



death
by health & safety



CORPORATE INSIGHT 2006

Review of ideal distance between running rails

Death by Health and Safety (DBHS) has published research into the ideal distance between running rails.

Recent accident inquiries show that 'rail spread' can cause train derailments, emphasising the importance of retaining trains on the rails as long as reasonably practical to ensure maximum passenger comfort.

The research team also discovered that 'salmon spread' is a nourishing lunchtime treat but tends to be more expensive than potted meat.

The aim of the research, carried out for DBHS by Muniferol Drope Ltd, was to assess the impact of European legislation which requires all measurements to be given using the metric system rather than traditional UK imperial lengths.



The standard railway gauge is 4 feet 8½ inches, which equates to 143.5 centimetres. DBHS human factors experts felt that this measurement would be too difficult for maintenance and renewals staff to remember. Following discussions with the Brunel Foundation of Bristol, the research team has recommended that a rolling programme of track replacement is undertaken, with the rails positioned 2.2 metres apart.

The next phase of the research will consider whether it is viable to have just one running rail rather than two, and determine the ideal circumference for a passenger.

Small pamphlet removed from shelf

A copy of London Underground's 'Track Familiar' pamphlet (Issue 2, December 2002) has been removed from a shelf in the corridor linking the fifth floor executive bedrooms with the conference suite.

The Assorted Rules Subject Executive (ARSE) has recently consulted the industry on a proposal by Doris Fudge (fifth floor cleaning supervisor) that management of the pamphlet should be transferred to a Redundant Documentation Receptical.

Following a risk assessment, it was decided that the dust which had built up on the pamphlet over the past three years could cause Doris to expel air forcibly from her mouth and nose in an explosive, spasmodic involuntary action, resulting chiefly from irritation of the nasal mucous membrane.

As a result, a specialist team of contractors equipped with breathing apparatus was brought in to remove the document. It is now safely stored in the bottom drawer of a filing cabinet next to Restroom 167.

Manager sees train from office window

Fred Dineage, Assistant Head of Soft Furnishings, reported seeing a big, red, shiny train from a window on the sixth floor of the north stairwell.

It is thought to be the first train sighted by a DBHS employee since Hilary Quiff (who later retired of ill health) saw the Hogwart's Express at the Odeon in Leicester Square.

An inquiry is underway as to why Fred was in the north stairwell during the mandatory afternoon siesta period. The purpose of the inquiry is not to offend anyone.

2006 edition

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2005 Treacle Wading Wankathon 'a great success'

DBHS's third annual Treacle Wading Wankathon was held in Conference Suite 36 between 14th October and 28th December. Hundreds of delegates from domestic and European railway companies were invited to attend but all had better things to do with their time.



Nine 250-gallon vats of Lyles Golden Syrup were poured into the railway's safety management system during the event, bringing many operations to a complete standstill. This was two vats more than last year when Lyles Black Treacle was used.

Chairperson Hilda Socks said: "The whole event has been a great success. The catering was spectacular - particularly the prawn balls - and I've ballooned by three dress sizes. All the leftovers have been taken home and fed to my pussy."

Planning for next year's event is well underway but the venue will not be confirmed until the Decision Support Unit has determined whether the provision of seating creates a risk of Deep Vein Thrombosis. Delegates may be required to stand. The 2006 Wankathon is likely to include a demonstration of treacle wading by DBHS's gymnastics troop and a communal sleeping area to encourage collective thumb-twiddling.

For further information, please contact **Hilda Socks, Deputy Manager, Corporate Wankathons (Treacle Division)** on **0898 123483** or email **hilda.socks@slumberland.uk.org**.

DBHS recruits team of mime artists

A team of three corporate mime artists has been recruited to produce visual demonstrations of Standards-change proposals. They are pictured below in a scene from DBHS's new presentation - 'Best Practice in Trackworker Communications'.



The team's first engagement will be at the International Swimming Centre in Wootton Bassett on 10th March, showing HRH Princess Euphrates how to apply a T-COD whilst under water.

The mime artists are based on the fourth floor between the piss artists and the Decision Support Unit. For further information, please contact **Crank Handle, Senior Performance Engineer** on **0898 123527** or email **crank.handle@slumberland.uk.org**.

DBHS Staff Spotlight

Kylie Buttox - Dynamic Liaison Supremo



Kylie, who's 25 and from Middlesex, has been with DBHS for three years. She studied for an HND in hairdressing and skincare at the Beirut College of Cosmetic Arts and once saw an episode of 'The Railway Children' on DVD.

Nowadays Kylie works part-time (one hour per week) in DBHS's Dynamic Liaison Division and also stacks shelves at Sainsbury's. Her interests includes sleeping, millinery and bungee jumping. She is unattached.

If you fancy a date with Kylie, please arrange to have your head examined and then contact **Kylie Buttox, Dynamic Liaison Supremo** on **0898 123801** or email **kylie.buttox@slumberland.uk.org**.