



National Transportation Safety Board

Washington, DC 20594

Safety Recommendation

Date: October 22, 2014

In reply refer to: R-14-53

Mr. Jim Pauley
President
National Fire Protection Association
1 Batterymarch Park
Quincy, MA 02169

The National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) is an independent federal agency charged by Congress with investigating every civil aviation accident in the United States and significant accidents in other modes of transportation—railroad, highway, marine, and pipeline. The NTSB determines the probable cause of the accidents and issues safety recommendations aimed at preventing future accidents. In addition, the NTSB carries out special studies concerning transportation safety and coordinates the resources of the federal government and other organizations to provide assistance to victims and their family members affected by major transportation disasters. We are providing the following information to urge the National Fire Protection Association to take action on the safety recommendation being issued in this letter.

On October 8, 2014, the NTSB adopted its report concerning the May 28, 2013, accident in which a Mack Granite three-axle roll-off straight truck carrying a load of debris to a recycling center was struck by a freight train at a highway–railroad grade crossing in Rosedale, Maryland.¹ Additional information about this accident and the resulting recommendations may be found in the report of the investigation, which can be accessed at our website, www.nts.gov, under report number NTSB/HAR-14/02.

As a result of this investigation, the NTSB issued 12 new recommendations—to the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA); the Federal Railroad Administration; the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; the Association of American Railroads; the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association; and CSX

¹ See *Highway–Railroad Grade Crossing Collision, Rosedale, Maryland, May 28, 2013*, Highway Accident Report NTSB/HAR-14/02 (Washington, DC: National Transportation Safety Board, 2014).

Transportation Company—including the following recommendation to the National Fire Protection Association:

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Notify your members of the circumstances of the Rosedale, Maryland, crash and advise them of the potential sudden and catastrophic consequences when oxidizing materials are exposed to heat or to combustible or flammable materials.

The NTSB also reiterated two previously issued recommendations to the FMCSA and reclassified two previously issued recommendations to the US Department of Transportation.

This safety recommendation is derived from the NTSB's investigation and is consistent with the evidence we found and the analysis we performed. Acting Chairman HART and Members SUMWALT, ROSEKIND, and WEENER concurred in this recommendation.

The NTSB is vitally interested in this recommendation because it is designed to prevent accidents and save lives. We would appreciate receiving a response from you within 90 days detailing the actions you have taken or intend to take to implement it. When replying, please refer to the safety recommendation by number. We encourage you to submit your response electronically to correspondence@ntsb.gov. If it exceeds 10 megabytes, including attachments, please e-mail us at the same address for instructions. Please do not submit both an electronic copy and a hard copy of the same response.

[Original Signed]

By: Christopher A. Hart
Acting Chairman