

Responding to faulty points

Introduction

If it is safe to do so, points may be inspected and manually operated using Route Blocking.



WARNING

Make sure that:

- safety measures are in place before you start work in the Danger Zone, and
- there is, or you have created, an easily reached safe place near the points.

If these conditions cannot be met, a work on track authority must be obtained.

Responding to faulty points

Traffic Controller

1. If points do not respond correctly to control:
 - apply blocking facilities, and
 - tell the Maintenance Centre.
2. If possible, authorise a Qualified Worker to inspect the points under Route Blocking protection, and if necessary:
 - remove obstructions, and/ or
 - operate the points manually.
3. Tell a Qualified Worker who needs to operate the points manually:
 - the equipment identification number of the set of points, and
 - location of the points and equipment locker and where to get the key, and
 - the type of points, and
 - whether to change the route setting.

Responding to faulty points

4. If you are not sure that the points-locking mechanism can be engaged correctly, have the points clipped and locked.

Inspecting the points

Qualified Worker

1. Check the equipment identification number of the points.
2. Check the current position of the points.
3. Check whether point clips are fitted.
4. If possible, check whether the points-locking mechanism of each machine is engaged.
5. Look to see why the points are not working correctly.
6. Get instructions from the Traffic Controller

Removing obstructions

Qualified Worker

There may be an obstruction between the switch rail and the stock rail, or interference with a points-locking mechanism.



WARNING

Do not put your hands or feet where they may be caught by moving points or mechanisms.

1. If points need to be moved to remove an obstruction, ask the Traffic Controller to move the points.

Traffic Controller

2. Move the points, and apply and remove blocking facilities only as required by the Qualified Worker.

Qualified Worker

3. Use a suitable tool to remove the obstruction.
4. Ask the Traffic Controller to test the points.

Responding to faulty points

5. Confirm with the Traffic Controller that the points operate correctly.
6. If they do not, get instructions from the Traffic Controller.

Procedures

MPR 703 Using Route Blocking

MPR 707 Clipping points

MPR 743 Manually operating hand throw electric points

Effective date

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