

Assistant General Manager
Infrastructure Maintenance
Johannesburg

Reference: S.RTS/I/W.13/27/3/27
Policy Instruction No. IMP/4

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TRACK HELPER (PROTECTION DUTIES)

The following instruction with regard to Clause 2.13.1.2 of the Manual for Track Maintenance (2000) was approved at the IMMM meeting held on the 4th of December 2000 and should be implemented with immediate effect.

1. Three designated persons per depot must be appointed by each Depot Engineer to take responsibility for the training and certification of persons to be used as flagmen. These designated persons shall be the Production Manager (Track) and two Track Inspectors per depot.
2. The *person in charge of the occupation* (taking occupation, placing and controlling the flagmen, declaring the track safe for the passage of trains canceling the occupation and recalling the flagmen, communication with train traffic control with regard occupation matters as well as the issue and control of all flags and detonators) on the work site, must be a competent Spoornet employee reporting to the Depot Engineer.
3. The *flagmen* may be either Spoornet employees or employees of a private contractor. The prerequisites for such persons to qualify to be trained as flagmen shall be basic literacy skills and basic English language ability. The *flagmen* must be officially trained, tested and certificated (Spoornet 407 – Item Number 37/270451 – “Certificate of Competency”) by a designated competent person, before being used on protection duties. This certificate of competency shall remain valid for one (1) year only.
4. The Contractor’s Track Master/Track Inspector must be allowed to take full charge of the contractor’s resources on the work site. An employee/agent appointed by the contractor may in no circumstances act as or be allowed to take on any responsibility as the *person-in-charge-of-the-occupation* (taking occupation, placing and controlling the flagmen, declaring the track safe for the passage of trains, canceling the occupation and recalling the flagmen, communication with train traffic control with regard occupation matters as well as the issue and control of all flags and detonators). This function is restricted to competence Spoornet employees only.