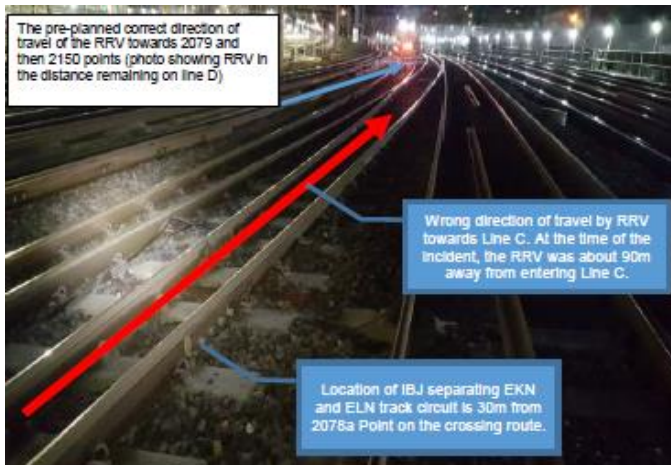
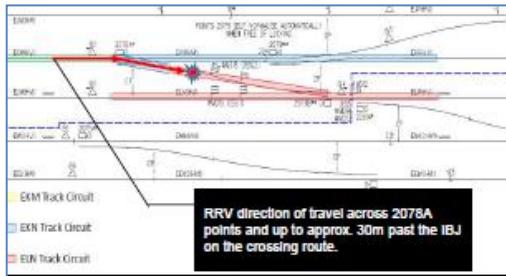


RRV on 2078A points resulting in Track circuit irregularity at Euston



LESSONS LEARNT



Post-incident illustration.

SCO Ref	41118
Type of Incident	Track circuit irregularity
Project	IP - Track
Injury/Damage	n/a
Date	08/02/19
Time	01:30
Location	Line D 2078A points/Line C signal WM311

Details

- A passenger train 5B46 stopped unexpectedly as signal WM311 on Line C changed aspect from 'Green' to 'Red' because track circuit ELN became 'occupied'. It was later established that the track circuit irregularity was due to a Road Rail Vehicle (RRV) wrongly crossing onto the turnout of 2078A points towards Line C, instead of remaining on its pre-planned route on Line D. The RRV strayed because the switching & crossing point was wrongly set in 'Reverse' by a team of Network Rail S&T operatives who were maintaining the 2078A points. The RRV triggered the signal on adjacent track circuit ELN of the operational Line C.

Causes

- The Machine Controller failed to inspect and ensure the point was set correctly in 'Normal' position.
- The S&T Team Leader ignored the ES instructions and started the maintenance of 2078A points before the 'No Booked Service' (NBS) period.
- Lack of detailed integration and mitigation of the risk presented by maintenance activity during the planning of works.
- Inadequate project controls for managing risk presented by maintenance work on points.

Learning Points

- Always check and ensure S&C point is set correctly for the intended route of On-Track Plant (OTP).
- Local measures to control risk such as access restrictions in a multi-staged possessions should be formalised and communicated professionally, ensuring that those receiving the briefing and signing for it have clearly understood their responsibility to comply with any restrictions.
- Ensure all project-related safety critical controls such as 'Point Control Protocols' are consistently enforced, including Network Rail Delivery Unit when working on points within the worksite.
- POS Reps should, as part of their duties carry out assurance checks and maintain a highly visible presence on site when machines are present.

Risk Elimination Opportunities

- Machine Operator and the Machine Controller should jointly verify the correct setting of any point.
- 'Clip and Lock' points in a worksite to prevent any OTP inadvertently crossing on to an open roads.