

RAIL SAFETY REGULATION SAFETY ALERT

NOTICE TO ACCREDITED RAIL TRANSPORT OPERATORS

THIS ADVICE IS EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY

01/12 – Emergency management plans – actions for rail transport operators

Background

In the event of a serious incident or emergency involving railway operations, it is critical that accredited rail transport operators have in place effective emergency management plans.

Section 82 of the *Transport (Rail Safety) Act 2010* requires all rail transport operators to have systems and procedures for developing and implementing an emergency management plan. An emergency management plan is part of the safety management system that rail transport operators are required to have under Section 63 of the *Transport (Rail Safety) Act 2010*. Failure to have and implement an emergency management plan may result in enforcement actions, including prosecution.

Action

- All accredited rail transport operators in Queensland are requested to ensure that they have developed, implemented and tested their emergency management plans and associated procedures.
- The emergency management plan must be in compliance with Section 82 of the *Transport (Rail Safety) Act 2010* and Division 6 of the *Transport (Rail Safety) Regulation 2010*.
- Section 14 of the *Transport (Rail Safety) Regulation 2010* details the matters that the emergency management plan must address.
- The emergency management plan must be prepared in conjunction with each emergency service including Queensland Police Service, Queensland Fire and Rescue Service and Queensland Ambulance Service. A copy of the plan must be given to all emergency services.
- Rail transport operators must consult with internal and external stakeholders when developing an emergency management plan.
- The response measures of the emergency management plan are to be implemented without delay in the event of an emergency.
- The emergency management plan must be comprehensible and readily accessible at all times to:
 - every employee, representative or agent of the rail transport operator who may be required to implement a response measure of the plan
 - every other rail transport operator who may be affected by the implementation of the plan.
- The emergency management plan must be tested at intervals stated in the plan and after each significant change that is made to the plan. The testing of the plan must include the participation of emergency services.

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