

Rail Industry Safety Notice

14 March 2012

RISN No 2 / 2012

INADEQUATE SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS (TOURIST & HERITAGE RAILWAYS)

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 13 March 2012 into a boiler incident on the Kirklees Light Railway.

While the regulations associated with the operation of boilers is administered through Workplace Standards in Tasmania, the attached report highlights some fundamental principles relating to broader Safety Management Systems required under the *Rail Safety Act 2009*.

The report can be found at the following internet link:

[Rail Accident Investigation: Report 04/2012](http://www.raib.gov.uk/publications/investigation_reports/reports_2012/report042012.cfm)

(http://www.raib.gov.uk/publications/investigation_reports/reports_2012/report042012.cfm)

Action

The report highlights:

- Incomplete safety management systems (paragraph 74),
- An absence of risk assessments for the operation of the railway (paragraph 74),
- No details of training and competency assessments of drivers and other safety critical staff (paragraph 69), and
- Emergency management plans not including procedures to be adopted in the event of incidents threatening the integrity of boilers (paragraph 31).

Your attention is also drawn to paragraph 84 “Heritage railway safety management systems” and Appendix D of the report.

Continued →

Rail Safety Unit
Department of Infrastructure,
Energy and Resources



All accredited rail organisations should review this alert (including the RAIB report) and examine how their own safety management systems compare to that described. The information and risks described should be assessed against your individual operations to ensure that any similar risks are being managed.

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