



Safety Alert – Braking system on hand operated trolleys

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Rail Safety Alert No	RSA-2026-0002
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1 Subject

Risk of a load preventing effective braking on Permaquip Type A and Type B trolleys.

2 Issue

On 29 December 2025, two workers loaded a hand operated trolley with materials and components used for track maintenance. The load was placed in a position next to the brake pin/handle. When the trolley was in motion, the operator could not fully apply the brakes due to the load obstructing the pin/handle that activates the brakes.

These trolleys are distributed in Australia by Melville Equipment Corp Pty Ltd.

Melville Equipment has subsequently issued a Safety Alert outlining modifications necessary to ensure the safe operations of these trolley types. The Melville Equipment Safety Alert is attached for information.

3 Action

All Rail Transport Operators are to check if they own or operate any Permaquip Type A or Type B trolleys and to take appropriate action as per the attached Melville Equipment Safety Alert.

This advice is effective immediately

Peter Doggett

Chief Operating Officer



Updated Safety Alert: Critical Brake System Compliance

Subject: Mandatory Safety Requirement: Permaquip Type A & B Trolley Brake Protection

Overview

Following the investigation into the runaway of **TROL040** in December 2025, Melville Equipment, in consultation with **ST-ESI-RS**, is mandating a safety update for all **Permaquip Type A and Type B Trolleys**.

To prevent accidental brake depression caused by load protrusions or improper loading (as outlined in Sections 3, 7.1, and 7.2 of the Operations Manual), all trolleys must now be fitted with an approved braking protection solution.

Mandatory Compliance Timeline – IMPORTANT

Any Type A or Type B Trolley undergoing annual recertification with Melville Equipment Corp must have the specified brake upgrade installed during its scheduled registration.

Units without stated safety enhancements will not pass re-certification.

Approved Safety Solutions

Three pathways are available to ensure your fleet meets the updated safety standards:

1. Melville Equipment Factory Fitment

For customers within reach of our Maryland, NSW facility, Melville Equipment can professionally install our **Engineered Brake Guard**. This solution involves a steel guard installed around the deck edge to shield the brake pin from accidental depression during loading or transit.

2. Remote Customer Self-Installation (Drawing Provided)

For remote customers unable to transport Trolleys back to our facility, Melville Equipment can provide a **detailed engineering drawing, and if required, the guards necessary to complete the upgrade**. This allows your internal maintenance teams to install the brake guard solution on-site while maintaining compliance with the safety specifications.

3. Permaquip Retrofit Braking System

Permaquip has engineered an entirely **new braking solution** that can be retrofitted to existing Type A and Type B Trolleys. This system replaces the legacy mechanism with a design that natively eliminates the risk of external impairment and provides significant ergonomic and safety improvements.

1. **Permaquip OEM recommended solution - Redesigned Braking System:**
An upgraded system from the OEM that eliminates the risk of external impairment through an internal design overhaul. This upgrade also provides enhanced ergonomic benefits, a reduction in multiple residual risks which promotes correct use, a reduction in operator brake release effort and improved operator handling.



2. **MEC Engineered Brake Guard:** A deck-mounted guard designed to surround the brake pin. This physical barrier prevents the pin from being accidentally depressed by shifting loads or during the loading process.

Before



After



Next Steps

1. **Audit your fleet** to identify all Type A and Type B Trolleys requiring updates.
2. **Contact Melville Equipment** to schedule a factory fitment or to request the engineering drawings for self-installation.
3. **Inquire about the Permaquip Retrofit** if you prefer a full mechanical upgrade over the guard solution.

Contact us today on 02 4951 5244 or sales@melville.com.au to ensure your fleet remains compliant for its upcoming annual re-certification.