



Telecoms Safety Programme Method Statement for Lineside Work

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It is to be assumed that all telecoms lineside work will be completed under Red Zone working conditions unless Telecom staff are to join another group working under Green Zone conditions.

- 1) For all lineside work a PICOW will be appointed.
- 2) If complex work such as cabling by a large party is undertaken, a COSS will be appointed
- 3) The second man of a normal party will act as the Lookout.
- 4) The PICOW will note the rules regarding the need to contact signalmen before working in a signal box or on the lineside. In particular he must advise the signalman or any other officer in charge of train movements of the location and work to be carried out. He must obtain permission to work on an operational signals circuit before starting work unless there is no signalman on duty.
- 5) The PICOW will familiarise himself with the hazards of the job by consulting the survey forms for the area.
- 6) The appropriate Briefing Form will be completed by the PICOW before work starts.
- 7) The PICOW will brief all members of the team of the hazards to be faced and the technical methods to be used to complete the work.
- 8) All members of the team will sign the Briefing Form.
- 9) On return from the work, the PICOW will advise the signalman of the completion.
- 10) The Briefing Form will be signed off by the PICOW.

The party will take with them as required :

- 1) The correct clean orange high visibility clothing and suitable protective footwear.
- 2) Heavy gloves may be required when brambles etc have to be cut back for access to the equipment.
- 3) Mobile phone, butt, walkie talkies for communication purposes.
- 4) Cabinet keys.
- 5) Technical Instructions, tools and stores for the work.

The main worksite hazards are :

- 1) Tripping hazards on sleepers, undergrowth, debris etc.
- 2) Likelihood of wasp nests in cabinets.
- 3) Minor cuts from using hacksaws and Stanley knives.
- 4) Crossing lines with moving stock in area.