

Confidential Safety Information Reporting Scheme (CSIRS) Return of Safeworking Certification

The issue

The Office of Transport Safety Investigations (OTSI) received a report that a contract Protection Officer involved in an incident was given preferential treatment regarding the return of their safeworking certification. The report made an assertion that the rail infrastructure manager returned the safeworking certification without undertaking the requisite investigation and showed preferential treatment to the company which employed the worker.

OTSI action

OTSI provided the report to the rail infrastructure manager concerned in the form of a CSIRS Safety Notification and requested that an investigation into the matter be undertaken.

Operator response

The rail infrastructure manager provided a report to OTSI in relation to the matter and indicated that the return of the safeworking certification to the Protection Officer was undertaken in accordance with the relevant standard. The rail infrastructure manager also reported that there was no indication of preferential treatment shown to the company involved that employed the worker.

The rail infrastructure manager advised that the process used for the return of safeworking certifications was subject to review in order to make improvements to the system.

Conclusion

OTSI is satisfied with the response provided by the rail infrastructure manager and has advised the reporter. The matter is now closed but OTSI will follow up with the rail infrastructure manager in relation to the proposed system improvements.

The Confidential Safety Information Reporting Scheme (CSIRS) operates under the provisions of Section 46E of the Passenger Transport Act 1990. It is a voluntary, confidential and non-punitive scheme that enables employees in the public passenger transport sectors of the rail, bus and ferry industries to report safety matters.

OTSI provides feedback to each reporter on the investigation outcomes of a CSIRS report. In selected matters that have significant operational safety matters, OTSI also publishes a CSIRS Outcome Report. For more information on CSIRS, go to otsi.nsw.gov.au.