

No: IGS 245

## Infrastructure Group Safety Bulletin

### Use of unauthorised chemicals and containers

This bulletin is for the attention of;  
IMDM's, IMEs, Line Managers and Maintenance staff.

#### Background

Network Rail fault control requested P-Way Staff to undertake de-icing of points at Birmingham New Street Station. Whilst pumping the handle of a pressure pump sprayer containing a chemical de-icing liquid, an unexpected pressurised release of liquid came into contact with the face and eyes of a member of staff.

As a result the member of staff suffered injuries to his eyes which required him to be immediately taken from site to hospital, where he was detained for two days as a precautionary measure to enable further assessment of his injuries.

The chemical liquid involved has since been identified as HBR 690 which is corrosive; this is not an approved substance. Similarly, the pressure pump spray container was not Network Rail approved and should not have been in use.

#### Action to be taken within Delivery units

All Line Managers are asked

- To conduct a check to of all their stores to establish if they hold either, the chemical HBR 690 or a pressure pump spray container of this type. (See photographs below)
- If either of these items are found, to make arrangements for their immediate disposal
- To check that COSHH Risk Assessments are available for every chemical/substance their staff are required to use.



NOTE to all Maintenance staff: When working with chemicals, please refer to Task Risk Control Sheet No. NR/L3/MTC/RCS0216/GH03, Section B Chemical Hazards.

Issued on behalf of [justin.page@networkrail.co.uk](mailto:justin.page@networkrail.co.uk). Head of Infrastructure Maintenance Safety and Compliance