

# Rail Industry Safety Notice

7 October 2011

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## AXLE FAILURE

### Background

The Rail Safety Unit requests that rail transport operators in Tasmania read the attached investigation report released by the Rail Accident Investigation Branch in the United Kingdom on 6 October 2011 into an axle failure and subsequent derailment on a narrow gauge heritage railway.

The report can be found at the following internet link:

[Rail Accident Investigation: Bulletin 04/2011](http://www.raib.gov.uk/publications/bulletins/bulletins_2011/bulletin_04_2011.cfm)

[http://www.raib.gov.uk/publications/bulletins/bulletins\\_2011/bulletin\\_04\\_2011.cfm](http://www.raib.gov.uk/publications/bulletins/bulletins_2011/bulletin_04_2011.cfm)

### Action

The report highlights the importance of operators having:

- Appropriate maintenance practices and established work procedures,
- Relevant & documented maintenance standards; and
- Accurate and complete records of work carried out.

Your attention is drawn to paragraphs 20 and 29 of the report.

The Rail Safety Unit suggests that accredited rail organisations review this alert. The information and risks described should be assessed against your individual operations to ensure that any similar risks are being managed.

Craig Hoey  
Manager – Rail Safety

Rail Safety Unit  
Department of Infrastructure,  
Energy and Resources

