PROSECUTION

Summary

DB Cargo (UK) Limited were fined on 9 January 2020 for breaching health and safety legislation. The fine was in relation to the company's failure to manage the risk of trespass at their Bescot Yard site. This failure resulted in an incident in June 2017 where three children entered Bescot Yard Freight Terminal through a pre-existing hole in a fence, close to adjacent playing fields. Two of the children climbed on top of a train, with one suffering 40% burns and life changing injuries, and another sustaining burns to his hand and a broken arm after receiving an electric shock from 25,000-volt overhead line equipment. The third child whilst not physically harmed suffered emotional distress.

Company

DB Cargo (UK) Limited

Breaches involved

Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, section 3(1) contrary to Health & Safety at Work etc. Act 1974, section 33(1)(a)

Date(s) of offence

Between 1st June 2015 and 2nd June 2017

Plea

Guilty

Result

DB Cargo (UK) Limited were convicted of offences under section 3(1) and 33(1)(a) of the Health and

Safety at Work etc. Act 1974

Court

Wolverhampton Magistrates' Court

Sentencing date

9th January 2020

Penalty

£1.2 million

Costs

£27,873.03

Location of offence

Bescot Yard Freight Terminal, Walsall

ORR details

ORR Team

ORR Directorate

Railway Safety Directorate