

Standard Category 1

S1604

Vision standard for personnel requiring safety on the track certification

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1 Purpose

- 1.1 The purpose of this Standard is to specify the level of vision required by London Underground for track certification and for safe work on the LU track environment.

2 Scope

- 2.1 This Standard applies to LU and TfL employees and other individuals who :
- a) in the course of normal or emergency work, access the live LU track and/or
 - b) require LU track certification including
 - Protection Master/PWT-TH,
 - LU Individual Working Alone,
 - Depot Track Access
 - Basic Track Awareness and PWT-EH)

Within this document all of the above shall be referred to as “LU track environment workers”.

3 Requirements

3.1 General

- 3.1.1 This standard must be read in conjunction with Category 1 standard S1602 Corporate medical standards for personnel requiring safety on the track certification.

3.2 Vision Standards

3.2.1 General

- 3.2.1.1 Track certification must not be issued to LU track environment workers who suffer from any eye pathology which could affect their own safety, or that of others, when on or about the track. This includes conditions or treatment which could cause sudden impairment/loss of vision or visual fields.
- 3.2.1.2 Use of spectacles (including bifocals and varifocals) and contact lenses is permitted to achieve the corrected vision standard.

3.2.2 All LU track workers

- 3.2.2.1 Corrected vision must be at least 6/9 in one eye and 6/12 in the other, or better.
- 3.2.2.2 Full visual fields are required in both eyes.
- 3.2.2.3 LU Individual Working Alone and Protection Master/PWT-TH must also have normal colour vision.

3.3 Failure to meet the standard – TfL and LU employees only

3.3.1 Where a TfL or LU employee fails to meet the stated vision standard, an individual risk assessment will be considered.

3.3.2 This assessment will be overseen by a senior TfL OH physician.

3.4 Failure to meet the standard – non-TfL or LU employees

3.4.1 Concessions to the standard can be applied for in line with LU Category 1 standard S1641 “Concessions to Standards”. Applications for concessions regarding this standard must include an appropriate risk assessment involving a senior Occupational Health physician.

3.4.2 Concessions can be declined on grounds of safety.

3.5 Vision Assessment for safety on the track certificate

3.5.1 All personnel requiring safety on the track certification must have their vision medically assessed before referral for initial training.

3.5.2 All staff must be assessed as free of any eye pathology that could affect their safety on or about the track.

3.5.3 Visual Fields will be tested by confrontation in the first instance.

3.5.4 Vision assessment shall take place as part of the medical examination carried out by TfL Occupational Health or an approved occupational medical advisory service.

3.5.5 Vision assessment tests shall be performed using a traditional Snellen chart, or a logMAR chart in accordance with the current British Standard.

3.5.6 For LU employees only, the LU Category 5 Standard (S5606 – Colour Vision Standard) applies. For all other personnel colour vision shall be tested using the Ishihara test.

3.6 Conditions applying when track-certificated staff are on or about the track

3.6.1 Use of glasses and contact lenses

The following are permitted to correct vision for all track certification levels and TfL roles that require track access:

- a Spectacles, including bifocals and varifocals;
- b Contact lenses (with the appropriate PPE where required)

Spare spectacles must be carried by wearers of spectacles or contact lenses;

Use of tinted lenses

- c Tinted lenses are permitted for prescription glasses wearers and should be clip-on sunglasses that have been specifically authorised by the Centurion / Employing Managers and obtained via the City University Department of Optometry.

- d Tinted lenses for normal vision users (sunglasses) are only permitted where they have been tested by Occupational Health and specifically authorised for inclusion in the SAP PPE catalogue

4 Responsibilities

- 4.1 Prior to commencement of work, track-certificated staff or staff working in the LU track environment must inform their Employing Manager of any change in circumstances which could affect their vision or safety on the track.
- 4.2 The employing manager or supervisor must not allow an individual to access the track if they have any concern regarding that individuals vision
- 4.3 The employing manager or supervisor must not allow an individual to access the track if they do not have glasses if this is a requirement for meeting the vision standard

5 Person accountable for the document

Name	Job title
Dr Donna Morgans	Occupational Health

6 Definitions

The following topic specific definitions are created:

- a) within London Underground's Glossary of Terms (S1622) (a Category 1 Standard)
- b) from published sources that are clearly identified.

Term	Definition	Source
Track Certification	A process of testing suitability for being on or about the Track	a
CPD Continuous Development Programme	Is the process where LU operational staffs are tested on their detailed knowledge of protection and other operating procedures yearly.	a
Basic Track Awareness	A person certificated by LU to be aware of the need for protection when on the track and must be accompanied, when on the track, by a person certificated to at least Protection Master	a
LU Individual Working Alone	A track accustomed person certificated by LU to have detailed knowledge of protection, so he can provide protection only for himself during traffic hours	a
Depot Track Access	A person that is permanently based in a depot who has detailed knowledge of protection. This means they can provide protection in depots, for themselves	

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	only.	
Protection Master	A person certificated by LU to provide protection for himself and others on or about the track during <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Traffic hours • Engineering hours The Protection Masters Certificate will be endorsed to show traffic hours or engineering hours or both.	a
Protecting Workers on the Track – Engineering Hours	A person certificated by LU to safely manage worksites and provide protection for themselves and others in Engineering Hours.	a
Protecting Workers on the Track – Traffic Hours	A person certificated by LU to safely manage worksites and provide protection for themselves and others in Traffic Hours and depots.	a

7 Abbreviations

The following abbreviations are created:

- a) from within the glossary
- b) from other, identified published sources.

Abbreviation	Definition	Source
CDP	Continuous Development Programme	a
LU	London Underground	a
PWT-TH	Protecting Workers on the Track – Traffic Hours	a
PWT- EH	Protecting Workers on the Track – Engineering hours	a
QUENSH	Quality, Environment, Safety and Health	a

8 Document history

Issue no.	Date	Changes	Author
2-05201-102 R1	Aug 2003	First draft for comments & review	Rob Taylor
R2	Sep 2003	Final draft for comments & review according to the standards change process	Rob Taylor
R3	July 2004	Final version	Mike Stallard
A1	July 2004	Issued for use	Mike Stallard

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1-604 R4	March 2007	Standard number changed; Ownership details updated; Clause 2.2 deleted; 3.1.2 and 3.3.4 change reference to BS number to “the current British Standard”; 3.2.1.2 and 4.2a add “and varifocals”.	Sharon Tidman
R5	June 2007	Use of varifocals added to paragraph 3.2.1.2 and 3.4 (a); Paragraph 4.2 removed and re-numbered as 3.4; Definitions updated to bring them into line with LU Glossary (1-622).	Sharon Tidman
A2	July 2007	Issued for use	Sharon Tidman
A3	November 2011	Renumbered, reformatted using new LU cat 1 standard template and updated to reference the Category 5 S5606 Colour Vision Standard (3.2.2.4, 3.3.5 & 3.4.1.e) as per DRACCT No. 00354	Sharon Tidman
A4	June 2012	Updated to reflect introduction of PWT-EH level of track certification (DRACCT No 01373) and the changing of ATOR to CPD (DRACCT No 01337)	Donna Morgans
A5	November 2012	Clause 3.4.1c is split into two bullet points (C and D) as per DRACCT No. 1493	Donna Morgans
A6	January 2015	Re-drafting following DRACCT 03163	Donna Morgans
A7	March 2015	Revised and updated DRACCT 03163	Donna Morgans

9 References

Document no.	Title or URL
BS 4274-1:2003	Visual acuity test types. Test charts for clinical determination of distance visual acuity
S1601	Management arrangements to assure medical fitness
S1602	Corporate medical standard for personnel requiring safety on the track certification
1-603	Audometric standard for personnel requiring safety on the track certification
S1605	Providers of medical assessments for track certification and other safety critical certification purposes
S5606	Colour Vision Standard – FOR LU ONLY
S1552	Contract QUENSH Conditions