

Undertake routine maintenance of the permanent way

Overview

This standard is about undertaking routine maintenance to the permanent way using manual tools and equipment.

You will be required to undertake routine maintenance using manual tools and equipment. These tasks are undertaken regularly and frequently, usually under the guidance and direction of a track supervisor, charge hand[SN1] or team leader.

The level and extent of responsibility includes both your own safety and that of work colleagues. Where necessary, authorisation must be obtained before work is carried out. You will be expected to work within your organisation's procedures and also within the limits of your own responsibility.

The assets or equipment to be maintained will be aspects of the track and its associated infrastructure. It could include the maintenance requirements for plain line, switches, drains and vegetation.

The types of maintenance activities involved will follow set procedures and must take account of track access limitations.

During this work, you must take account of the relevant worksite operational requirements, procedures and safe working practices as they apply to you.

Your underpinning knowledge will provide a good understanding of your work and will provide an informed approach to applying problem-solving techniques and procedures to carry out maintenance of the permanent way.

You will comply with any organisational procedures, and legislative or regulatory health, safety and environmental requirements applicable for the maintenance of the permanent way.

This standard is for all track operatives carrying out permanent way engineering activities.

Performance criteria

You must be able to:

- P1 maintain safe working practices and comply with all relevant health and safety regulations, directives, and guidelines
- P2 identify any necessary changes to safety requirements upon site arrival and report to the relevant person(s) without delay
- P3 source and follow the appropriate schedules, diagrams and related specifications for the work being carried out as approved by your organisation
- P4 follow the relevant maintenance schedules to carry out the required work
- P5 carry out the maintenance activities within the limits of your own authority
- P6 carry out the maintenance activities in the specified sequence and in an agreed timescale
- P7 report any instances where the maintenance activities cannot be fully met or where there are identified defects outside the planned schedule
- P8 take responsibility for the care and use of the resources within the limits of your own authority
- P9 prepare appropriate documentation to update on progress and report completion of activities in line with your organisation's procedures
- P10 address problems within your control and report unresolved issues

Knowledge and understanding

You need to know and understand:

K1 the relevant health and safety regulations, directives, guidelines, and safe working practices and procedures defined by your organisation, as appropriate to the activity and your working area

K2 your responsibilities in respect of health, safety and environment, including the limits of your personal responsibility, your legal responsibility for your own health and safety and the health and safety of others

K3 the importance of wearing protective clothing and other appropriate type of safety equipment (PPE) and where to obtain it from

K4 the hazards associated with working on permanent way infrastructure

K5 how to locate and safely access the site

K6 how to source and follow schedules, diagrams and specifications relevant to your role, as approved by your organisation

K7 the types of maintenance activities that could occur including:

K7.1 tightening bolts, nuts and screws to specific requirements

K7.2 filling and replenishing lubricators

K7.3 cleaning out ditches, drains and catch pits using hand tools

K7.4 fixing, fitting or refitting pads, insulators, rail fastenings, fishplates and bolts

K7.5 applying lubricants - to points, rails, fishplates, and slide chairs

K7.6 cutting back/clearing vegetation

K7.7 removing and disposing of waste material

K7.8 ensuring ballast profiling

K8 how to identify and confirm the assets, equipment or components to be maintained

K9 basic track geometry

K10 the methods, techniques and procedures for maintenance of the permanent way, including:

K10.1 method statements

K10.2 hot weather restrictions

K10.3 extreme weather plans

K10.4 track work instructions

K10.5 task risk control sheets

K11 your organisation's procedures and systems for the recording and documentation of work carried out

K12 your organisation's procedures for component and equipment care and control

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K13 the implications of not following the policies and procedures for the care and control of components and equipment

K14 how to check the maintenance activity to ensure compliance with the original specification

K15 the relevant data management processes and technologies for recording information

K16 the relevant reporting lines, timeframes and procedures as approved by your organisation

K17 the likely impact of your work on the operations of other departments and the impact of their work for you

K18 the limits of your own authority and responsibility and those of others involved

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