

MEDIA STATEMENT



11 Techno Park Drive
P O Box 335
Kings Meadows Tasmania 7249
T 1300 TASRAIL
F 03 6335 2636
www.tasrail.com.au

22 September 2018

TasRail is planning to lift the first of seven wagons this afternoon as part of intensively-managed recovery operations following yesterday's derailment in Devonport.

The Australian Transport Safety Bureau this morning partially released the site, enabling TasRail to shunt upright and undamaged wagons back into the terminal. These nine wagons are expected to be unloaded within the next 24 hours.

TasRail is continuing to use vac trucks to extract product from the seven wagons remaining on the derailment site as safely as possible to reduce wagon weight so each wagon can be safely lifted by crane. This process is expected to continue throughout today and tonight.

Two cranes remain on standby ready to lift the wagons and locomotive once the extraction work is completed and ATSB releases the site in full. The immediate focus is the four rear wagons that are currently blocking the main line.

TasRail is continuing to work proactively with all investigators on site to determine the cause of the derailment, as well as update customers on the progress of the recovery to minimise disruption to freight services.

TasRail also today confirmed that the use of remote control hand-held technology – utilised by the Company for more than 15 years in loading operations at freight terminals – has been suspended on all Tasmanian freight rail services until the conclusion of the investigations.

TasRail Chief Executive Officer Steven Dietrich yesterday spoke to the two members of the public that were injured and expressed TasRail's concern, and sincere thoughts and wishes for a speedy recovery.

Mr Dietrich again thanked Tasmania Police and all emergency service personnel for their fast and professional response, as well as their cooperation with the TasRail team to safely manage the incident.

He also thanked the Devonport City Council and the local community for their assistance and understanding regarding disruption to traffic flows during the recovery operations.

For more information, please contact:

Sarah Hirst
sarah.hirst@tasrail.com.au

TasRail Communications Manager
0448 906021