

Railway accident investigation report

Railway operator : Kyushu Railway Company.

Accident type : Level crossing accident.

Date and time : About 16:33, October 3, 2014.

Location : Takanosu level crossing, class three level crossing equipped with road warning device, without automatic barrier machine, located at around 35,613 m from the origin at Jono station, between Buzen-Kawasaki station and Nishi-Soeda station, single track, Hita-Hikosan Line, Kawasaki Town, Tagawa District, Fukuoka Prefecture.

SUMMARY

The running train collided with a pedestrian walking in the class three level crossing road.

The pedestrian was dead by the accident.

PROBABLE CAUSES

It is highly probable that the accident occurred by the collision of the train, which approached to the class three Takanosu level crossing where the road warning device was operating, with a pedestrian entered from right side and was walking in the level crossing road without noticing the approaching train and the whistle, before she went out of the level crossing.

It is highly probable that the pedestrian entered into the level crossing where the alarm of the road warning device was sounding and did not notice the whistle by the train because she was hearing impaired and could not hear the alarm sound and the whistle.

It could not be determined why the pedestrian entered into the level crossing where the red warning lights were blinking, but it is probable that the following situations effected the occurrence of the accident.

1. It was difficult for the pedestrian to see the blinking red warning lights by the narrow field of vision due to the parasol and the broad brimmed hat.
2. The blinking red warning lights were hard to see by the reflection of the sunlight.