

# ALLERDENE BRIDGE TRAIN High Potential Near Miss

# SAFETY BRIEF

A-one+ are the principal contractor for works being carried out on Allerdene Bridge which carries the A1(T) over the north and south East Coast Main lines plus two further side lines in the Newcastle/Gateshead area.

A-one+ had arranged full possession with Network Rail, who in turn had employed a COSS (Controller Of Site Safety) to ensure all protocols were followed when closing the line. The works had included the erection of scaffold towers on the lines with various lighting units around the location so that concrete repairs and surveys could be carried out to the soffit.

The protection measures included barriers across the track and detonators in advance of the barriers, and the COSS being notified in advance of any unexpected train movements. During the start of shift briefing the COSS and Site Supervisor advised that no train movements were expected and that a full closure of the lines would be in place.

At 0539hrs on the 5<sup>th</sup> October 2014 a tamper train approached the working area unannounced on one of the East Coast main lines. The operator sounded the alarm about 100m from the works site and all operatives followed Network Rail Safety protocol by raising their hands and moving off the track before the train came through the works area.

All works have currently been suspended at this site, and the incident is being treated as a high potential near miss. Network Rail are currently carrying out a full investigation.



### Action to be taken on future Network Rail Sites

Before any further work is undertaken under a full possession, options need to be explored with Network Rail as to how they can prevent a repeat of the above incident.

SHE Advice:

If you require any advice or guidance on any health and safety aspect associated with your work please do not hesitate to contact:

	Area 7	Area 12	Area 14
SHE Manager	Neil Davison 077720805449	Dean Saunders 07799 435941	Martin Partington (SBS Manager) 07912 970048
SHE Advisor	Chris Wells 07540701 602	Dean Weston 07540 690835	Mick McCormack 07809511215

Circulation:

Area 14

Action:

Circulate to all relevant team members

Date of Issue:

22<sup>nd</sup> October 2014