



March 4, 2016

A 25-year-old Norfolk Southern Terminal Trainmaster, Kyle Liebold, died on February 20, 2016 at approximately 6:10 a.m. (CST). Reports of the accident indicate that Mr. Liebold was in a prone position across the main track moments prior to being struck by a train on a mainline track in New Orleans, Louisiana. Mr. Liebold leaves behind his mother, father and two sisters. Norfolk Southern extends its deepest condolences to Mr. Liebold's family, friends, and co-workers.

Incident Description

While the investigation of this tragic incident is still ongoing, the following information is known:

- Kyle Liebold had been employed with Norfolk Southern for just over one (1) year.
- Prior to the accident, Mr. Liebold had been working his current assignment for 4 months.
- The accident is still being investigated and additional information is not available at this time.

Safety Considerations

Although the cause of this accident is not yet known, safety considerations in this publication should be used to elevate awareness on how to work safely in the railroad environment.

Always pause to identify risks, process the information to choose the safe course of action, and proceed with the task in a safe manner. Listed below are some key exposures and processes.

- Never foul any track unless necessary in the performance of duties, and then only after proper safeguards are in place for protection.
- Before fouling any track, pause and make sure it is safe to do so.
- Appropriate protection is ALWAYS required.
- To avoid the line of fire, be aware of your surroundings, including adjacent track(s).
- Use pause, process, and proceed to identify and mitigate risks associated with fouling a track.
- Follow ALL applicable rules and procedures.
- Job Safety Briefings enhance your safety and the safety of your co-workers. Have a new briefing when the work changes, conditions change, or tasks become confusing.

Questions & Answers for Discussion

How can I minimize risk when fouling a track?

- Remain alert and expect movement at anytime, on any track, in either direction.
- Ensure safeguards are in place before fouling any track. Never stand in front of closely approaching equipment.
- When crossing track(s), always look both ways and apply the 90-Degree Principle, crossing the track(s) at a right angle to maximize the field of vision.
- When working on or near main track(s), communicate with the Train Dispatcher or other person in charge of movement on the track(s).
- When working with others or alone, have a thorough Job Safety Briefing as prescribed in Operating Rule one (1).

What other material is available for review?

OR 1 – Job Safety Briefings

OR 21 – Fouling a Track

OR 22 – Fouling Equipment

Safety and General Conduct Rule 1050 – Working On or About Tracks