



Description of Event

Vegetation obscuring NRTS cabling meant it was difficult to identify and so could have been struck leading to SRN disruption

Population at Risk

Construction, Maintenance Workers and MoP

Hazardous Activity and Residual Risk Description

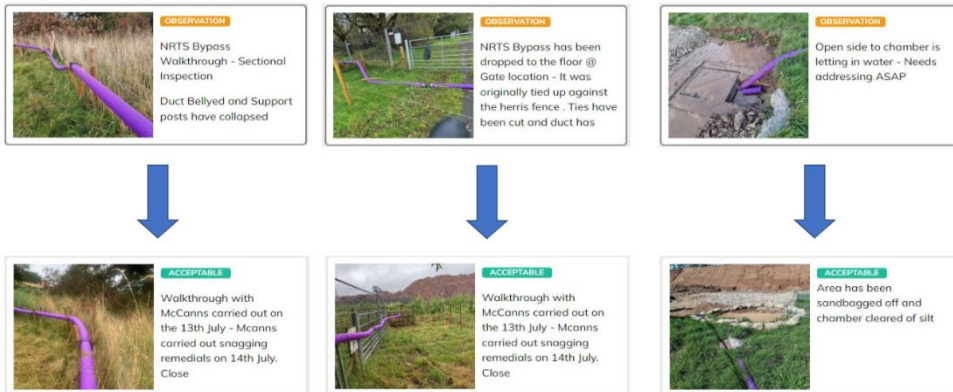
- Failure to provide adequate support and protection to NH NRTS cable network bypass during major construction work could potentially lead to a catastrophic technology communication failure with WHS implications.
- Failings identified included broken supports, vegetation coverage, unsealed chambers allowing water ingress, removal of supports creating greater risk of damage by plant and machinery and open joints allowing access point for vermin which could damage the cables.

Potential consequences of this event

- Failure of the NRTS communication network could lead to electronic message sign and CCTV camera monitoring failings, which would impact on traffic flows and the imposition of lane closures etc., with significant WHS for road users on the SRN and construction and maintenance staff undertaking work.

Safety Hub [Alert Database](#)

Sub-category 2 Service strike with 4 alerts.



Potential Mitigation Measures



Design

- Ensure that the NRTS Team are fully consulted during design development, so that the impacts on the NRTS Network are fully understood and agreements over the location of any NRTS bypass cable work can be agreed in advance prior to the construction phase.
- Ensure details are adequately captured within the CPP and any hazards are set out in the Design Risk Management Schedules.
- Designer to choose appropriate temporary work supports and protection.

Construction

- PC to work with the NRTS team to confirm on-site NRTS cable diversion routes and the protection measures required; and ensure that these are installed in accordance with the agreed specifications.
- PC to ensure that the cable ducting is inspected to an agreed schedule and that any issues identified are immediately rectified or passed back to the NRTS Team for more detailed resolution.
- Capture as installed details on the construction drawings/3D model to ensure that potential clashes during the construction works are minimized.
- Ensure accurate as-built NRTS cable records are captured on the as-built drawings and 3D Asset Information Model and recorded in the H&S File.

Maintenance / Operations

- Ensure reference is made to the NRTS Team, H&S File and NH Asset databases when any intrusive maintenance work are to be undertaken which is likely to impact on the NRTS Network.

Further Guidance and Reading

- [WLD.021](#) - Cables on Strategic Road Network
- [RtB 9](#) – Utility Avoidance



Please send ideas for Whole Life Design safety shares to wellbeing@nationalhighways.co.uk

LEAN													Reduced Defects	Reduced Reportable Accidents
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NRTS BYPASS AT RISK OF FAILURE – Potential for SRN Disruption

WLD.037

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Reduced Defects

Reduced Reportable Accidents