

Uncontrolled when printed

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Dealing with a train accident or train evacuation

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Conventions used in the Rule Book

Example

A black line in the margin indicates a change to that rule since the last printed version. The Rule Book Briefing Leaflet contains more information about the changes.



Green text in the margin indicates who is responsible for carrying out the rule.

driver

A white i in a blue box indicates that there is information provided at the bottom of the page.



A rule printed inside a red box is considered to be critical and is therefore emphasised in this way.

If you do not understand anything in the Rule Book, ask your manager or supervisor to explain it to you.

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You will need this module if you carry out the duties of a:

- driver
- guard
- signaller.

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1 | Definitions

Train Accident

For the purposes of this module, the term train accident includes:

- a derailment
- a collision involving trains or rail vehicles
- a collision with an obstruction
- a collision with a road vehicle
- a collision with a person
- a fire on a train which might put other trains passing the location in danger
- a fire on a train which might mean that passengers are evacuated onto running lines
- an accidental train division which has caused another line to be obstructed.

2 What to do after a train accident

The people responsible: driver, guard, signaller

2.1 Driver's actions

You must immediately switch on the hazard warning indication where provided.

If you cannot do this, you must display a red light forward.

Telling the signaller from the train

You must tell the signaller about the accident by one of the following means in the order shown:

- making a railway emergency group call (REC)
- any other means of direct communication available from the driving cab if you cannot make a REC
- making a REC from any other driving cab on the train.

You must also tell the signaller whether the electric traction current needs to be switched off.

If you have to leave the driving cab to make a REC from another cab, you must place a track-circuit operating clip on any other line that might be obstructed before going to the other cab.

Once you have made contact with the signaller, you must stay in the cab until the signaller tells you one of the following.

- The driver or competent person of each train that must remain at a stand has received and understood the message.
- No train is approaching your train.

You must then check whether any other lines are obstructed, and if in doubt treat them as obstructed.

driver

driver

You must:

- tell the signaller which lines are obstructed
- place a track-circuit operating clip on any other line that is obstructed, if the signaller tells you to.

If the signaller tells you that another train is approaching you must leave your train and proceed towards it showing a hand danger signal.

Leaving the train to speak to the signaller

If you cannot speak to the signaller from your train you must:

- find out which other lines are obstructed and if in doubt treat them as obstructed
- place a track-circuit operating clip on each line that is obstructed
- leave the train to tell the signaller about the accident
- tell the guard, where provided, that you are leaving the train.

If lines are obstructed in one direction, you must proceed in that direction to contact the signaller.

If lines are obstructed in both directions, you must proceed either:

- in the direction it is more likely a train will approach from, or
- in the direction that it is more likely you will be able to contact the signaller more quickly.

You must show a hand danger signal so that it is visible to the driver of any approaching train.

You must contact the signaller by one of the following means.

- Any means of direct communication that is available after you have left the train.
- Any lineside telephone.
- Going to the signal box.

If the signaller tells you that no train is approaching, you can return to your train.

If the signaller tells you that a train is approaching, you must proceed towards it showing a hand danger signal.

Getting help from others

If you need any help when lines are obstructed in both directions, you must reach a clear understanding with the guard, where provided, or any other competent person about which direction each of you will proceed in.

2.2 Guard's actions

You must contact the driver.

guard

You must agree with the driver whether you need to:

- help with carrying out the driver's duties, or
- stay with the train.

You must carry out the instructions shown for the driver in this module if you:

- cannot contact the driver, or
- find that the driver is unavailable.

If the driver needs help in carrying out the driver's duties, you must:

- provide the help personally, or
- arrange for any other competent person to help.

If you provide the help yourself, you must reach a clear understanding with the driver about which direction each of you will proceed in.

2.3 Signaller's actions

signaller

If you are told about a train accident, you must:

- make a REC to trains in the area concerned, or arrange for this to be done
- immediately protect each obstructed line or arrange for this to be done
- take any other action needed to prevent trains approaching the accident as shown in the appropriate Train Signalling Regulations
- if possible, tell the person involved that you have provided protection
- arrange for the emergency services to be called if they are needed.

If you have been told about a train accident by a member of train crew of a train concerned you must tell them that one of the following applies.

- It has been confirmed that the message has been received and understood by the driver or competent person of each train that must remain at a stand.
- You have kept or replaced signals at danger or closed routes, and no train can approach the site of the accident.
- A train that it has not been possible to stop is approaching the site of the accident.

3

After leaving the train

The person responsible: driver

You must carry out these instructions when you have had to leave the train to contact the signaller.

If a train approaches

You must:

- immediately place three detonators 20 metres (approximately 20 yards) apart
- show a hand danger signal to the driver.

If you reach a telephone or signal box

You must:

- first place three detonators 20 metres (approximately 20 yards) apart on the line
- speak to the signaller.

If you reach a tunnel

You must proceed through the tunnel only if all of the following apply.

- The tunnel is a short one.
- You believe there is a means of contacting the signaller a short way beyond.
- You can walk through the tunnel safely, for example on the line that your train is obstructing
- You will be able to show a hand danger signal to any train approaching in the opposite direction on any line.

If you cannot do so, you must:

- place three detonators 20 metres (approximately 20 yards) apart at the tunnel entrance
- stay at the end of the tunnel nearer to your train
- show a hand danger signal to the driver of any train approaching the obstruction.

■ If you reach a diverging junction

You must:

- place three detonators 20 metres (approximately 20 yards) apart at the junction
- stay at the junction
- show a hand danger signal to the driver of any approaching train.

■ If you stop an approaching train

If an approaching train stops in a position where you can speak to the driver, you must tell the driver:

- what has happened
- to tell the signaller what has happened, if possible by making a REC.

■ After you have spoken to the signaller

If the signaller tells you that a train is approaching which cannot be stopped in any other way, you must:

- place three detonators 20 metres (approximately 20 yards) apart on that line, if you have not already done so
- show a hand danger signal to the driver.

4

Fire on a train

The people responsible: driver, guard

4.1 Stopping the train

You must try to put out any fire on the train. However, if it will not be possible to put the fire out within a few seconds, you must make sure the train is stopped immediately.

driver,
guard

Where possible you must not stop the train or allow it to remain:

- in a tunnel
- on a viaduct, or
- at any other unsuitable place.

If you stop the train, you must immediately:

guard

- tell the driver the reason
- if it is necessary, tell the driver to arrange for the emergency services to attend.

4.2 Safety of passengers

You must:

- tell passengers to move, if possible, to vehicles which are not affected by the fire
- if passengers have to leave the train, carry out an evacuation.

guard (or
driver of a
DO train)

4.3 Separating burning vehicles

If there is a risk of the fire spreading you must, if it can be done, separate the burning vehicles from the rest of the train.

driver

4.4 If the train cannot proceed

driver

If the fire is out but the train cannot proceed, you must:

- tell the signaller
- carry out any necessary protection.

guard (or driver of a DO train)

If any passengers are left on the train and they are safe, you must if it is necessary, carry out a controlled evacuation when this can be done.

If any passengers have left the train, you must make sure they are in a safe position and not at risk from electrified lines or trains continuing to run on any other lines.

You must make sure they stay in a safe position until arrangements can be made to escort them from the site.

4.5 If the train can proceed

driver

If the fire is out and the train can proceed safely, you must tell the signaller as soon as possible.

5

Accidental train division

The people responsible: driver, guard, signaller

5.1 Passenger train - safety of passengers

You must:

- find out whether anybody might have fallen from the train
- secure gangway end doors, if you can do this
- make sure passengers are in a safe position on the train.

guard (or
driver of a
DO train)

5.2 Securing the divided train

a) Driver's actions

You must make sure both portions of the train are secure and all the vehicles are accounted for.

driver

You must tell the guard (if provided) about the situation.

You must then check the couplings where the train has divided to see if:

- they might have damaged the track or lineside equipment (if so, tell the signaller)
- there is any damage to them which prevents recoupling the portions.

b) Guard's actions

If you are travelling in the rear portion, you must secure it if possible.

guard

You must then find out from the driver what action is to be taken with the train.

5.3 If the two portions can be recoupled

driver

If the two portions can be recoupled, you must get the personal authority of the signaller for the movement.

When the two portions have been recoupled, you must tell the signaller the train is again complete, stopping specially if necessary.

On a train on which ERTMS is in operation, you must get the signaller's authority to proceed.

5.4 If the two portions cannot be recoupled

driver

You must make sure that:

- a red light is displayed at the rear of the divided portion of your train which is being left behind
- a white light is displayed at the front of the divided portion of your train which is being left behind.

You must then tell the signaller:

- that the rear portion is to be left in the section
- the exact location of the rear portion.

If you have not been able to tell the signaller, you must not go beyond the next stop signal or block marker until you have told the signaller.

You must not leave a single-line section until you have told the signaller.

You must put a tail lamp on the rear of the front portion if it is on a track circuit block or ERTMS line. If you are not on a track circuit block or ERTMS line, you must only do this when the front portion reaches:

- the next signal box, or
- a track circuit block or ERTMS line.

5.5 Dealing with an assisting train

When an assisting train is ready to enter the section to remove the rear portion of a divided train, you must tell the driver:

signaller

- the exact location of the divided portion
- the colour of the light that is displayed on the divided portion
- if necessary, to pass at danger the signal protecting the obstructed line or pass an end of authority (EoA) without a movement authority (MA).

When your train is to enter the section as an assisting train to remove the rear portion of a divided train, the signaller will tell you:

driver

- the exact location of the divided portion
- the colour of the light that is displayed on the divided portion
- if necessary, to pass at danger the signal protecting the obstructed line or to pass an EoA without a MA.

You must:

- proceed at caution
- not exceed a speed of 25 mph (40 km/h).

6

Evacuating a train

The people responsible: driver, guard, signaller

6.1 Preconditions

driver,
guard

You must carry out an evacuation of a train only if it is absolutely necessary.

6.2 Guard's immediate actions

guard

You must tell the driver that an evacuation is necessary.

6.3 Controlled evacuation

driver

You must tell the signaller that the train is to be evacuated and to stop any train from approaching on any line that might be affected. If necessary, you must also ask for the electric traction current to be switched off.

When the signaller tells you that no train is approaching, you must tell the guard.

6.4 Emergency evacuation

driver

You must carry out the instructions in section 2.1 of this module and tell the signaller that an emergency evacuation is taking place or is necessary. If necessary, you must also ask for the electric traction current to be switched off.

If the signaller tells you that a train is approaching, you must proceed on foot towards the train showing a hand danger signal.

6.5 Passenger safety

You must decide the best way to evacuate the train safely, taking into account:

- how the passengers will be moved from the site
- the need for passengers to cross the least number of lines, if possible, to reach a safe position.

You must warn passengers to stay in a safe position until they can be escorted from the line.

guard (or
driver of a
DO train)

6.6 Uncontrolled evacuation

You must carry out the instructions in section 2.1 of this module and tell the signaller that an uncontrolled evacuation is taking place. If necessary, you must also ask for the electric traction current to be switched off.

If the signaller tells you that a train is approaching, you must proceed towards that train showing a hand danger signal.

You must try and prevent passengers making an uncontrolled evacuation and warn passengers, who have evacuated, about any risks.

driver

driver,
guard

6.7 Signaller's actions

When told about the evacuation of a train, you must:

- block all lines that may be affected
- tell the driver when you have provided protection.

signaller

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