



# Switchman Training

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## Training Program Outline

### Goal

Trainees will be able to perform switchman duties with limited supervision at the four waterfront sites with rail operations, following safe operating procedures and work practices pertaining to both the rail yard and the rail cars.

### Program Description

This comprehensive training program combines an overview of the industrial waterfront railway with site and commodity specific on-the-job training and written and practical examination to build switchman capability in key competency areas including observing operating rules, following safe work practices, signalling by hand and radio, coupling and uncoupling cars and riding moving equipment.

### Pre-requisites

#### Educational

None

#### Experiential

None

#### Medical

- Pass an eye and hearing examination conducted by a doctor of the trainee's choosing. Candidate must possess adequate colour perception, hearing and visual acuity.



## **Working Conditions**

- Work outside, in all weather conditions, days, afternoons and graveyards.
- High noise levels.
- Standing for long periods.
- Walking on rough ground.
- Climbing ladders.
- Boarding and disembarking moving equipment.
- Exposure to lead and zinc concentrate dust. Note: must be clean shaven to accommodate respirator.

## **Delivery Methods**

Classroom and on-the-job training

## **Training Materials**

Switchman's Training Manual

## **Duration**

Up to 22 days, depending on learner needs

## **Course Specific Information**

After successfully completing the training course, the trainee is required to:

1. Service the switchman rating on a priority basis, for one month, on day shift.
2. Service the switching rating for a minimum of 1 year. (During this first year, this rating is considered provisional.)
3. Be periodically monitored to ensure proficiency