RISSB Product Proposal (and Prioritisation)

Primary information	
Type of product being suggested:	Guideline
Title of product being suggested:	Guideline for the categorisation of safeworking breaches
Date of suggestion:	Feb 2019
Reason for suggestion:	In 2018 the railway's cross-industry 'Safeworking Working Group' produced an agreed definition for 'Safeworking', a description of Safeworking breaches and a categorisation system. This Guideline would capture that good work and present it back to rail stakeholders for their use. That will help them in being clear (internally) about which breaches really <u>are</u> 'Safeworking' (eg vs WHS), help miscategorisation of occurrences which will make their internal analyses better, leading to better (risk based) decision making / safety interventions. Consistency across rail companies will also open up opportunities for more cross-industry benchmarking, sharing of data, and learning (eg on control effectiveness).
Railway discipline area:	Operations

Objective:
To promote consistency in definition of Safeworking breaches, and Safeworking breach reporting / analysis. This will benefit RTOs, investigators and ONRSR. It will help RTOs shine a light on those Safeworking priorities so that they can focus their efforts there, and not waste resources in areas that are not priorities; as well as enable greater cross-industry sharing/learning through like-for-like reporting. It will increase the value of investigations reports so that learnings may be more easily applied across the industry. It will help to ensure that ONRSR and Industry and guided by the same safety priorities.

Scope:
This project will start with the outputs of the Cross-Industry Safeworking Group (dovetailed with the ONRSR's 'Reporting Requirements for Notifiable Occurrences' document) as a basis and:

- Define Safeworking
- Describe the spectrum of Safeworkign breaches
- Offer a Categorisation system for Safeworking breaches
- Offer guidance on internal reporting of Safeworking breaches
- Guidance on analysis of Safeworking breaches

Out of scope for the guideline is:

- Anything that doesn't fall within the definition of a Safeworking breach
- WHS
- SPAD categorisation
- How to write a safety case
- Defining SFAIRP

Out of scope for the project is:

- Substantial rework to the definitions and categorisation system that the Safeworking group have devised (i.e. it is not intended that it 'reinvent the wheel')

Hazard identification: *(what safety hazards would the proposed product seek to address)*			
1	Underpins better Safeworking improvements	6	
2	Overcomes skewness in data analysis	7	
3	Not managing risk profile correctly (due to over/under reporting)	8	
4	Inconsistency of reporting between operators	9	
5		10	

Definitions

i A *Guideline* is a set of informative guidance. It is not normative but informative.

A *Code of Practice* is a set of descriptions. It is the "how" one can meet a higher-level requirement (either of a Standard, or a piece of Legislation). It is normative, but by its nature can contain several options about how to achieve compliance with the higher-level requirement. It can also have some informative guidance within it if it is more practical than writing a separate guideline.

A *Standard* is a set of requirements only. It is the "what" must be done to be claim compliance to the standard. It is normative. It can also contain optional and/or supplementary requirements, but they still should be worded as requirements.

Benefits: *(enter wherever applicable in below categories)*
Safety
It is estimated that up to 1/3 of reported Safeworking breaches are either not Safeworking at all, or are overstated due to reporting biases, errors, miscategorisations etc. This is likely to mean there is a lot of attention/effort being focussed on the wrong places, which is diverting attention/effort from the right places.
Consistency and accuracy in understanding Safeworking breaches will drive improved intelligence, which will drive more targeted / effective safety interventions and hence safety improvement.
Interoperability / harmonisation
Consistent use of terminology will support Australia's mobile railway workforce, make training easier, reduce the opportunity for confusion and reduce safety risk.
If industry adopts the same language in Safeworking, and Safeworking breaches, that will unlock the 'whole-industry' benefits (knowledge sharing) described on this form.
It will help ONRSR in regulating the industry and enable more meaningful national trend analysis (e.g. via the annual safety report).
Financial
A safer railway is a more cost-effective railway. Sir Stelios (easyJet founder) - If you think safety is expensive, try having an accident.
There are other indirect financial benefits in improved safety culture, organisational reputation, more efficient regulation.
There may be opportunities for COTS reporting systems.
Environmental
Fewer rail occurrences reduces the opportunity for negative environmental impacts.

Impacts:		
Adoption of the Guideline would require rail companies to change, however the benefit, and efficiencies on refocussing their attentions on those priority Safeworking breaches will outweigh that.		

The potential for significant discussion around the definitions of Safeworking breaches during the project is mitigated by the fact that the Cross-Industry Safeworking Group has already done that work.

This is a key focus area for ONRSR.

Reference / source materials: *(This is very important; it will directly impact the tone/style/flavour of the product. It will also have an impact on the research we undertake and therefore impact timescales/cost. It may also be useful to identify reference / source materials that should be avoided.)*

#	Reference / source material	Available from
1	Safeworking definition from safeworking group	
2	Safeworking breaches from safeworking group	
3	Reporting Requirements for Notifiable Occurrences	ONRSR
4	Other organisations Safeworking policies/procedures	
5	NRSL	Web

Definitions

ii *Interoperability* is the ability of a process, system or a product to work with other process, systems or products (aka compatible systems through managed interfaces).

iii *Harmonisation* - the act of bringing into agreement so as to work effectively together (aka uniformity of systems).