Park East London, at approximately 15:30, five hours into the activity, to operate back to back. The RRVs were less than one metre apart.

While the linesmen were working above, track staff assisted in transferring equipment between the two RRVs. One of the RRVs had to move closer to facilitate the installation of equipment.

The RRV operator sounded the horn and confirmed the move to take place with the machine controller (MC). The RRV moved and trapped the track staff Controller of Site Safety (COSS) between the two machines.

The COSS had positioned himself between the two machines' rear bumpers. Various people on the ground shouted, the RRV operator moved the machine forward and the COSS walked out to the cess.

The COSS was assessed by the on site first aider though he initially declined further medical help. After a few hours the COSS began to feel unwell and may have begun to suffer from shock so he was taken to hospital by ambulance for further checks. It was later confirmed he had suffered no broken bones or internal injuries and was discharged around 22:00.

The incident is currently under investigation by RAIB and Network Rail.

This accident could have been much worse and coincided with the Rail Accident Investigation Branch issuing an [Urgent Safety Advice](#) about rail staff moving between stationary trains in yards, sidings etc. This advice was in connection with a fatal accident in Tyseley yard, Birmingham where a train driver was killed whilst passing between two trains - one of which had then moved - in December 2019.

Please remind staff:

- Not to enter an exclusion zone unless agreed by the MC.
- Never put yourself in a position of danger between two machines.

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