

Railway serious incident investigation report

Railway operator : Tosaden Traffic Co., Ltd.

Incident type : Incorrect management of safety block, the railway serious incident related with the situation that train ran in the main track to operate in the safety section, before the completion of the procedures for safety system, prescribed in Clause 1, Article 2 of the Ordinance on Report on Tramway Accidents, etc.

Date and time : About 09:01, November 17, 2016

Location : At around 5,576 m from the origin at Harimayabashi tram stop, between Asakura tram stop and Yashiro tram stop, single track, Ino Line, Kochi City, Kochi Prefecture

SUMMARY

On November 17, 2016, while the tablet instrument block system had been applied in the single track section between Asakura tram stop and Yashiro tram stop, the driver of the 317 vehicle, composed of one railway vehicle, started from Monju-Dori tram stop bound for Ino tram stop of Tosaden Traffic Co., Ltd., being stopped at Asakura tram stop, received the sign as getting on and off of passengers were completed, from the staff dispatched to Asakura tram stop to control a party of passengers, then started the vehicle from the tram stop at about 09:01.

After that, when the vehicle moved about 85 m, the driver of the vehicle noticed that he had no tablet, then decelerated the vehicle, but he found the 316 vehicle, composed of one railway vehicle, started from Ino tram stop bound for Monju-Dori tram stop, in about 90 m ahead, then he stopped the 317 vehicle.

On the other hand, the driver of the 316 vehicle, while operating between Asakurajinja-Mae tram stop and Asakuraeki-Mae tram stop, noticed the 317 vehicle stopped at about 60 m ahead, then stopped the 316 vehicle at about 5 m before Asakuraeki-Mae tram stop.

There were about 70 passengers and the driver were onboard the 317 vehicle, and about 25 passengers and the driver were onboard the 316 vehicle, but there was no casualty.

PROBABLE CAUSES

It is highly probable that the serious incident had occurred as the 317 vehicle ran in the safety section where the 316 vehicle had existed, because the driver of the 317 vehicle started the vehicle from Asakura tram stop without carrying the tablet, in the single track section between Asakura tram stop and Yashiro tram stop where the tablet instrument block system had been applied.

It is highly probable that the driver started the vehicle without carrying the tablet because he did not confirm to carry tablet and forgot the transferring tablet before starting the vehicle.

It is somewhat likely that the driver started the vehicle without carrying the tablet, because the driver judged simplistically that he could start the vehicle when he received sign of completion of getting on and off of passengers, from the staff to control passengers.

It is probable that these situations were related with that the driver was lacking sense for the company's rule that the driver should start operation of vehicle after confirming that there was no hindrance to start vehicle such as completion of getting on and off of passengers, the safety system, etc.