



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD  
**Investigative Hearing**

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Metrorail train 302 that encountered heavy smoke in the tunnel between the L'Enfant Plaza Station and the Potomac River Bridge on January 12, 2015

<b>GROUP</b>	
<b>EXHIBIT</b>	

Agency / Organization

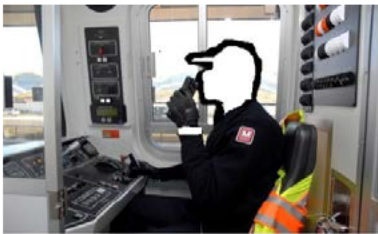
Title



# CLOSE CALL REPORTING... IT WORKS

Report during the months of May to August 2014

Metro and ATU Local 689 take close calls seriously. Metro has approved safety actions to address concerns by L689 employees in RTRA, TIES, and ITNCS who make confidential reports directly to the Bureau of Transportation Statistics.



## Employee Concern: Misinterpretation of Rules

Rule changes have caused confusion and misinterpretation of operating procedures. Of particular concern to employees is the change to the rule stating that a train operator must gain permission from ROCC prior to departing an unmanned terminal.

*Actions:* To ensure that employees are aware of the rule change, RTRA will issue a safety bulletin system-wide to all supervisors and operators stating the following:

- The previous rule “Gain permission from central prior to departing an unmanned terminal” has been removed from the MSRPH and that practice does not need to be followed.
- No change has been made to Rule 3.14 stating "Train Operators shall arrive at and/or depart from yards, terminals, and stations at the scheduled times unless otherwise instructed by ROCC or a Rail Operations Supervisor.”

Responsible party is RTRA, Charles Dzduduch  
Completion Date: 9/30/14

## Employee Concern: Difficulty opening the bulkhead doors on railcars

Employees are having difficulty opening the bulkhead doors on the 2000 and 3000 series railcars, which can potentially cause injury to employees or hinder egress.

*Actions:* An Engineering Request was submitted to CENV Engineering who will propose and test through an Engineering Test Plan (ETP) a solution which includes:

- Surveying the 2K/3K fleet door seal conditions
- Implementing investigations to improve seal reliability and door operation
- Developing and testing door seals using materials suitable to the severities of public transportation

Responsible party is CMNT, James Poe  
Completion Date: 4/30/15

