

WT08 Track Vehicles

WT08 - 1.0 Purpose

To prescribe the rules for operating Track Vehicles in the network.

WT08 - 2.0 General

All Concerned

You must plan work in the rail network in accordance with the rule [WT01 - Planning Work in the Rail Network].

In an emergency, the Rail Controller may authorise a Track Vehicle to enter a track section with which that operator is unfamiliar.

You must make sure Track Vehicles are operated safely and within their operational requirements in the network.

Only the Track Vehicle Operator and Trainee Track Vehicle Operator under tuition are permitted to operate Track Vehicles. The Trainee Track Vehicle Operator must never be left alone to operate the Track Vehicle.



The Track Vehicle Operator in charge of the Track Vehicle is responsible for the safe operation of the Track Vehicle in the network.

WT08 - 2.1 Track Vehicle Approval

All Concerned

Approved Track Vehicle types are published in the [Rail Traffic Operations] Manual.

If compatible Track Vehicles are fitted with approved coupling devices, they must be coupled together during travel.

Before travelling in the network, Track Vehicles must be inspected and certified as fit for travel in accordance with the [Rail Traffic Operations] Manual.



WT08 - 2.2 Track Vehicle Cabs

All Concerned

You must only travel in the cab of the Track Vehicle if authorised.

If seatbelts are fitted, you must wear them when the Track Vehicle is travelling.

WT08 - 3.0 Occupying a Track Location

All Concerned

Track Vehicle (excluding Hi-Rail) must have authority when travelling in the network in accordance with the procedure [NP13 - Track Vehicle Operation].

WT08 - 3.1 Track Vehicle Entering the Network

Track Vehicle Operator

You must contact the Rail Controller and have authority before a Track Vehicle can enter the network.

Rail Controller

You must only issue an authority to Track Vehicles for the network area that you are responsible for controlling.

You must not pre-set signals or opposing moves until the last Track Vehicle has reported in-clear and complete at the reporting location.

Track Vehicle Operator

When in charge of a movement, you must communicate with the Rail Controller when the rearmost vehicle has:

- entered or cleared a track location, or
- cleared the running line, or
- cleared a location nominated by the Rail Controller.



WT08 - 4.0 Authority to Travel

Rail Controller

You must only authorise Track Vehicles to travel as single units or coupled units.

Track Vehicle Operator

You must inform the Rail Controller about:

- the number and types of Track Vehicles in a movement, and
- the identification number of the last Track Vehicle, or
- the identification numbers of all Track Vehicles in convoy.

WT08 - 5.0 Track Vehicles Travelling (excluding Hi-Rails)

All Concerned

You must:

- make sure those Track Vehicles travelling in the network have a Competent Worker in charge of the movement
- have the correct authority for Track Vehicles to travel as a single unit or coupled
- make sure Track Vehicles travelling do not set back without the permission of the Rail Controller.

WT08 - 5.1 Track Vehicles Travelling Separately

Rail Controller

You must keep a minimum separation of 2 signal sections between Track Vehicles when 2 or more Track Vehicles travel separately.

WT08 - 5.2 Track Vehicles Travelling Station to Work Location

All Concerned

When Track Vehicles are travelling from a station to a work location and return to a station in a convoy, you must:



- maintain a minimum safe separation distance of 15 seconds time gap between Track Vehicles, and
- it is not necessary for the Track Vehicles Operators following the leading Track Vehicle to obey signal indications (except level crossing protection equipment).



When the rear of the Track Vehicle in front cannot be seen and/ or the communications fail, then the speed of the Track Vehicle following must be regulated to stop within half the distance of the line-of-sight.

WT08 - 5.3 Track Vehicle Speed Limits

Track Vehicle Operator

You must not exceed the lower of:

- the speed for the Track Vehicle, or
- the track speeds.

You must only travel at a speed that is safe for the prevailing conditions.

WT08 - 5.4 Track Vehicle Horn

Track Vehicle Operator

You must make sure that the Track Vehicle horn is used before commencing a movement and as required during the movement.

WT08 - 5.5 Lights

Track Vehicle Operator

You must make sure that Track Vehicle:

- headlights and end markers are in operation
- operating hazard lights or amber or orange flashing lights are available.



WT08 - 5.6 Propelling

Track Vehicle Operator

You must have a Competent Worker to protect any propelling movement of a Track Vehicle unless the Track Vehicle Operator can safely monitor the propelling movement from the driving position.

WT08 - 5.7 Travelling Over Level Crossings

Track Vehicle Operator

Before proceeding over a level crossing, you must:

- make sure no road or pedestrian traffic is using the level crossing, and
- make sure that it is safe to proceed

WT08 - 5.8 Communications

Track Vehicle Operator

When there is a communication failure, and you hold the proceed authority, you must only continue to the limit of the authority and no further until communications are restored.

WT08 - 6.0 Route Authority Order (RAO1) Form

All Concerned

Track Vehicles (excluding Hi-Rails) that are not fitted with in-cab signalling equipment are to travel on the authority of a [RAO1] Form within in-cab signalling locations in accordance with the procedure; [NP13 - Track Vehicle Operation].

Track Vehicle Operator

You must make sure the [RAO1] Form is available in the Track Vehicle.



Rail Controller

You must not issue a proceed authority for any other rail traffic movement for the signal section where a [RAO1] Form has been issued.

Unless the Track Vehicle is required for work associated with a Work on Track Authority, you must suspend or cancel all Work on Track Authorities before providing an authority to allow a Track Vehicle to occupy the signal section.

If the Track Vehicle is required for rectification work, you must:

- only issue a [RAO1] Form for a Track Vehicle to proceed to the limits of a Track Occupancy Authority, and
- liaise with the Track Protection Officer regarding entry into the Track Occupancy Authority, or
- issue a [RAO1] Form for a Track Vehicle to proceed to the location of the work, and
- create a Track Occupancy Authority around the Track Vehicle.

The Rail Control Centre must also ensure that adequate supplies of [RAO1] forms are maintained.



If a [RAO1] Form is issued to the limits of a Track Occupancy Authority, the Track Protection Officer must issue the instructions to enter the active Track Occupancy Authority.

WT08 - 6.1 Dual controlled Areas

Rail Controller

When a [RAO1] Form is required to pass a dual controlled signal, you must issue the [RAO1] Form.

You must make sure that the Rail Controller of the originating territory maintains Blocking Facilities to allow the movement.



WT08 - 7.0 Track Vehicle Working

Track Vehicle Operator

When the Track Vehicle is in work mode, you must make sure that the Track Vehicle access gate on the adjacent track side of the Track Vehicle is locked.

You must maintain constant radio communication with any other Track Vehicles that are working in the same location.

Rail grinder personnel may ride on the running board when performing firefighting duties or checking generator temperatures when the rail grinder is in work mode.

WT08 - 7.1 Adjacent Track Protection

All Concerned

When there is a requirement to leave the Track Vehicle, and there is potential for you to encroach on an adjacent live track, you must contact the Rail Controller to request adjacent track protection before leaving the Track Vehicle.

WT08 - 7.2 Work to Be Conducted During Travel

Track Vehicle Operator

You must inform the Rail Controller of the location of work and time required for the work when necessary to perform work during travel.

WT08 - 8.0 Delayed or Overdue Track Vehicles WT08 - 8.1 Delayed in Signal Section

v 100 - 0.1 Delayed III Signal Sec

Track Vehicle Operator

You must inform the Rail Controller:

- of any delay in the signal section, or
- if the Track Vehicle needs to be stopped.



WT08 - 8.2 Overdue Track Vehicles

Rail Controller

If a Track Vehicle movement is overdue, you must establish the location of the Track Vehicle.

If unable to communicate with the Competent Worker in charge of the movement, you must:

treat the signal section as obstructed.

WT08 - 9.0 Stabling Track Vehicles

Track Vehicle Operator

In accordance with the procedure [NP13 - Track Vehicle Operation], you must only stable Track Vehicles on running lines:

- if it has been advertised, or
- with the authority of the Rail Controller responsible for the location.

When stabling Track Vehicles away from running lines, you must make sure they are:

- clear of the running line, and
- secured against unintended movement, and
- inside derail devices if stabled in a siding.

WT08 - 9.1 Track Vehicle Security

Track Vehicle Operator

You must make sure that Track Vehicles are always secured against an unauthorised operation and unintended movement.



WT08 - 10.0 Related Documents

Rule [WT01 – Planning Work in the Rail Network]

Rule [WT03 - Track Occupancy Authority (TOA)]

Procedure [NP02 – Using a Local Possession Authority]

Procedure [NP03 – Using a Track Occupancy Authority]

Procedure [NP04 – Using a Track Work Authority]

Procedure [NP09 – Using Identification and Verification of Location]

Procedure [NP11 – Piloting Rail Traffic]

Procedure [NP13 - Track Vehicle Operation]

Procedure [NP22 - Hi-Rail Vehicle Operation]

Form [RAO1 – Route Authority Order]

Manual [Rail Traffic Operations]

WT08 - 11.0 Effective Date

15 August 2022