

Ref:	NR/L3/OCS/043/5.9
Issue:	1
Date:	01 March 2008
Compliance date:	01 June 2008

National Control Instructions

and

Approved Code of Practice

Section

5.9 Fires

This section contains:

		Issue	Dated
5.9.1	Fires on Trains, Infrastructure and affecting the Railway		
5.9.2	Emergency Services request for an Isolation of the Electrified Lines OLE or 3 rd Rail		
5.9.3	Lineside Fires Involving Acetylene Cylinders		

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5.9 Fires

National Control Instruction

Controllers shall ensure that, in all incidents, priority is given to ensuring safety, and that adequate practical response is provided to the incident.

Approved Code of Practice

References

5.9.1 Fires on Trains, Infrastructure or affecting the Railway

5.9.1.1 Information from caller advising of a fire

Gather information from caller using the safety critical communications (Rule Book Module G1 Section 11). Ascertain information about the incident:

- a) Type of fire or smoke incident, Establish when the fire was first noticed.
- b) Establish the exact details and location of the reported fire, including postcode (where known).
- c) Exact location of incident and any equipment involved i.e. (under the guards compartment on the leading unit); Determine if there are any special circumstances or access details.
- d) Establish the extent of the fire and if there is an immediate threat to the railway, members of public and staff.
- e) Ascertain whether the fire has been reported to the Fire & Rescue Service.
- f) Are the emergency services on site.
- g) Has the fire been extinguished or could it escalate.
- h) Has the location and vicinity been evacuated.
- i) Is there a potential danger to life/injury.
- j) Do trains need to be stopped on the line affected and / or on adjacent or adjoining lines.
- k) Arrange for response staff to attend and appoint a RIO to the scene

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5.9.1.2 When the fire has not been reported to the Fire and Rescue Service

Contact the Fire & Rescue Service on the dedicated lines provided as described in Section 2.2. State clearly that it is an Emergency Call and ask for the Fire & Rescue Service.

- a) Confirm your name, grade and nature of the call.
- b) Advise the operator with as much information as possible regarding the incident, including postcode (where known), name and contact number of the RIO and rendezvous point where the RIO will meet the responding Fire Service Personnel.
- c) Ascertain the estimated time of arrival for the Fire Service Personnel on site and ensure the operator has the contact number for the Route Control office.
- d) Arrange for all trains to be stopped (if appropriate) and arrange for staff and passengers to be evacuated from the affected area.
- e) Consider if an isolation of the OLE or 3rd rail is necessary.
- f) Ensure a reference number for the incident is obtained from the Fire & Rescue Control.
- g) Provide a reference number for the Fire & Rescue Service.

5.9.1.3 Evaluate the incident

- a) From the information gathered from the caller the Controller should then decide what type of incident has been reported. Below are the three types of fire that could be reported. The incident could be made up from one or a combination of these fires.
 - i. Fire or smoke incident affecting the infrastructure
 - ii. Fire or smoke incident affecting a train
 - iii. Fire or smoke incident affecting a station or depot
- b) How the Controller evaluates the information on the fire being reported to fit in with those types of incidents listed above will have a effect on the type of response that is required to the incident.
- c) The Controller may have to decide if any other emergency procedure is required, e.g. stopping train in emergency, major incident response, emergency discharge of the traction current.
- d) Whenever possible trains may continue to run at caution or normally over lines not specifically blocked, unless specific circumstances prevent this.