



No **COP0043**  
Issue 1  
Date Apr 2019  
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**M&EE Networking Group Code of Practice for  
Hydraulic Hose In-use Repair**

## Document revision history

Issue	Date	Reason for change
1	Apr 2019	First issue

## Background

A sub-group of the M&EE Networking Group have looked at the use and failures of hydraulic hoses on track machines and provide guidance as a result. The M&EE Networking Group recommend this COP as good practice for the industry.

M&EE COP are produced for the benefit of any industry partner who wishes to follow the good practice on any railway infrastructure. Where an infrastructure manager has mandated their own comparable requirements, the more onerous requirements should be followed as a minimum for work on their managed infrastructure.

The M&EE Networking Group makes no warranties, express or implied, that compliance with this document is sufficient on its own to ensure safe systems of work or operation. Users are reminded of their own duties under health and safety legislation.

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## Sign off

The M&EE Networking Group agreed and signed off this Code of Practice on 17 April 2019 and published on 1 June 2019.

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## Purpose

This Code of Practice details the action to be taken following the failure of hydraulic hose(s) on an on-track machine (OTM), (see also COP0039).

## Scope

This Code of Practice concerns all on-track machines currently in use on GB infrastructure.

## **1 Action following hydraulic hose failure**

- 1.1 Except as shown in 1.2, a hydraulic hose which has been used should never be refitted. The condition of the lining is unknown and may be contaminated or aged (by temperature or scoured by high flow rates). Consequently, the security of the end fitting may be compromised. Failed hoses should always be renewed and never be shortened, or new fittings installed.
- 1.2 A new hose which has never contained fluid and never been fitted to a machine can be shortened within 2 years of the date of manufacture as printed on the jacket of the hose.
- 1.3 Do not replace the hose and fittings 'like-for-like' but always check what should be fitted. This is to prevent repeating an error if the wrong specification hose has been fitted previously by mistake.
- 1.4 If there is evidence of damage to the jacket of the hose or bending at the ferrules, then the length and routing of the hose should be reviewed before replacement.
- 1.5 If the hose and fittings have been changed on site by a "24 hour call out contractor" then there is a risk that the hose assembly may not be to the exact specification. If unsure, the replacement hose should be considered sufficient for one shift and the hose renewed again by the correct specification hose and fittings. If this is not reasonably practicable, the hose will require renewal at the earliest opportunity.