

Federal Railroad Administration  
Office of Safety - Headquarters  
Accident/Incident Investigation Assignments  
January - December, 2003

1. January 02, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Union City, Georgia  
A road switcher collided with standing cars while backing on an industrial track.
2. January 02, 2003- Union Pacific Railroad (UP), Towers, Nebraska  
A coal train, operating at 49 mph, derailed 43 cars.
3. January 06, 2003- Southern California Regional Rail Authority (SCAX), Buena Vista, CA  
A highway vehicle was struck by a commuter train at a highway-rail grade crossing.
4. January 14, 2003- Iowa Chicago & Eastern Railroad (ICE), Lawler, Iowa  
A grain train, operating at 27 mph, derailed 21 cars.
5. January 22, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Brownsville, Tennessee  
A freight train, operating at 42 mph, entered a siding at a misaligned hand operated switch and collided with two unattended locomotives.
6. January 25, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Philadelphia, Pennsylvania  
Rear-end collision.
7. February 5, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Silsbee, Texas  
A runaway cut of cars collided with the locomotives that were in pursuit of those cars.
8. February 9, 2003- Canadian National Illinois Central (CNIC), Tamaroa, Illinois  
A mixed freight train, operating at 41 mph, derailed 22 cars. An evacuation was ordered.
9. February 10, 2003- Amtrak/Canadian National Illinois Central (CNIC), Pinckneyville, IL  
An Amtrak train, operating at 60 mph, derailed the ninth head car of the train.
10. February 10, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Montevallo, Alabama  
A freight train, operating at 26 mph, derailed 34 cars.
11. February 11, 2003- Union Pacific (UP) North Dupon, Illinois  
A switch engine collided head-on with a freight train.
12. February 11, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Radford, Virginia  
A coal train, operating at 30 mph, derailed three locomotives and 17 cars.
13. February 13, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Scotts Bluff, Nebraska  
Side collision.
14. February 14, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Farmington, Delaware  
A freight train, operating at 25 mph, derailed six cars. Five cars contained hazardous materials. An evacuation was ordered.
15. February 20, 2003- Canadian National Illinois Central (CNIC), Hobart, Indiana  
A freight train, operating at 60 mph, derailed 35 cars.
16. February 25, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Johnstown, Pennsylvania  
A freight train, operating at 34 mph, derailed 21 cars.

17. February 28, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Blacksburg, Virginia  
A coal train, operating at 26 mph, derailed 33 cars.
18. March 02, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Brush, Colorado  
Rear end collision.
19. March 04, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), New Orleans, Louisiana  
A train departing the yard derailed six cars into a standing train.
20. March 06, 2003- Union Pacific (UP) Akron, Illinois  
A coal train, operating at 46 mph, derailed 48 cars.
21. March 10, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Seattle, Washington  
A freight train, operating at 18 mph, struck the side of an opposing train.
22. March 11, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Ashtabula, Ohio  
A freight train, operating at 7 mph, collided head-on with a standing train.
23. March 13, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Holten, Tennessee  
A freight train, operating at 22 mph, collided head-on with a hi-rail vehicle.
24. March 13, 2003- Kansas City Southern (KCS), Baton Rouge, Louisiana  
A yard train employee was injured during a remote control switching operation.
25. March 18, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Clarendon, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 49 mph, derailed two locomotives and 28 cars.
26. March 21, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), New Castle, Wyoming  
A unit coal train, operating at 50 mph, derailed 35 cars.
27. March 22, 2003- Kansas City Southern (KCS), Kansas City, Missouri  
Side collision.
28. March 28, 2003- Union Pacific (UP) Gering, Nebraska  
A unit coal train, operating at 50 mph, derailed 24 cars.
29. March 29, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Ogles, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 48 mph, derailed 28 cars.
30. March 30, 2003- Canadian National (CN), Bellevue, Michigan  
A unit coal train, operating at 38 mph, derailed 25 cars.
31. April 01, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Surrency, Georgia  
A freight train, operating at 49 mph, derailed 25 cars.
32. April 05, 2003- Canadian Pacific (CP), Red Wing, Minnesota  
A freight train, operating at 40 mph, derailed 29 cars.
33. April 05, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Sheffield, Ohio  
A Sperry Rail detector car, operating at 28 mph, collided with the side of a freight train.
34. April 11, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Olathe, Kansas  
A unit coal train, operating at 47 mph, derailed 27 cars.

35. April 11, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Slaton, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 4 mph, derailed 6 cars resulting in a release of hazardous material and subsequent evacuation.
36. April 15, 2003- Canadian National Illinois Central (CNIC), Jackson, Mississippi  
A freight train, operating at 50 mph, derailed 25 cars.
37. April 15, 2003- Union Pacific (UP) Marlin, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 45 mph, derailed 26 cars.
38. April 15, 2003- Union Pacific (UP) Roseville, California  
A remote control yard switcher made a back-up move through a misaligned switch and derailed one car onto its side. The car struck the lead locomotive on another yard job.
39. May 01, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Lapine, Oregon  
A freight train collided head-on with a hi-rail vehicle.
40. May 02, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Seattle, Washington  
A freight train, operating at 5 mph, struck the rear-end of another train.
41. May 04, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Flomaton, Alabama  
A freight train, operating at 20 mph, struck the rear-end of another train.
42. May 05, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Tarrant, Alabama  
A remote controlled yard switcher collided with the side of another yard switcher.
43. May 06, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Dant, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 19 mph, collided with a hi-rail vehicle.
44. May 05, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Hazard, Nebraska  
A work train collided with the rear end of another train. The resulting derailment struck a third train standing on the adjacent main track.
45. May 06, 2003- Amtrak (ATK)/CSX Transportation (CSX), McIntosh, Georgia  
An Amtrak passenger train, operating at 79 mph, struck a tractor trailer loaded with plywood at a highway/rail grade crossing.
46. May 06, 2003- Union Pacific (UP) Carroll, Iowa  
An westbound auto train, operating at 61 mph, derailed into an eastbound freight train operating at 50 mph on the adjacent main track.
47. May 17, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe ( BNSF), Matfield Green, Kansas  
An eastbound freight train, struck the side of a westbound freight train.
48. May 28, 2003- Amtrak (ATK)/Union Pacific (UP), Dotsero, Colorado  
An Amtrak passenger train, operating at 38 mph, derailed 2 cars.
49. June 02, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Atherton, Indiana  
An Intermodal train, operating at 50 mph, derailed eight cars resulting in an explosion and fire.
50. June 17, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Richwood, Kentucky  
A freight train, operating at 58 mph, struck a vehicle at a highway-rail grade crossing.
51. June 19, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Cumberland, Maryland  
A westbound container train, operating at 28 mph, collided head-on with a freight train operating at 11 mph.

52. June 20, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Minneapolis, Minnesota  
A remote control yard switcher, operating at 9 mph, derailed 42 cars.
53. June 20, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), City of Commerce, California  
Runaway cars rolled out of a siding onto the main track and subsequently derailed.
54. June 21, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Blasdell, New York  
A freight train, operating at 49 mph, derailed 29 cars.
55. July 14, 2003- New Jersey Transit (NJT)/Amtrak (ATK) Secaucus, New Jersey  
A NJT passenger train, operating at 60 mph, derailed three cars.
56. July 28, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF)/ Union Pacific (UP), Bisbee, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 20 mph, collided head-on with a standing train.
57. July 30, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Holland, Michigan  
Four Maintenance-of-Way employees were struck by a ballast regulator while performing track work.
58. July 31, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), Dunsmuir, California  
A freight train, operating at 20 mph, derailed 15 cars.
59. August 14, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), Wallace, Louisiana  
A freight train, operating at 39 mph, derailed 47 cars.
60. September 7, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), Beaumont, California  
A freight train, operating in double track territory, derailed 18 cars which were subsequently struck by a passing train resulting in the passing train derailling 3 locomotives and eight cars.
61. September 8, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), Riner, Wyoming  
A freight train, operating at 41 mph, derailed 27 cars.
62. September 17, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Chriesman, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 13 mph, struck the rear-end of another train.
63. September 18, 2003- Patapsco & Black Rivers (PBR)/Norfolk Southern (NS), Baltimore MD  
A PBR freight train, operating at 7 mph, collided head-on with a standing NS train.
64. October 1, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Udall, Kansas  
A BNSF freight train struck a Hi-Rail vehicle that was sitting on the main track working near an interlocking.
65. October 7, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Leland, North Carolina  
A remote control activated locomotive was working in a yard when it struck another switching movement.
66. October 12, 2003- Metra Commuter Service (Metra), Chicago, Illinois  
Commuter train No. 519 derailed both locomotives and all five cars as it was entering a crossover switch at 49<sup>th</sup> Street.
67. October 18, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Hale Center, Texas  
A freight train, operating at 49 mph, struck a vehicle at a highway crossing at grade. As a result of the collision, three people were killed and three others were injured.
68. November 15, 2003- Union Pacific (UP)/Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Longview, Washington  
A UP Intermodal train, operating at 50 mph, struck the side of a BNSF Intermodal train.

69. November 19, 2003-CSX Transportation (CSX), Opelika, Alabama  
A CSX Hi-Rail vehicle that was operating behind a CSX coal train struck the rear of the train stopped on the main line ahead of them.
70. November 22, 2003- Norfolk Southern (NS), Cordova, Alabama  
A freight train, operating at 18 mph, derailed 23 cars.
71. November 23, 2003- Union Pacific (UP),Dunlap, Illinois  
A freight train, operating at 45 mph, derailed 30 cars. A railroad bridge was destroyed.
72. December 8, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), Los Angeles, California  
An Aurant Yard UP switcher, struck the side of an arriving UP Intermodal train.
73. December 16, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), Sunset Whitney, California  
A freight train, operating at 48 mph, derailed 26 cars.
74. December 18, 2003- CSX Transportation (CSX), Alexandria, Virginia  
A freight train, operating North through Alexandria Interlocking, derailed 20 cars. Passenger train service was disrupted.
75. December 23, 2003- Union Pacific (UP), Bridgeport, Colorado  
A freight train, operating at 33 mph, derailed 32 cars.
76. December 29, 2003- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF), Pauls Valley, Oklahoma  
A Westbound train, traveling at 4 mph, struck the side of an Eastbound train traveling at 14 mph.