



OTPR 709

# Using Railway Track Signals

## Applicability

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NSW
SMS

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## Publication Requirement

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Internal Only
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## Document Status

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Issue/Revision #	Effective from
1.0	1 January 2019

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## Introduction

*Railway Track Signals* are used to warn *Rail Traffic Crews*. The number of Railway Track Signal explosions indicates what rail traffic crews *must* do.

Except in *emergencies*, Railway Track Signals must only be used by workers trained in their use.

## Railway Track Signal response table

Number of explosions	Rail traffic crew response
one	Sound one long <i>whistle</i>
	Reduce speed
	Look for any warning signals
two	Sound one long whistle
	Reduce speed to 25km/h
	Be prepared to stop short of obstructions
three	Sound one long whistle
	Stop immediately

## Placing Railway Track Signals



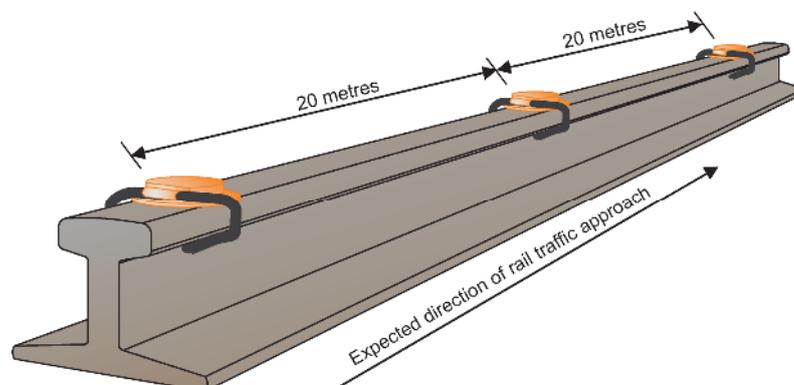
Except in emergencies, do not place Railway Track Signals on tracks that are:

- in steep-sided cuttings, or
- within 20m of workers, or a passenger *platform*.

### Competent Worker

1. Place Railway Track Signals on the right-hand rail in the expected running direction of rail traffic.
2. If using more than one Railway Track Signal, place the Railway Track Signals 20m apart.
3. Railway Track Signals must not be located within 20m of the *Handsignaller's* position.
4. If Railway Track Signals are to be used at a fixed signal, place the Railway Track Signals on the departure side of the signal, the first Railway Track Signal must be placed 20m beyond the signal.
5. Place Railway Track Signals centrally on the rail head. Face the Railway Track Signal clasps towards the expected direction of *rail traffic* approach.
6. Bend the clasps around the rail head.

Figure OTPR 709-1



Railway Track Signal placement

## Storing Railway Track Signals

### Competent Worker

1. Return unused Railway Track Signals to their plastic containers.
2. Keep packed Railway Track Signals in a secured place.
3. Keep the door of the storage location locked when the location is unattended.



## Dealing with failed Railway Track Signals

If Railway Track Signals do not explode when run over by rail traffic:

- leave failed Railway Track Signals on the rail, and
- report the failure immediately to a supervisor, and
- if necessary, fix new Railway Track Signals on the rail head.

### Effective Date

1 January 2019