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National Control Instructions and Approved Code of Practice

Section 3.8

Reporting and Investigation of failures of TCODs, LOWs and ATWS

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3.8 **Reporting and investigation of failures of TCODs, LOWs and ATWS**

National Control Instruction

Controllers shall

- respond to faults and failures as they are reported
- ensure a timely response by maintenance teams
- determine the full details and effects of the failure and
- maintain the safety of the operational railway.

Approved Code of Practice

References

Rule Book:

NR procedure:

3.8.1 **Principles**

- a) The Rule Book Module T2 permits Green Zone protection to be provided by means of a Track Circuit Operating Device (TCOD).
- b) The TCOD works by activating a track circuit and as a back up, the Signaller puts the controlling signal to danger, thus preventing the passage of trains and enabling work to be carried out safely on or near the line.
- c) The Rule Book Module T7 permits Red Zone working using Automatic Track Warning Systems (ATWS) and Lookout Operated Warning Systems (LOWS) to warn staff working on or near the line of the approach of a train.
- d) ATWS detects trains through the use of treadles attached to the track on the approach to the site of work.
- e) LOWS detects trains by means of a Lookout operating a hand switch.
- f) The TCOD has a direct interaction with the signalling system whilst ATWS and LOWS are totally separate from the signalling system.