

Federal Railroad Administration  
Office of Safety - Headquarters  
Employee on Duty Fatality Investigation Assignments  
January - October, 2007

1. January 4, 2007-Thursday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Bridgeport, Nebraska  
A 51 year old trackman, working with a ballast support gang, suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
2. January 10, 2007-Wednesday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Lockport, Pennsylvania  
A 57 year old signalman was working to reset the signal wires on a slide fence when he fell approximately six feet to the ground, could not be resuscitated by other employees, and died.
3. January 17, 2007-Wednesday- Long Island Railroad (LIRR), Valley Stream, New York  
A track foreman was killed when he was struck by a passing commuter train while performing duties that involved normal maintenance activities.
4. March 7, 2007-Wednesday- CSX Transportation (CSX), Rocky Mount, North Carolina  
A locomotive engineer, while awaiting a proceed signal, suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
5. March 9, 2007-Friday- CSX Transportation (CSX), Fairfield, Ohio  
A conductor suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.
6. March 12, 2007-Monday- Norfolk Southern (NS), Piketon, Ohio  
A track foreman, in charge of a surfacing crew, was struck and killed by a train passing on an adjacent track.
7. May 3, 2007-Thursday- Amtrak (ATK), Boston, Massachusetts  
A conductor, acting as a flagman for a construction project, died of an apparent heart attack shortly after watching a commuter train strike construction equipment that had moved into a position that fouled the track.
8. May 21, 2007-Monday- Union Pacific (UP), Long Beach, California  
An employee who's duties include assisting the crane operator in the loading of containers onto flat cars fell, for no apparent reason, from the side of a stationary car. He was later pronounced dead by attending paramedics.
9. May 23, 2007-Wednesday- Virginia Railway Express (VRE), Fredericksburg, Virginia  
An ATK assistant conductor contracted by VRE was walking through his commuter train preparing to depart from his initial terminal when he collapsed and died of an apparent heart attack.

10. May 29, 2007-Tuesday- Union Pacific (UP), Cochise, Arizona

A carman and his helper were returning from a job site in a railcar repair truck when the driver apparently lost control, the truck left the highway and subsequently rolled over. As a result, the driver was killed and the helper was hurt.

11. June 10, 2007-Sunday- Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad (IHBR), Hammond, Indiana

A trainman suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

12. July 8, 2007-Sunday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Berry, Arizona

A 37 year old conductor was in the process of setting off 9 cars on the siding at Berry when radio communication ceased. The locomotive engineer stopped, walked back to check on the conductor, and found him pinned under the wheel of a freight car. He was later pronounced dead.

13. July 24, 2007-Tuesday- Amtrak (ATK), Princeton, New Jersey

A bridge & building employee suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

14. July 25, 2007-Wednesday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), St. Paul, Minnesota

A 58-year-old maintenance of way employee suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

15. July 27, 2007-Friday- Canadian National (CN), Fulton, Kentucky

A 46-year-old conductor was a member of a 3 person switching crew that was classifying cars into various tracks in the yard. The trainman was making the final few switching moves and heard the conductor state that he was hurt. The trainman found the conductor between two cars and determined that he had been knocked down and run over by a rail car.

16. August 2, 2007-Thursday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Moorcroft, Wyoming

A maintenance of way employee died when the American diesel electric 60 ton on-track crane he was operating fell over on its side crushing the crane operator.

17. August 10, 2007-Friday- Union Pacific (UP), Ft. Worth, Texas

A 55-year-old carman suffered an apparent heart attack and died while performing his duties.

18. August 25, 2007-Saturday- Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad (IHBR), East Chicago, Indiana

A two person conventional yard switching assignment was shoving a cut of cars into a track and the move was being controlled by the conductor. Radio communication between the conductor and the engineer ceased, the movement was stopped, and the conductor was found by the engineer dead and under the leading wheels of the second leading car of the shove.

19. August 30, 2007-Thursday- BNSF Railway (BNSF), Stockton, California

A Remote Control Operator was riding the leading end of a two car shove move and in control of the move when he struck the side of another car that was fouling the crossover switch he was lined to operate through. As a result, the RCO was killed.

20. October 23, 2007-Tuesday- Union Pacific (UP), Benicia, California

A 59-year-old bridge inspector was struck and killed by a passing train while in the process of locating a track defect on or near the Suisun Bay Bridge.

21. October 27, 2007-Saturday- CSX Transportation (CSX), Russell, Kentucky

A yard foreman was crushed and killed while riding the leading end of a 5 locomotive consist when it passed through a mis-aligned crossover switch and collided with a standing train on an adjacent track.