

Safety Alert Number 171 issue 15.12.2010

Movement and Placement of Short Sections of Rail on Site

There have been two recent incidents on Balfour Beatty Renewal sites where staff have been injured while moving and placing short sections of rail around site. When undertaking this task staff need to ensure that the following controls are in place:

- You have a lift plan covering the task and you have been fully briefed on its requirements. The correct lifting equipment is used for the task – Cam Lock / Panel Grab / Rail Beam etc... In addition, Dect-Comm system is used if you are trained in its use.
- You have received a full Task Brief. The brief should highlight the risks and hazards associated with the task and should be given by the Task Manager before the start of works. (Task Briefing Sheet).
- You plan the move and set up an exclusion zone around the task.
- The area selected for storage should be even and level. Do not place short sections of rail on steep inclines.
- Other than in the 4ft - all sections of loose rail must be placed on dunnage when being stored on site.
- Where possible, loose rail should be stored end to end and not side by side.
- You pay particular attention to the location and storage of other materials on site, such as rolls of Geo-textiles – do not store items too closely together or on top of one another.
- When slinging and positioning the rail, you ensure the rail is handled from the top and be aware of the position of their body, especially hands and feet, to avoid traps and being struck by the rail.



Display on Notice boards and brief to:

No Brief Required ALL Employees Managers Only Disciplines affected Sub-Contractors

Alliance/JV Partners All holders of track certs NWR/LU Signed attendance sheets required

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