

NOTICE BOARD

NB 141
Issue 1
23/04/2015
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NETWORK RAIL - SIGNAL ENGINEERING

AWS – Checking for Correct Height

Purpose

The purpose of this Notice Board is to remind staff of the importance of checking the height of the Automatic Warning System (AWS) magnets with respect to the top of the rail.

Scope

The correct height setting of AWS magnets.

Background

There has been a recent increase in AWS Code 7 Wrong Side Failures which have been attributed to the AWS magnets not being correctly set. For AWS magnets to operate correctly for all trains it is essential that the top of the magnet is positioned at a height of $\pm 12\text{mm}$ with respect to the top of the rail. There may be instances where AWS magnets have functioned correctly for several years despite being out of tolerance. However continued operation may not be guaranteed when new or different types of rolling stock are introduced onto the route.

Action Required

When staff are required to maintain or test AWS magnets, the height should be checked using a line/bob weights and associated plastic gauge or rule (shown below). Where the height is found to be deficient, arrangements shall be made to rectify immediately.



Note: It should not be assumed that because changes to the infrastructure have not taken place between maintenance visits, the AWS height is correct.

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Staff to be Briefed

Role	Responsible for Briefing
Route Asset Managers (Signalling)	Author
Signal & Telecoms Maintenance Engineer	Route Asset Managers (Signalling)
Section Manager (Signals)	Signal & Telecoms Maintenance Engineer
Signal Technicians Signalling Technical Support Staff	Section Manager (Signals)
S&T Trainers (Workforce Development Specialists)	Author
Head of Engineering (Infrastructure Projects – Signalling)	Author
Signalling Delivery Engineers Project Engineers Test & Commissioning Engineers	Head of Engineering (Infrastructure Projects – Signalling)

End