

**Case 99. 24-year-old male railroad conductor/switcher on a spur railroad was killed when he was crushed between a derailed railroad car and a stationary concrete column.**

On May 13, 2005, a 24-year-old male railroad conductor/switcher on a spur railroad was killed when he was crushed between a derailed railroad car and a stationary concrete column. He was riding on the side of the railcar. The railcar derailed as a result of a malfunction of a “dog” on the track. The “dog” was in a raised position when the car reached it instead of flat to the track. Had it been in the correct flat position, the railcar would have passed over it. The decedent could not see that the “dog” was raised from where he was riding, holding on to the side of the car. The protruding “dog” caused the railcar to derail and the decedent to be crushed.

MIOSHA issued the following 2 Serious citations:

Serious:

GENERAL PROVISION, PART 1, RULE 001(a).

The employer failed to provide training regarding the operating procedures, hazards and safeguards of the job.

Serious:

GENERAL PROVISION, PART 1, RULE 0026(2).

No visible “Close Clearance” sign was present to indicate close clearance between the railcar and the adjacent fixed object.