

Track – Unload Ballast by Train

Scope Includes: Auto-ballasters, Hoppers
Excludes: RRVs

Preparation

Tools, equipment and plant items required but not limited to:

- Approved back-to-back radios
- Shovels etc.

Work planning considerations:

- Pre-site inspection
- Type of ballast vehicles and train movements
- Sufficient support staff
- Running list with exact mileages of ballast deficient sites (cess/4'/6') and ballast quantity (light/medium/heavy)
- No-tip sites such as level crossings, under bridges, S&C and cables
- Routes outside 3rd rail areas that may have dual powered stock operating (risk of conductor rail shoes being knocked off).
- Follow-up ballast regulator shifts
- Signalling requirements
- Traction isolation requirements

Method

1. The person in charge of the unloading, shall brief all persons involved, including the train driver, about the methodology and exact locations of ballast drop sites.
2. Ensure competent person appointed in charge of train movements including ballast unloading operations prior to work starting.
3. Ensure clear communication with the driver.
4. Ensure controlled quantity of ballast is dropped to avoid derailment risk or interference with the 3rd rail system.
5. Carry out ballast unloading operations at the required mileages as the train moves through the worksite.
6. Utilise support staff to clear away any excess ballast from running rails, third rails, S&C etc.
7. After ballast unloading completed carry out inspection to ensure all infrastructure equipment free of excess ballast and working correctly.
8. Ensure ballast profile is installed in accordance with NR/L3/TRK/002/B03 or NR/L3/TRK/002/B04.
9. Ensure ballast train in cleared of loose stones before being released to normal traffic.
10. Complete site record report

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References

Supports Ellipse Standard job

- 009119 Ballast – Unload by Train

If applicable refer to the following directly associated documents:

- NR/SP/TRK/001 Inspection and Maintenance of Permanent Way
- NR/SP/TRK/102 Track Construction Standards
- NR/L3/TRK/002/B03 Ballast – Regulate – Manual
- NR/L3/TRK/002/B04 Ballast – Regulate – Mechanical
- NR/GN/TRK/7001/TWI3B007 How to carry out a maintenance ballast drop
- NR/GN/TRK/7001/TWI3S104 How to unload ballast through S&C

- Risk Control Sheets:
 - NR/L3/MTC/0002/TK000 Generic Track Risks
 - NR/L3/MTC/0002/TK100 Unloading Ballast - Train
 - NR/L3/MTC/0002/TK101 Unloading Ballast - OTP
 - NR/L3/MTC/0002/TK102 Unloading Ballast - Manual