

## Protecting rail traffic

### Introduction

Blocking facilities must be applied if:

- rail traffic is disabled, or
- rail traffic obstructs, or might obstruct, adjacent lines, or
- the line is obstructed.

### Disabled rail traffic

#### Unattended EMU in UTO mode

##### *Traffic Controller*

1. Use the ATS workstation to restrain the train.
2. Cancel affected routes and apply blocking facilities to prevent rail traffic from entering the block occupied by the disabled train.
3. Tell the other affected controllers, station and maintenance staff.
4. Arrange for assistance by:
  - a) mobilising Qualified Workers to the disabled train to:
    - manually operate the disabled train to a station, or
    - assist with an inter-station evacuation, and/ or
  - b) arranging a manually operated empty train to perform a rescue operation.
5. If a rescue operation using another train is to be initiated, issue the Train Operator on the rescue train with a Condition Affecting the Network (CAN) warning that includes the location of the disabled train.

#### Attended EMU in PM mode

##### *Train Operator*

1. Secure the train.
2. Tell the Traffic Controller about the location and status of the rail traffic, and if adjacent lines are affected.

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3. If the reason for the train becoming disabled is unknown, request authorisation from the Traffic Controller to attempt to manually operate the train 5 metres forward by:
  - a) changing the mode selector switch to RM mode, or if that is unsuccessful, by
  - b) changing the ATC By-pass toggle switch to “Bypass” position.
4. If successful in either attempt, tell the Traffic Controller that the train can be operated manually, and request authority to continue to the nearest station.
5. If the above attempts to move the train are unsuccessful, tell the Traffic Controller and prepare to assist as instructed.
6. If a rescue operation using another train is to be initiated, ask the Traffic Controller about the direction from which assistance will approach.

### ***Traffic Controller***

7. Ensure that approaching rail traffic is stopped, and if necessary, returned to a station platform for detrainment.
8. Apply blocking facilities to the affected block.
9. Tell other affected controllers, station and/or maintenance staff.
10. If requested, authorise the Train Operator to attempt to move the train in RM mode, and if unsuccessful, with ATC Bypassed.
11. If the train cannot be operated in manual mode, arrange to either:
  - a) rescue the disabled train, and/ or
  - b) perform an inter-station evacuation.
12. Confirm with the Train Operator that the train is secured against movement and provide details about the planned rescue operation.
13. If a rescue train is used, issue the Train Operator of the rescue train with a Condition Affecting the Network (CAN) warning, that includes the location of the disabled train.

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### Attended empty EMU in RM mode, or track vehicle

#### *Rail Traffic Operator*

1. Secure the rail traffic.
2. Tell the Traffic Controller about the location and status of the rail traffic, and if adjacent lines are affected.
3. If a rescue operation using another train is initiated ask the Traffic Controller about the direction from which assistance will approach.

#### *Traffic Controller*

4. Ensure approaching rail traffic is stopped.
5. Apply blocking facilities to the affected block.
6. Tell other affected controllers, station and / or maintenance staff.
7. Arrange to rescue the disabled train using compatible rail traffic.
8. Confirm with the Rail Traffic Operator that the train/ Track Vehicle is secured against movement and provide details about the planned rescue operation.
9. Issue the rescuing Rail Traffic Operator with a Condition Affecting the Network (CAN) warning, that includes the location of the disabled train

### Adjacent or obstructed lines

Blocking facilities must be applied to any potentially obstructed lines, or to the lines adjacent to disabled rail vehicles, if the vehicles are or might be foul of the lines.

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#### **Note:**

If the potentially obstructed adjacent lines are in rail corridors shared with other Networks, the affected Operator/s must be told about the potential obstruction immediately.

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### ***Traffic Controller***

1. Cancel affected routes and apply blocking facilities to affected track zones and protecting Point Position Indicators (PPI).
2. Tell other affected controllers, station and/or maintenance staff.
3. Mobilise station and maintenance staff to assist with passenger evacuations and train rescue operations as described in the previous sections.

## Procedures

*MPR 712 Protecting work from rail traffic on adjacent lines*

*MPR 721 Spoken and written communication*

## Effective date

28 April 2025