

"The accident with fatality caused by the collision of the train and the motorized bicycle occurred in the Class four level crossing"

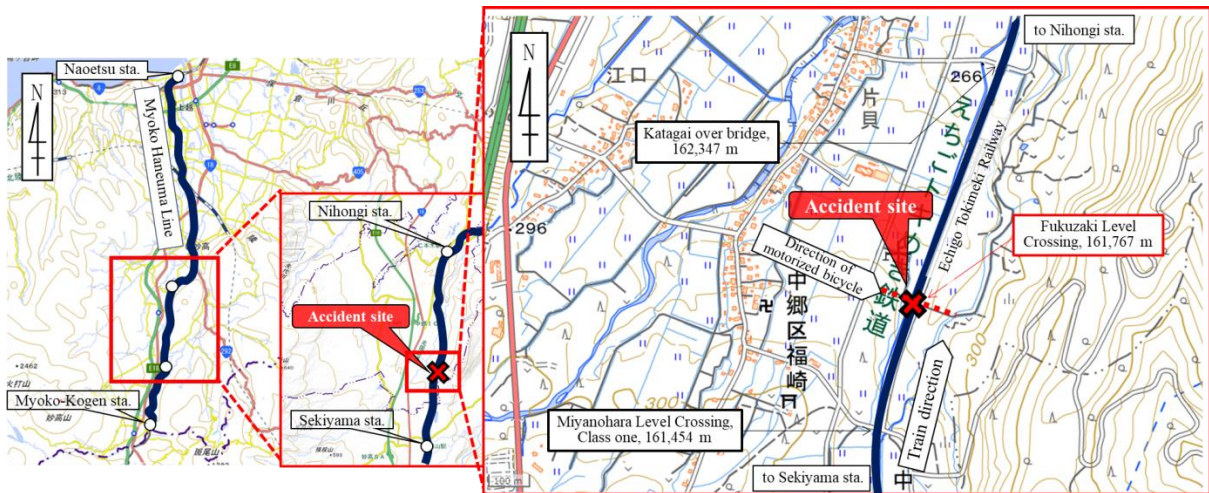
Railway operator : Echigo TOKImeki Railway Company
 Accident type : Level crossing accident
 Date and time : About 15:22, September 27, 2021
 Location : Fukuzaki Level Crossing, Class four level crossing without crossing gate nor road warning device, at around 161,767 m from Takasaki station, between Sekiyama station and Nihongi station, single track, Myoko-Haneuma Line, Joetsu City, Niigata Prefecture

<SUMMARY>

On Monday, September 27, 2021, while the outbound Electric 2357M train, started from Myoko-Kogen station bound for Naoetsu station of Echigo TOKImeki Railway Company, was running between Sekiyama station and Nihongi station at the velocity of about 92 km/h, the driver of the train noticed a motorized bicycle entering Fukuzaki level crossing, Class four level crossing, from left, so that sounded a whistle and applied the emergency brake, but the train collided with the motorized bicycle.

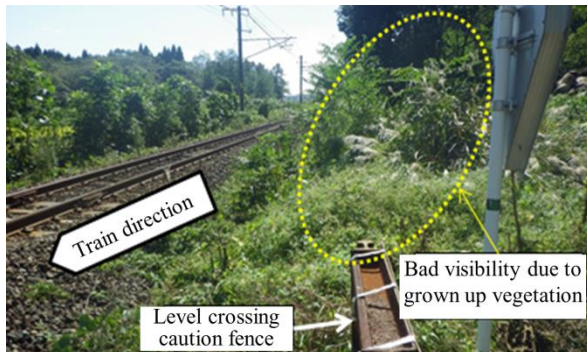
The driver of the motorized bicycle was dead in this accident.

Map of the accident site and periphery

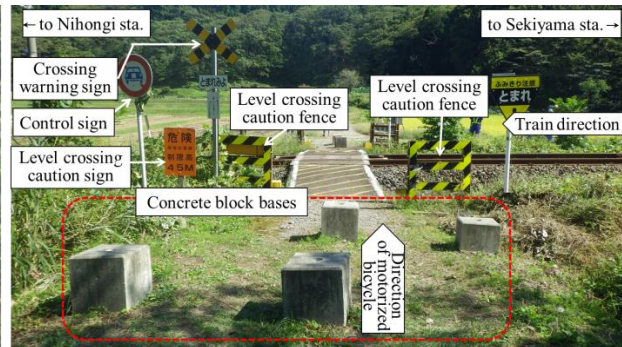


* This figure was made using the Geographical Institute Map "Electrical Country Web" of the Geospatial Information Authority of Japan

Sighted status of trains viewed from the entered side of the motorized bicycle



Status of Fukuzaki Level Crossing



<PROBABLE CAUSES>

It is certain that this accident was caused by the collision of the train and the driver of motorized bicycle, because the driver of the motorized bicycle entered Fukuzaki Level Crossing, which is a Class four level crossing without crossing gate nor road warning device, in the status that the train was approaching.

It could not be revealed the detailed reason why the driver of the motorized bicycle entered the accident level crossing in the status that the train was approaching, because the driver of the motorized bicycle was dead.

<MATTERS EXPECTED TO PREVENT RECURRENCE>

The Class four level crossing where the crossing gate and road warning device are not equipped shall be abolished or install the level crossing protection device. In the Fukuzaki level crossing, the company and Joetsu City had been implemented the discussions for abolishment from three years ago, but could not obtained the consensus-building with the local residents. Therefore, it is expected for the railway operator and the road administrator to promote the activities to try to secure safety such as to gather information from the relevant persons on the factors to hinder the abolishment, etc., of the Class four level crossing, considering the actual situations of the region continuously by cooperating each other without leaving the measures for abolishment to the opposing party.

Details can be obtained by the railway accident investigation report in the home page of the Japan Transport Safety Board, i.e., <http://www.mlit.go.jp/jtsb>