



Briefing note

Documents for project 09/060

New and revised documents

Document number	Document title	Issue
RIS-3701-TOM	Rail Industry Standard for a Confidential Reporting System for Rail Staff	1

Documents to be withdrawn

Document number	Document title	Issue
GE/RT8033	National Confidential Safety Reporting System	1

Issue date (RIS-3701-TOM) and withdrawal date (GE/RT8033): 05 June 2010

GE/RT8033 ceases to be in force: 04 September 2010

Background

The Strategy for Standards Management (SMM) requires all Railway Group Standards to be reviewed to determine whether the measures within them should remain as mandatory national standards. GE/RT8033 National Confidential Safety Reporting System was found to be out of scope of the criteria for mandatory documents. In addition, some of its content was found to be outdated and no longer in line with the current organisational structure and functioning of CIRAS.

Nevertheless, the benefits accrued to date from the reporting of potentially unsafe practices, procedures, situations or incidents indicate an industry need and benefit to subscribe to a confidential reporting system such as CIRAS, albeit not via a mandatory document. As a result of this, a proposal was generated to withdraw GE/RT8033 National Confidential Safety Reporting System and replace it with a Rail Industry Standard (RIS), which is a non-mandatory document that a group of members of RSSB has requested RSSB to produce and which that group has agreed to work to.

Scope

RIS-3701-TOM provides a voluntary standard for the basic requirements of a confidential reporting system appropriate for rail staff. It outlines areas in which infrastructure managers and railway undertakings might act to publicise the availability of a confidential reporting system to all their rail staff, resource investigation, and co-operate to respond to reports.

Key changes

RIS-3701-TOM was written based on the principles found in GE/RT8033, in recognition that while CIRAS can no longer be mandated as the sole confidential reporting system for the rail industry, it provides a model for alternative systems.

Compliance requirements

GE/RT8033 will be withdrawn in 05 June 2010 and will cease to be in force in 04 September 2010.



Briefing note

The new document, RIS-3701-TOM, is scheduled for publication in June 2010.

Rail Industry Standards (RIS) are not mandatory unless or until a duty holder specifies all or part of them in company procedures or contract conditions. Where this is the case, the duty holder will specify the nature and extent of application. Specific compliance requirements and dates have therefore not been specified for RIS-3701-TOM since these will be the subject of the internal procedures or contract conditions of the companies which choose to adopt this standard.

Impact of proposed changes to National Technical Rules (NTRs)

None. The above documents are not NTRs.

Impact of proposed changes to National Safety Rules (NSRs)

GE/RT8033 will be removed from the NSR list, as the standard will be withdrawn. The new document, RIS-3701-TOM is not mandatory, hence, it will not be notified as a NSR.

Safety Directive	Sub-system	NSR proposed before changes notified in this Briefing Note		NSR proposed following changes notified in this Briefing Note		Reason for amendment to proposed NSR
		RGS	Clause	RGS	Clause	
5	TOM	GE/RT8033	all			Withdrawal of GE/RT8033.

Deviations and technical notes authorised by RSSB

None.