

Infrastructure Plant Manual

Module P505 – Safe working with plant

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Contents

0.1 Job roles	3
0.2 Risk mitigation	3
1 Implementing a safe system of work	4
2 On site communications	4
3 On site lighting	4
4 Hazards arising from using plant	5
4.1 Generic hazards	5
4.2 Moving people on plant	5
4.3 Exclusion zones	5
4.4 Discharge of gases	5
4.5 Discharge of debris	6
4.6 Discharge of sparks	6
4.7 Fuel	6
5 Protecting the infrastructure	7
6 Protecting adjacent open lines	7
7 Working in electrified areas	8
7.1 General	8
7.2 AC electrified areas	8
7.3 DC electrified areas	8
7.4 Overhead electric power lines	8
8 Working at height	9
9 Shunting movements	9
10 Transportation of plant and materials	9
11 Plant used on or in rail vehicles or rail trailers	10
12 Recovery of rail mounted plant	10
13 Leaving plant unattended	10
14 Removing tools on completion of work	11
15 Hot weather fire risks	11

0.1 Job roles

This module is applicable to the following job roles, you must familiarise yourself with all of the clauses contained within it to understand your personal responsibilities. If you intend to carry out any of these roles you must hold the relevant Sentinel competency:

- Machine Operator
- Machine Controller
- Crane Controller
- COSS
- IWA
- ES
- Crane Controller
- PICOP
- PICOS
- Plant suppliers
- Principal Contractor
- Lighting contractor

0.2 Risk mitigation

This module helps mitigate the following high level risks:

- a) compliance with legislation (LOLER, PUWER, HASAW);
- b) damage to assets, e.g. RRV or its load hitting a passing train during ALO operation;
- c) collision, e.g. collision between a RRV and an OTM;
- d) derailment, e.g. trailer being loaded incorrectly;
- e) staff injuries, e.g. Operator being trapped between machine and infrastructure or machine and machine.

1 Implementing a safe system of work

The safe system of work (SSOW) created for a particular work task shall be created, accepted and verified in accordance with NR/L2/OHS/019 prior to implementation.

If you are a COSS or IWA satisfy yourself that you have access to, and use of, any relevant sources of local knowledge required to implement the safe system of work.

NOTE There is a specific requirement within NR/L2/OHS/019 for a COSS/IWA to check that they are familiar with the location of the work for which they have been provided with a COSS pack. This familiarisation may be undertaken by the study of the content of the pack, other sources of information, and where necessary due to the complexity of the work or the site, a site visit prior to the work taking place.

Only when a plan has been accepted by the COSS or IWA shall the SSOW planning process be considered complete and ready for implementation. Only the COSS or IWA who has verified the SSOW may implement the SSOW which shall be carried out in accordance with NR/L2/OHS/019.

2 On site communications

Only use an approved digital duplex voice communication system (see NR/PLANT/0200/module P300) when undertaking safety critical activities with on track plant either on or off the track. The use of such equipment will:

- a) allow constant communication between machine/crane controllers and machine operators;
- b) improve the safety of machine and crane controllers by allowing them to control work at a greater distance from the machine;
- c) improve the visual range of machine and crane controllers on the work site.

If a duplex communication system is not to be used on site, this shall be assessed and authorised in the safe system of work prior to commencing work. Circumstances where duplex communication equipment may not be required are where both the machine controller and machine operator are in the same cab e.g. when transiting, undertaking flailing operations etc.

Check the communication system prior to any work commencing and re-check if a change in conditions that could affect the method of communication occurs.

3 On site lighting

Where lighting is required for the safe operation of plant or work being carried out, then this shall be considered during preparation of the safe system of work.

Position worksite lighting so that it will:

- a) provide sufficient illumination and view of the process being undertaken;
- b) Reduce visual fatigue;
- c) Not be struck or come into contact with any vehicle movements or other work activities taking place on the site;
- d) not be confused or interfere with the operation of railway signalling;
- e) not dazzle train crew or plant operators.