



NTSB National Transportation Safety Board

*Office of Railroad, Pipeline and
Hazardous Materials Safety*

ATU Legislative Conference
Washington, DC

Chairman Deborah Hersman

March 15, 2010

NTSB

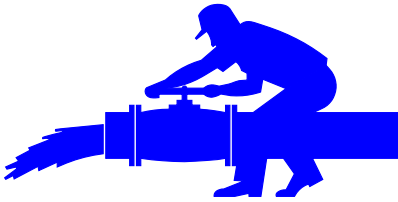
- Independent Federal Agency
- 5-Member Board
 - President appointed, Senate confirmed
- 400 Staff
- Investigates accidents in all modes of transportation
- Determines probable cause
- Issues/Implements recommendations

Safety Recommendations

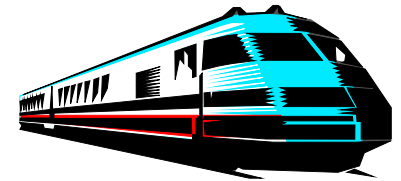
Issued Since 1967

TOTAL = 13,166

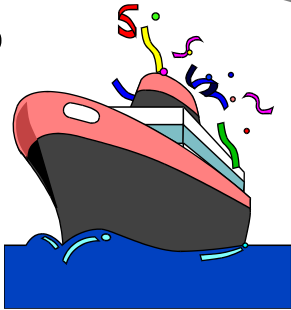
Pipeline 1243 9.44%



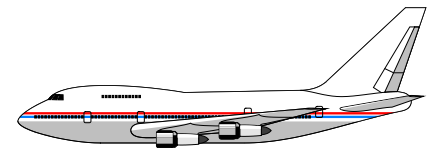
Railroad 2133
16.20%



Marine 2345
17.81%



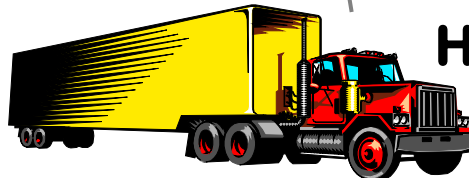
Aviation 5024
38.16%



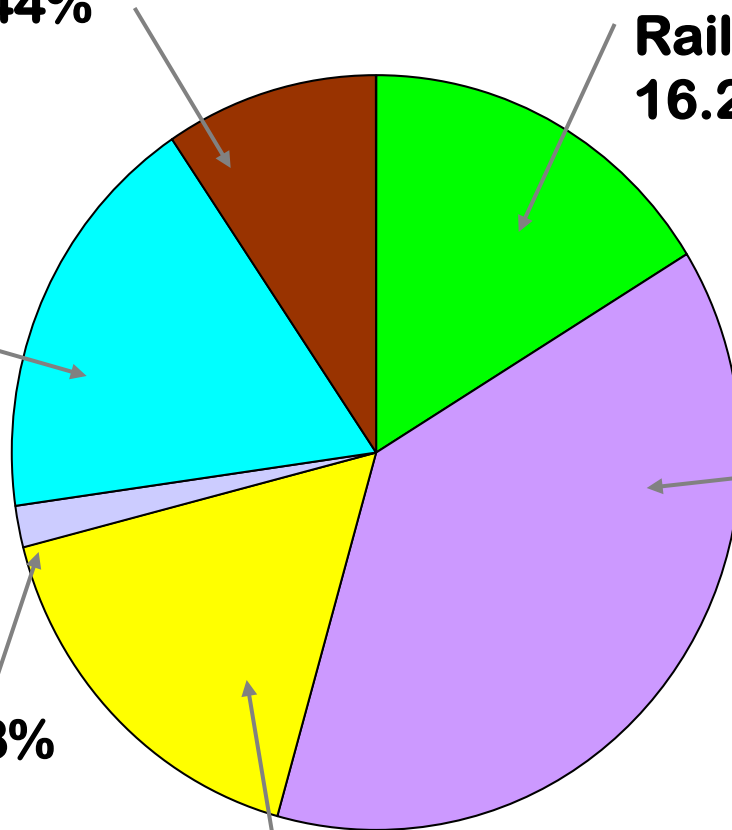
Intermodal 234 1.78%



Highway 2187 16.61%



February 2010



Selection of Rail Accidents

- We launch on about 10 accidents each year
- 13 railroad investigators ~ 2 teams
 - Investigator-In-Charge
 - Signals
 - Operations
 - Track
 - Human Performance
 - Mechanical
 - Hazardous Materials
 - Event Recorders

Selection of Rail Accidents

Safety Issues

- Passenger Trains
- Fatalities (Public/Employee)
- Hazardous Material Releases
- Trends
 - Track
 - Equipment
 - Operation

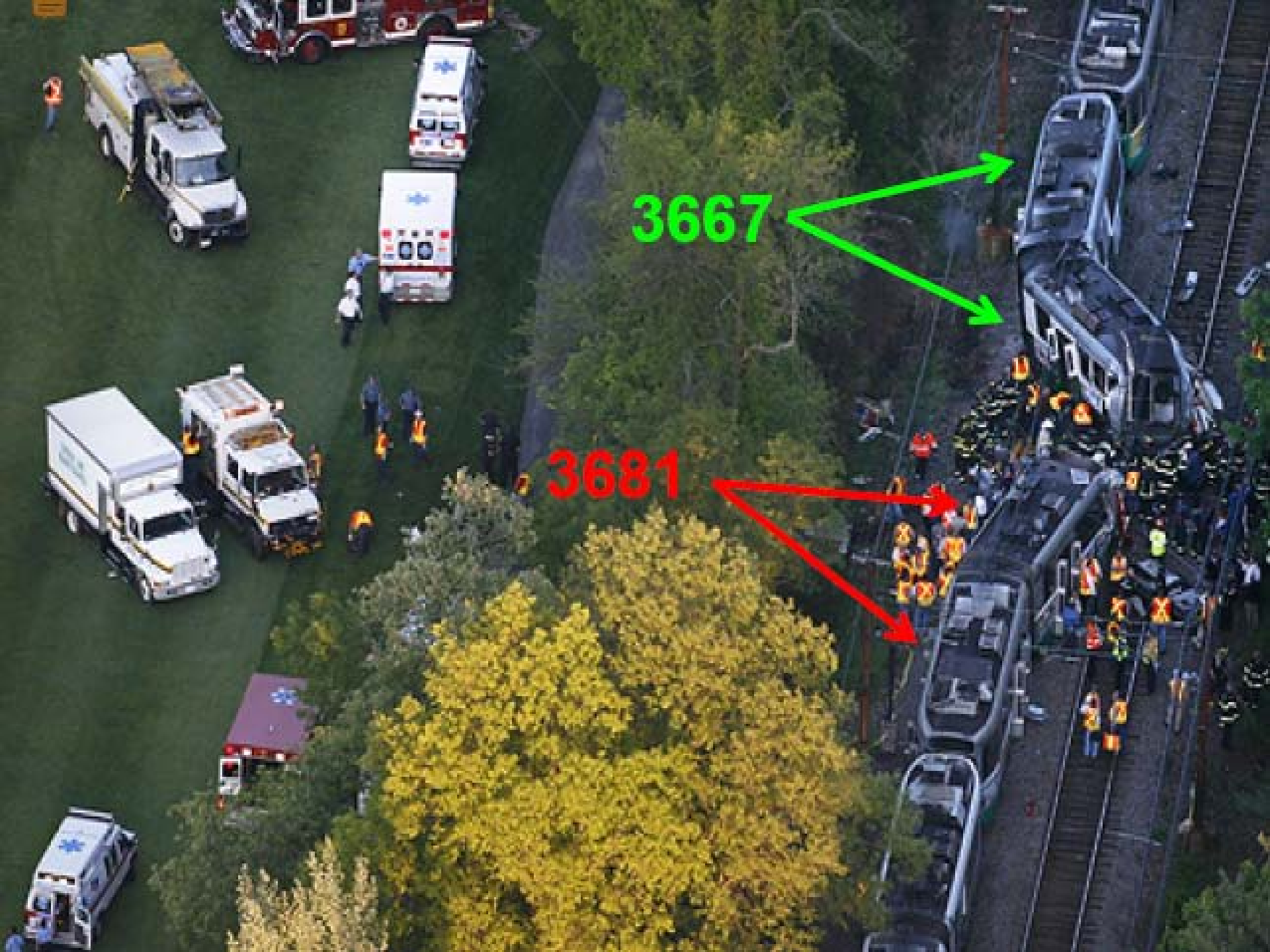
Topics for Discussion

- Completed investigations
- New investigations
- Federal Most Wanted List

Newton, MA

May 28, 2008





3667



3681





Chatsworth, CA

September 12, 2008



Passenger car

Metrolink Locomotive





Engineer's Cell Phone Activity (On Duty)

Weekday	Total Messages Sent	Total Messages Received
Tuesday	19	13
Wednesday	67	59
Thursday	50	42
Total	136	114

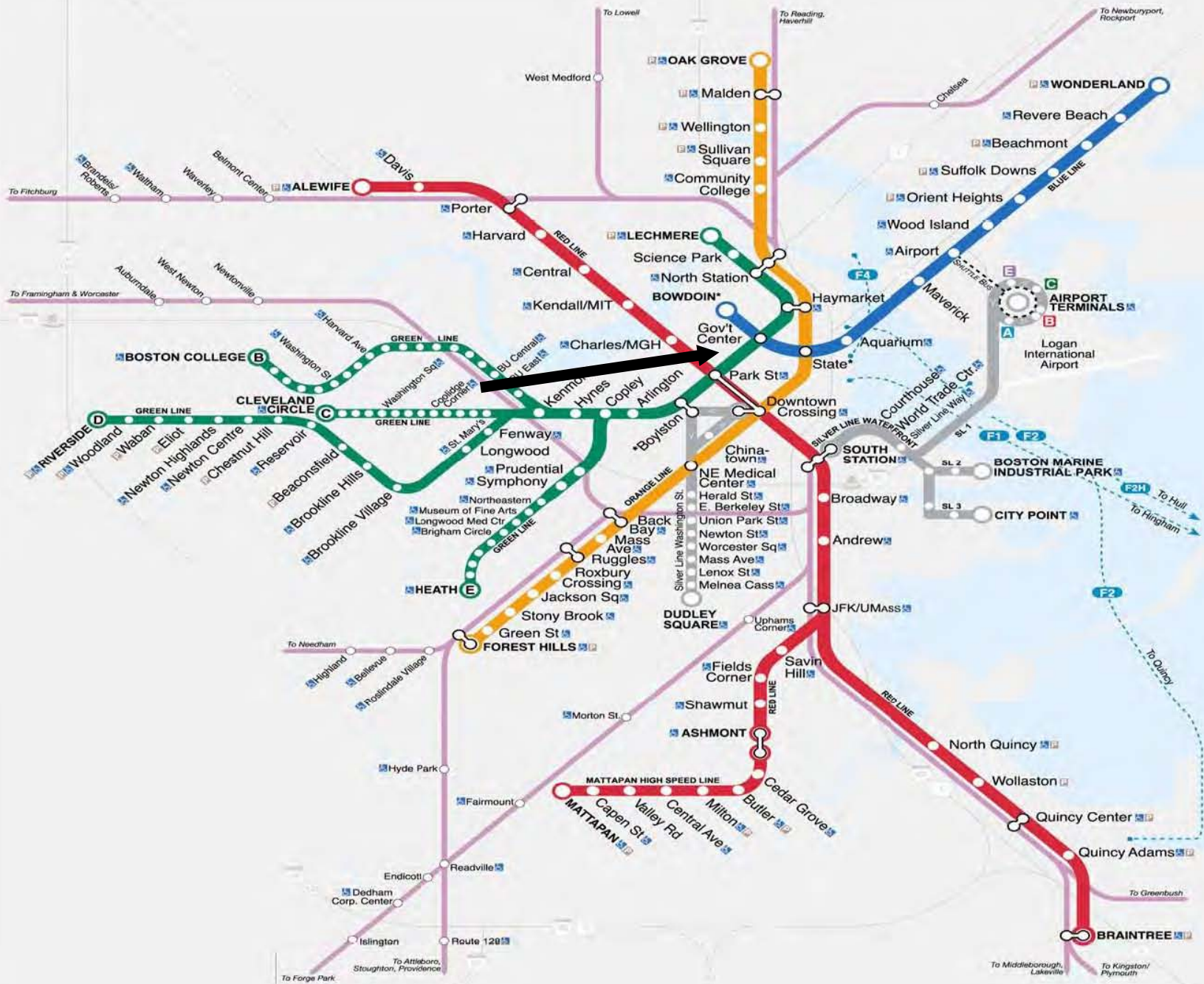
New Investigations

NTSB



Boston, MA
May 8, 2009







3612

3612

UN hidden fee'D

\$50 unlimited nationwide
talk, text & web. Unwired.

boost

Washington, DC

June 22, 2009





TRANSIT POLICE





W2-15
2R-4X
304+33

2002

2002







National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, D.C. 20594

Urgent Safety Recommendation

Date: JUL 13 2009

In reply refer to: R-09-6 (Urgent)

Mr. John B. Catoe, Jr.
General Manager
Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority
600 Fifth Street, NW
Washington, D.C. 20001

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent Federal agency charged by Congress with investigating transportation accidents, determining their probable cause, and making recommendations to prevent similar accidents from occurring. The urgent recommendation in this letter is derived from the NTSB's ongoing investigation of the recent collision between two Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority (WMATA) Metrorail trains on the Red Line near the Fort Totten station in Washington, D.C. The NTSB would appreciate a response from you within 30 days addressing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement our recommendation.

On Monday, June 22, 2009, about 4:58 p.m., eastern daylight time, southbound Metrorail train 112 was travelling in a curve when it struck the rear end of train 214 before reaching the Fort Totten station. Train 214 had stopped before entering the station to wait for another train to leave the platform. The striking train was not equipped with onboard event recorders that would have recorded train speed and other parameters. There was no communication between the train operators and the Metrorail Operations Control Center before the collision. During the collision, the lead car of train 112 telescoped and overrode the rear car of train 214 by about 50 feet. Examination of the track and wreckage indicated that the emergency brake on train 112 was applied before impact. The District of Columbia Fire and Emergency Medical Service reported 9 fatalities and transported about 52 persons to local hospitals. Although the NTSB's investigation is ongoing and no determination of probable cause has been reached, investigators have concerns regarding the safety redundancy of WMATA's train control system, which has prompted issuance of this urgent safety recommendation.

The stopped train, 214, was a 6-car train in passenger service consisting of two 2-car sets of 3000-series transit railcars and one 2-car set of 5000-series transit railcars. The striking train, 112, was a 6-car train in passenger service consisting of three 2-car sets of 1000-series transit railcars. Each train had one operator on board.





Actions needed by States

HIGHWAY

Improve Child Occupant Protection

- Enact State laws requiring booster seats for young children up to age 8.

Enact Primary Seat Belt Enforcement Laws

- Increase number of people who wear seat belts through stronger enforcement laws that don't restrict officers to observing another offense first.

Eliminate Distractions for Young Drivers

- Prohibit use of interactive wireless communications devices by young novice drivers.
- Restrict the number of teen passengers traveling with young novice drivers.
- Enact graduated driver licensing legislation.

Eliminate Hard Core Drinking Driving

- Enact legislation to reduce crashes involving repeat offenders who drink large amounts of alcohol, including:
 - Frequent, statewide sobriety checkpoints.
 - More effective measures (sanctions/treatment) for first time arrests with high blood alcohol concentration and repeat offenders.
 - Zero blood alcohol requirement for those already convicted of driving while intoxicated.
 - Administrative license revocation for refusing to take or failing an evidential test for alcohol.
 - Vehicle sanctions for DWI offenders to separate drinking from driving.
 - Elimination of plea-bargaining DWI offenses and programs that divert offenders and purge offense records.
 - DWI offense records retention for at least 10 years to identify repeat offenders.
 - Special sanction court-based programs such as DWI courts for hard core DWI offenders.

MARINE

Enhance Recreational Boating Safety

- Require mandatory education of boat operators.
- Require use of life jackets by children.



National Transportation Safety Board

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(202) 314-6000 • <http://www.ntsb.gov>

February 2010



NTSB MOST WANTED LIST

Transportation Safety Improvements

2009 - 2010

*Critical changes needed to reduce
transportation accidents and save lives.*

NTSB





NTSB

www.nts.gov