

Using whistles

Purpose

To prescribe the rules for using whistles in the Country Regional Network (CRN).

Sounding whistles

Whistles must be used to:

- give audible warning or alarm
- acknowledge handsignals

Rail traffic whistles must be sounded:

- if rail traffic explodes Railway Track Signals on the track
- as necessary for safety

Rail traffic whistles must be sounded during approach to:

- level crossings
- shunting movements on adjacent tracks
- crossing or passing movements at sidings and loops
- people or animals on or near the track
- WHISTLE signs
- unless instructed otherwise by signs, tunnel entrances and exits.

Whistle codes

If other warning methods are not available, Rail Traffic Crew are to sound the following whistle codes.

Code	Meaning
● ● ● ●	When sounded continuously, stop immediately.
● ● ●	Rail traffic is about to be propelled

Defective whistles

If all whistles on the leading end of the leading motive power unit become defective during travel, the Rail Traffic Crew must:

- tell the Network Control Officer, and
- if possible, remedy the defect.

Rail traffic with defective whistles that cannot be remedied may continue to travel only to the first suitable location for repair or replacement of the whistle.

Using whistles

Defective whistles cont.

If the whistle cannot be repaired or replaced, the motive power unit must be:

- re-marshalled at the first suitable location, or
- worked out of service promptly.

Rail traffic without a working whistle must travel at restricted speed until:

- the whistle is repaired or replaced, or
- the motive power unit is re-marshalled.

Using headlights instead of whistles

If the whistle has failed, Rail Traffic Crew must flash the headlight of the leading motive power unit to give visible warning during approach to:

- level crossings
- people or animals on or near the track
- other potentially hazardous conditions.

Responding to headlight and whistle failure

Rail traffic with neither a working headlight nor a working whistle must not exceed 25km/h:

- over level crossings
- through tunnels and cuttings
- past platforms
- in conditions of low visibility.

Level crossings

If a level crossing is not fitted with Type F warning equipment, the Rail Traffic Crew of a leading motive power unit with neither a working headlight nor a working whistle must:

- be prepared to stop rail traffic short of the crossing, and
- travel over the crossing only if it is clear, and if road and pedestrian traffic has been stopped.

JHR Network Procedures

Nil

Effective date

October 2019