



Dear Fellow Suppliers,

On Jan. 9 2012, a railroad pilot was fatally injured after being struck by our J series specialty rail grinder. We would like to share our equipment upgrades with you, in efforts to help prevent similar industry accidents from occurring. You may want to review whether similar upgrades will make your machines and operations safer. If you have questions or concerns regarding this safety advisory please contact a Loram safety representative.

Sincerely,

**Carl L. Robinson, MHA**  
**Director, Safety & Environment**  
**Loram Maintenance of Way**  
3900 Arrowhead Dr.  
Hamel, MN 55340  
Office: [REDACTED]  
Mobile: [REDACTED]



### Background

On January 9, 2012, a railroad welding foreman was providing EIC duties for a Loram specialty grinder. The foreman secured track authority for the Loram rail grinding crew to enter the main track and begin work. Next, the foreman opened the derail for the rail grinder to enter the main track. After the rail grinder passed the derail, the foreman restored and locked the derail. The foreman noticed a hydraulic leak and alerted the machine operator. The crew evaluated the leak and decided to return the grinder to the yard for repairs. The operator returned to the controls of the grinder and the foreman hand signaled the operator to begin moving the grinder towards the yard. The foreman preceded the movement to unlock and remove the derail when he was struck by the rail grinder and fatally injured.

### Lesson Learned

To reduce the likelihood of and prevent similar incidents from occurring in the future, the following changes were made to the J series machines.

- 1) A fixed position color travel cameras at both ends of the machine. The travel camera field of view (F.O.V.) will overlap the sequence camera F.O.V. An additional monitor was installed at the operator counsel dedicated to the travel cameras.
- 2) An "Alert" horn button that is tied into the machine travel horn circuit in series with the units mounted at the 4 corner ladders.
- 3) A "Machine Stop" button that will give the point person the ability to "kill" the engine at these stations. (Tests have shown 100' stopping distance at 10 MPH and 12 feet at 3 MPH with carriages down.)



### Modifications to Operating Procedures

Loram added a Specialty Grinder section to the operating rule book and require all employees to follow J series operating procedures when working with this specific equipment.

### Additional Resources

For more information about Loram J series safety modification please contact

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**Industry Advisory Distribution List**

**Nordco**

Amy Peterman, Quality Auditor

email: [REDACTED]

**Railworks**

Jeff Rettig, Safety Coordinator

email: [REDACTED]

**Holland Co.**

Christian Jostlein, Safety

email: [REDACTED]

**Delta Rd**

Robin Cedatol, Manager

email: [REDACTED]

**Herzog**

Barb Duane, Risk & Claims Mgr

email: [REDACTED]

**Atlas Railroad**

Robert Slater, Safety Director

email: [REDACTED]

**Progress Rail**

Thad Brooks, Regional Safety Mgr

email: [REDACTED]

**Harsco**

Kathleen Shutt, Safety Mgr

email: [REDACTED]

**Gerogetown Rail Equip**

Jeff Stone, Asst VP. Mechanical & Safety

email: [REDACTED]

**Plasser American**

Ronald Olds, Sales Mgr

email: [REDACTED]

**Knox Kershaw Mfg**

Ricki Patrick, QC & Safety Mgr

email: [REDACTED]