

Train makes contact with site material

Issued to: **All Network Rail line managers, safety professionals and RISQS registered contractors**

Ref: NRB19-08

Date of issue: 29/06/2019

Location: Blisworth, West Coast Mainline South, LEC1

Contact: Chris Carey - Head of S&SD (IP Central)



Overview

On 28/05/2019 at 17:55, the driver of 1A52 reported that objects had been placed on the Up Main line. The objects were subsequently identified as two drainage pipes (each 500mm diameter, 2m long and weighing 68kg).

The train struck the pipes, sustaining minor damage and causing damage to track fixings, axle counters and an overhead line structure. As they were pushed along the line the pipes filled with ballast, increasing their mass.

The pipes had been left on the lineside by contractors undertaking drainage work in the area during available possessions. Neither the pipes struck by the train nor others stored at the site had been secured to deter interference by vandals.

At this stage it is not confirmed how the pipes came to be in the path of the train. A Level 2 investigation is underway and will explore whether they were moved by persons unknown or by the physical effects of passing trains.

Discussion Points

While the investigation is underway, please discuss the following with your team:

- Have your sites ensured that their security arrangements are adequate to prevent unauthorised access to the infrastructure?
- Are lineside materials secured as a minimum in accordance with NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GA25 (Line Side Materials and Equipment) and based on a risk assessment?
- Have all existing materials left line side been identified during the AMP/dilapidation survey, and have arrangements for removal been made?
- All Principal Contractors must risk assess the storage of lineside materials.