

Office: 202-384-1520 • Website: www.wmsc.gov

# Improper Door Operation Columbia Heights, Federal Center SW, and Rhode Island Ave-Brentwood stations November 28, 2023 – January 11, 2024 – February 17, 2024

#### **Document Purpose:**

This WMSC written report on WMATA Metrorail's safety event investigations and review of Metrorail's findings in accordance with the WMSC Program Standard, in conjunction with the attached Metrorail investigation reports that have undergone WMSC staff review and, if necessary, feedback and revision, describes the investigation activities, identifies factors causing or contributing to the safety events, and sets forth ongoing, additional, or upcoming corrective actions and further oversight work (such as inspections and audits) as necessary or appropriate. The WMSC's ongoing oversight during the investigative process, including safety event reporting and verification, participation in investigative interviews, data review, consistent communication with the Metrorail investigations team, and feedback on Metrorail's reports leads to further improvements prior to consideration of the reports by WMSC Commissioners for adoption. The WMSC's safety event investigation oversight assures the sufficiency and thoroughness of Metrorail's investigations. The WMSC Commissioners are considering these documents (the WMSC review and Metrorail's investigation reports) as a unified item for adoption at the Washington Metrorail Safety Commission meeting on September 17, 2024.

WMSC staff recommend adoption of these investigations.

#### **Improper Door Operation**

In 2023, there were 16 improper door operations safety events reported by Metrorail to the WMSC. As of September 1,2024, there have been 13 such events reported, a small increase from the 12 events reported during the same time period last year. Direct causes of improper door operations can include human factors (such as pressing a button to open doors on the wrong side or opening doors when the train is not on the platform) or mechanical defects. Investigations into other 2024 improper door events will be addressed in other reports.

The causes of and contributing factors to the events described in more detail below include:

- Non-compliance with written operational rules and procedures
- Loss of/lack of focus and situational awareness

As a result of these investigations, Metrorail implemented corrective actions including:

 Personnel received refresher training, including on SOP #40 Procedure for Platform Berthing, Station Servicing, and Overruns

#### Safety event summaries:

#### W-0337 - Columbia Heights Station - November 28, 2023 (WMATA ID: E23852)

The Train Operator of a Green Line train traveling toward Greenbelt Station improperly opened all doors on the non-platform side of the train, while offloading customers at Columbia Heights Station due to a mechanical malfunction after reporting a loss of speed commands. The Train operator reported to a Radio Rail Traffic Controller in the Metro Integrated Command and Communications that the train was experiencing speed command and door issues





Office: 202-384-1520 • Website: www.wmsc.gov

intermittently between Naylor Road and Columbia Heights stations. The Rail Traffic Controller instructed the Train Operator to offload riders at Columbia Heights Station after an Office of Car Maintenance Road Mechanic was unable to resolve these issues. The Train Operator correctly opened the platform side doors to allow riders to exit the train, but then incorrectly opened the non-platform side doors as riders were still exiting the train. The doors on the platform side of the platform then closed on their own (uncommanded) as riders were still exiting the train. The Train Operator reported to the Rail Traffic Controller that the non-platform side doors opened and closed uncommanded.

During an investigative interview, the Train Operator stated that they did not activate the Door Open pushbutton on the non-platform side, but that it opened uncommanded. The Operator was removed from service for post-event toxicology testing and the train was removed from service for post-event inspection. The Chief Mechanical Officer's Incident Investigation Team's (CMOR-IIT) report determined that the pushbutton to open the non-platform side door was manually activated by the Train Operator and was not the result of the faults the train was experiencing at the time of the event. However, the zero speed relay fault did cause the doors on the platform side to close uncommanded, as a fail-safe to prevent train movement when train doors are open.

There were no injuries or damage as a result of this event. The train's Zero Speed Relay Module was replaced.

#### W-0338 - Federal Center SW Station - January 11, 2024 (WMATA ID: E24034)

The Train Operator of a Blue Line train improperly opened all doors on the non-platform side of the train at Federal Center SW Station. During an investigative interview following the event, the Operator stated they were rushing through door procedures because it was their last trip of their shift, and did not verify the platform side of the station before inadvertently activating the wrong Door Open pushbutton. Approximately 2 minutes after closing the non-platform side doors, the Train Operator reported the event to a Radio Rail Traffic Controller in the Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center. The Radio Rail Traffic Controller instructed the Train Operator to offload riders from the train and provided permission for the Operator to conduct a ground walkaround inspection to determine whether any passengers or items had fallen to the roadway. The Train Operator confirmed that no one had fallen to the roadway. The Train Operator was instructed to operate the out of service train until it could be intercepted by an Office of Rail Transportation Supervisor, who took over operations at Potomac Ave Station.

The Operator was removed from service for post-event toxicology testing. There were no injuries or damage as a result of this event. The train was removed from service for post-event inspection, which determined there were no mechanical failures and that the doors operated as commanded.

At the time of the event, the Train Operator had been certified in the position for six months. During that time, in addition to this safety event, the Train Operator also overran a station in September 2023 and a red signal in November 2023.

#### W-0339 - Rhode Island Ave-Brentwood Station - February 17, 2024 (WMATA ID: E24133)

A Train Operator servicing Rhode Island Ave-Brentwood Station opened doors on both the platform and non-platform sides of the train and did not report the event to the Metro Integrated Command and Communication Center (MICC) as required by Metrorail policy. The doors that were improperly opened on the non-platform side exposed riders to the risk





Office: 202-384-1520 • Website: www.wmsc.gov

of a steep drop from a high elevated structure. The Train Operator continued on to Dupont Circle Station, where the train was scheduled to end its trip and then go back in service in the opposite direction toward Glenmont Station due to track maintenance. Approximately 40 minutes later the Assistant Operations Manager in the MICC, who received a report that train doors were open while the train was moving, informed the Radio Rail Traffic Controller. The Radio Rail Traffic Controller instructed the Train Operator to stop the train and check the entire consist for an open door. The Train Operator reported that no doors were opened and was instructed to continue to Fort Totten Station, offload riders on the platform and perform a ground walkaround. The Train Operator reported that the roadway was clear. An Office of Rail Transportation Supervisor was dispatched to takeover train operation and to remove the Train Operator from service for post-event toxicology testing. The train was removed from service for post-event inspection. No mechanical issues or damage were found.

Review of data confirmed that the Train Operator opened the doors on the non-platform side, using the manual Door Open pushbutton. The doors remained open for approximately 11 seconds before they were closed by the Train Operator. The event was only discovered due to a rider reporting the event via social media.

During an investigative interview, the Train Operator, with approximately four months of experience as a Train Operator, stated that another Train Operator requested a drop-off at Brentwood Yard, which they had never performed. This requires the Train Operator to stop the train at an employee only platform and allow the employee to use a physical key to open one train door to exit. As they attempted to contact the MICC in regard to the request, they opened doors on the non-platform side of the train and were informed of the error by a security guard, but did not report the event.



# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Department of Safety (SAFE) Office of Safety Investigations (OSI)

## **FINAL REPORT OF INVESTIGATION A&I E23852**

Date of Event:	November 28, 2023
Type of Event:	Improper Door Operation
Incident Time:	20:39 hours
Location:	Columbia Heights Station
Time and How received by SAFE:	20:41 hours/MAC Notification
WMSC Notification Time:	22:01 hours
Responding Safety Officers:	None
Rail Vehicle:	Train ID 515 L3047/46X53/34XL3060/61T
Injuries:	None
Damage:	None
Emergency Responders:	None
SMS I/A Number	20231129#113066

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

# **Columbia Heights Station – Improper Door Operation**

# November 28, 2023

## **Table of Contents**

Abbreviations and Acronyms	3
Executive Summary	4
Incident Site	
Field Sketch/Schematics	
Purpose and Scope	5
Investigative Methods	5
Investigation	6
Chronological Event Timeline	7
Advanced Information Management System (AIMS)	9
The Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Vehicle Monitoring and Diagnosti	
(VMDS)	9
Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)	12
ROCS SPOTS Report	13
Office of Systems Maintenance, Office of Radio Communications (COMR)	13
Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)	13
Interview Findings	14
Train Operator Train ID 515	14
Weather	
Related Rules and Procedures	
Human Factors	
Fatigue	14
Post-Incident Toxicology Testing	15
Findings	
Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence	
Probable Cause StatementProbable Cause	
Recommended Corrective Actions	
Appendices	
Appendix A – Interview Summary	17
Train Operator Train ID 515	17
Appendix B – RTRA Documentation	
Appendix C – CMNT Documentation	
Appendix D – Maximo	
Appendix E – Why-Tree Analysis	21

#### **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

AIMS Advanced Information Management System

ARS Audio Recording System

ATCM Office of Automatic Train Control

ATP Automatic Traction Power

**CCTV** Closed-Circuit Television

**CMNT** Office of Car Maintenance

CMOR-IIT Chief Mechanical Officer – Incident Investigation Team

MICC Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center

MOR Metrorail Operating Rulebook

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Rail Traffic

RTC Controller

RTRA Office of Rail Transportation

SAFE Department of Safety

SMS Safety Measurement System

WMATA Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Washington

WMSC Metrorail Safety Commission

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Department of Safety – Office of Safety Investigations

#### **Executive Summary**

\*Note that all times listed are approximate and may contain minor variations due to differences between systems of record. \*

On Thursday, November 28, 2023, at 20:39 hours, Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) at Columbia Heights Station on track 1 observed the doors on Train ID 515 (L3047/46X53/34XL3060/61T) open on the non-platform side.

Consultation of the Audio Recording System (ARS) determined that the Train Operator stated there was an issue with the doors and the dropping of speed commands between Naylor Road and Columbia Heights Stations, preceding the incident.

An Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT) Road Mechanic boarded Train ID 515 to troubleshoot the issues, attempting to recycle the Automatic Train Control (ATC) circuit breakers at L'Enfant Plaza Station. This did not rectify the issue.

Based on the recommendation of the CMNT Road Mechanic, the Train Operator of Train ID 515 was instructed by the Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center (MICC) to offload all customers at Columbia Heights Station and take Train ID 515 out of service.

The Train Operator of Train ID 515 serviced Columbia Heights Station, made announcements to the customers, and cycled the interior lighting off and on after opening the platform side doors to allow customers to alight.

Train ID 515's non-platform side doors opened while customers alighted the train.

The Train Operator's formal interview, written statement, and recorded radio communications to the MICC confirmed that they believed they did not manually activate the non-platform side doors and that the doors opened uncommanded. The Train Operator further stated the platform side doors closed uncommanded as well.

The Chief Mechanical Officer's Incident Investigation Team's (CMOR-IIT) report determined that the faults the train experienced did not contribute to, nor cause, the non-platform side door activation and that they further established the non-platform door button was pushed.

The CMOR-IIT Report further established that a malfunction with the Zero Speed Relay caused the platform side doors to close, uncommanded as a fail-safe protocol.

The Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA) removed the Train Operator from service for post-incident toxicology testing. The train consist was removed from service for post-incident inspection.

The probable cause of the Improper Door Operation event on November 28, 2023, at Columbia Heights Station was the Train Operator's human factors error in operating the train doors on the non-platform side, exacerbated by the malfunctioning train.

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

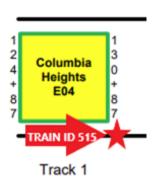
Drafted By: SAFE 705 - 12/05/2023 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 - 12/11/2023 Approved By: SAFE 70 - 12/12/2023

#### **Incident Site**

Columbia Heights Station, Track 1

#### Field Sketch/Schematics

#### Track 2



The above depiction is not to scale.

#### **Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this accident investigation and candid self-evaluation is to collect and analyze available facts, determine the probable cause(s) of the incident, identify contributing factors, and make recommendations to prevent a recurrence.

#### **Investigative Methods**

The investigative methodologies included the following:

- Site assessment through documentation review and video.
- Formal Interviews SAFE interviewed one individual as part of this investigation. The
  interview included persons present at, during, and after the incident, those directly
  involved in the response process, and representatives from the Washington Metrorail
  Safety Commission (WMSC). SAFE interviewed the following individual:
  - Train Operator
- Informal Interviews Collected through conversations with individuals during the investigation to provide background and supporting information. Written statements were reviewed from personnel present during the event.
- Documentation Review A collection of relevant work history information and process documentation contained in Metro systems of record. These records include:
  - Metrorail Safety Rules and Procedures Handbook (MSRPH)
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - Supervisor's Written Statement
  - Train Operator's Written Statement
  - Train Operator's 30-Day Work History
  - Train Operator's Training Records

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

- System Data Recording Review A collection of information contained in Metro Data Recording Systems. This data includes:
  - Advanced Information Management System (AIMS) Playback
  - Audio Recording System (ARS) playback
  - Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)

#### <u>Investigation</u>

On Thursday, November 28, 2023, at 20:07 hours, the Train Operator of Train ID 515 reported losing speed commands to the Radio Rail Traffic Controller (RTC).

At 20:12 hours, the Train Operator requested a permissive block to Congress Heights Station, followed by Anacostia Station. At 20:14 hours, the Radio RTC advised the Train Operator of Train ID 515 that the CMNT Road Mechanic was waiting for them at Waterfront Station to conduct troubleshooting of the train.

At 20:15 hours, the Train Operator requested a permissive block to Navy Yard Station. At 20:19 hours, the Train Operator requested a permissive block to Waterfront Station. At 20:20 hours, the Train Operator requested a permissive block to L'Enfant Plaza Station.

At 20:30 hours, the CMNT Road Mechanic advised the Radio RTC that Train ID 515's ATC circuit breakers had been cycled. At 20:34 hours, the Train Operator requested a permissive block to Columbia Heights Station. At 20:35 hours, the CMNT Road Mechanic advised the Button RTC that Train ID 515 would need to be removed from service.

At 20:37 hours, the Radio RTC advised the Train Operator of Train ID 515 to offload at Columbia Heights Station and requested the CMNT Road Mechanic's assistance in order to offload.

At 20:38 hours, CCTV indicated that Train ID 515 arrived at Columbia Heights Station on Track 1, and the platform-side doors were activated to allow all customers to alight.



Image 1 - Train ID 515 arrived at Columbia Heights Station Track 1 at approximately 20:38 hours, and the platform side doors were activated to service the station.

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

At 20:39 hours, Train ID 515's non-platform side doors could be observed opening after multiple cycles of the interior lights could be observed. The non-platform side doors then closed approximately nine seconds after opening.

At 20:40 hours, the Train Operator of Train ID 515 advised the Radio RTC that the non-platform doors "opened and closed by themselves."



Image 2 - Train ID 515's non-platform side doors can be observed open at 20:39 hours after the interior lights were rapidly turned off and then back on again.

At 20:41 hours, the Train Operator of Train ID 515 advised the Radio RTC that all customers were clear of Train ID 515. At 20:44 hours, the Radio RTC requested the RTRA Supervisor to respond to Columbia Heights Station. At 20:55 hours, the RTRA Supervisor was on the scene and had boarded Train ID 515, now Train ID 715, to take the train to Branch Avenue Rail Yard. By 21:50 hours, Train ID 715 had been laid up at Branch Avenue Rail Yard.

The Office of the Chief Mechanical Officer, Incident Investigation Team (CMOR/IIT) completed a post-incident inspection. It determined that there was a de-energization and re-energization of the Zero Speed Relay before this incident, causing the platform-side doors of the lead two cars to close.

CMOR-IIT affirmed that this did not affect the opening of the non-platform side doors and that these doors were opened with a push button command activated from the Operator's cab.

CMOR-IIT confirmed no issues with the consist other than the above-mentioned Zero Speed Relay incident.

CMNT replaced the Automatic Traction Power (ATP) module (Maximo #18264145), which is believed to be responsible for the Zero Speed Relay energization issue. CMNT reported no further issues with the consist.

The Office of Automatic Train Control (ATCM) advised that the wayside equipment failure was addressed.

#### **Chronological Event Timeline**

A review of ARS playback, i.e., phone and radio communications, revealed the following timeline:

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

Time	Description
20:07:32 hours	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Reported to the Radio RTC that they were
	losing speed commands.
	Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
	[SPOTS puts the Train Operator at Naylor Road Station]
20:12:11 hours	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Requested a permissive block to Congress
	Heights Station and then Anacostia Station.
	Radio RTC: Acknowledged and granted permission. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:14:35 hours	Radio RTC: Advised the Train Operator that CMNT was waiting for them at
	Waterfront Station in order to troubleshoot.
	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:15:52 hours	Radio RTC: Provided a permissive block to Navy Yard Station
	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:19:16 hours	Radio RTC: Provided a permissive block to Waterfront Station
20110110110110	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:20:56 hours	Radio RTC: Provided a permissive block to L'Enfant Plaza Station
20.20.00 110410	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:23:56 hours	Radio RTC: Advised Train ID 515 to remain at Gallery Place Station after a
20.20.00 110010	separate Train Operator reported an emergency.
	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:30:42 hours	CMNT Road Mechanic: Advised the Radio RTC that Train ID 515's ATC
20.00.12 110010	package had been recycled.
	Button RTC: Acknowledged. [Phone, OPS 3]
20:34:50 hours	Radio RTC: Provided a permissive block to Columbia Heights Station
20.04.00 110013	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:35:53 hours	CMNT Road Mechanic: Advised the Button RTC that Train ID 515 would
20.00.00 110013	need to be removed from service.
	Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:37:09 hours	Radio RTC: Advised the Train Operator to offload at Columbia Heights
20.07.00 110013	Station and requested the CMNT Road Mechanic's assistance in order to
	offload.
	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Acknowledged.
	CMNT Road Mechanic: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:38:47 hours	CCTV determined that the Train Operator of Train ID 515 opened the
20.00.47 110013	platform side doors to allow service of the Station.
20:39:15 hours	CCTV determined that the Train Operator of Train ID 515 opened the non-
20.00.10 110013	platform side doors.
20:39:24 hours	CCTV determined that the Train Operator of Train ID 515 closed the non-
20.03.24 110013	platform side doors.
20:40:29 hours	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Advised the Radio RTC that the non-platform
20.40.29 110013	side doors "opened and closed by themselves."
	Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:41:55 hours	Train Operator of Train ID 515: Advised the Radio RTC that all customers
20.41.33 110015	were clear of Train ID 515.
	Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:44:27 hours	Radio RTC: Requested the RTRA Supervisor to respond to Columbia
20.44.27 Hours	Heights Station.
	RTRA Supervisor: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:55:16 hours	RTRA Supervisor: Acknowledged: [Radio, OFS 5]  RTRA Supervisor: Advised the Radio RTC that they were aboard Train ID
20.00. 10 HOUIS	715.
	Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

20:53:43 hours	RTRA Supervisor: Advised the Button RTC of the incident.  Button RTC: Acknowledged and advised them to offload the train and conduct a ground walk-around.  RTRA Supervisor: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
20:56:06 hours	Radio RTC: Dispatched Train ID 715 to Branch Avenue Station.  RTRA Supervisor: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 1]
21:39:00 hours	RTRA Supervisor: Advised the Radio RTC that Train ID 715 was at Branch Avenue Station.  Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]
21:50:50 hours	RTRA Supervisor: Advised the Radio RTC that Train ID 715 was at Branch Avenue Rail Yard.  Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Radio, OPS 3]

Note: Times above may vary from other systems' timelines based on clock settings.

#### Advanced Information Management System (AIMS)

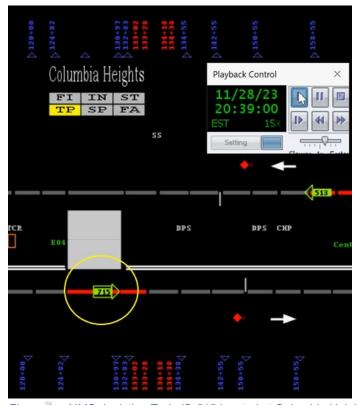


Figure 1 – AIMS depicting Train ID 515 located at Columbia Heights Station at 20:39 hours.

# The Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Vehicle Monitoring and Diagnostic System (VMDS)

Adopted from CMOR IIT report with minor formatting and grammatical edits:

IIT has completed the data analysis retrieved from car 3047, the lead car on Train ID# 515 at the time of this incident.

Based on VMS data, at 20:40:23.104, Train ID 515 stopped at the Columbia Heights station 8th car marker, track #1. The left-side door open pushbutton was activated, the left-side doors opened on the normal side of the platform, and the station was serviced. Then, the Zero Speed Relay was

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

intermittently energized and de-energized. CMNT will require further troubleshooting to assess the root cause of the Zero Speed Relay failure. When this failure occurred all the doors were closed automatically on cars 3047-46 as designed.

The right-side door open pushbutton was activated, and this caused the opposite side of the platform doors to open. After 03.136 seconds, the right-side doors close pushbutton was activated to close the right-side doors. After all right-side doors closed, the left-side door open pushbutton was activated, which caused the doors to open again on the platform side.

The Zero Speed Relay intermittently energized and de-energized, causing the left-side doors to close automatically on cars 3047-46. After the Zero Speed Relay was energized at the station platform, the left-side door open/close pushbuttons were activated, and the lead car 3047 was keyed down at 20:43:00.396.

Door #8 was opened/closed with a crew switch, and at 20:57:53.537, car 3047 was keyed up and started to move at 20:58:16.652.

Based on the VMS data and its analysis, the intermittent Zero Speed Relay signal caused the doors to close (fail-safe design) automatically. This failure was not the cause of the doors opening on the opposite side of the platform.

Time	Description of Events										
20:40:23.104	Train ID515 came to a complete stop at 8-car Marker at Columbia Heights Station, track #1 with car 3047.										
20:40:26.752	Left-side door open pushbutton activated.										
20:40:26.784	DCKR (door closed check relay) signal goes low, indicating Left-side doors opened on the normal side of the platform.										
20:40:31.544 20:40:38.996	Zero Speed Relay intermittently energized and de-energized. Therefore, all doors closed automatically on 3047-46.										
20:40:39.412	Zero Speed signal high.										
20:40:40.656	Right-side door open pushbutton activated on the opposite side of the platform.										
20:40:43.792	Right-side door close pushbutton activated on the opposite side of the platform.										
20:40:52.036	Left-side door open pushbutton activated.										
20:40:57.472 20:41:02.140	Zero Speed Relay intermittently energized and de-energized. Therefore, all doors closed automatically on 3047-46.										
20:41:07.223	Zero Speed relay energized.										
20:41:13.556	Left-side door open pushbutton activated.										

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

20:41:16.336	Left-side door close pushbutton activated.
20:41:24.520	DCKR signal went high, indicating all doors were closed and locked.
20:42:32.745	Mode direction switch turned to Auto Store.
20:43:00.396	Lead car 3047 keyed down.
20:43:11.332	Door #8 opened on Lead car 3047 with the crew switch.
20:43:21.785	Door #8 closed on Lead car 3047 with the crew switch.
20:45:39.672	Door #8 opened on Lead car 3047 with the crew switch.
20:45:59.140	Door #8 closed on Lead car 3047 with the crew switch.
20:51:54.452	Door #8 opened on Lead car 3047 with the crew switch.
20:57:53.537	Lead car 3047 keyed up.
20:57:55.936	Door #8 closed on Lead car 3047 with the crew switch. DCKR signal went high, condition of all doors closed and locked.
20:58:11.856	Mode direction switch turned to MANUAL/FORWARD.
20:58:16.652	Zero Speed signal went low, train started to move.

E23852

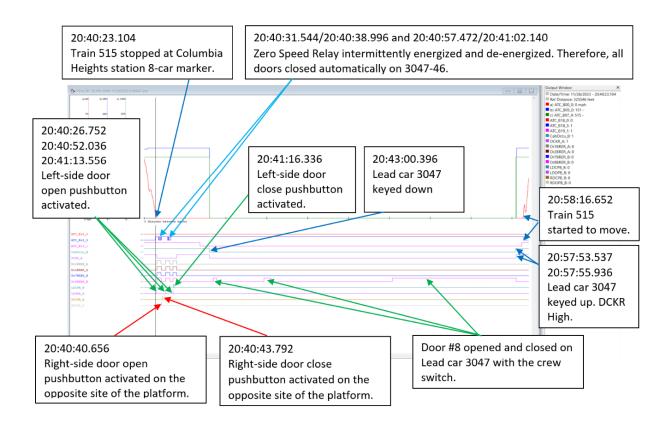


Figure 2 – Braking modes engaged prior to the incident.

Note: Times above may vary from other systems' timelines based on clock settings. Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)

	Time and Incident Chronology for You								
Time	Order of Events Add Row Delete Row								
21:10	Already on the scene from a previous incident. While assisting with the passenger offload, the doors suddenly closed on the platform side and reopen on the non-platform side.								
21:11	The doors then closed on the non-platform side. Doors then reopened on the platform side.								
21:12	Contacted the operator on intercom and let him know what I observed. He stated that the doors closed and opened on their own. I told him he needed to contact ROCC and update them on the situation. Train holding.								
21:30	Train on the move. Exited at L'Enfant Plaza.								

Figure 3 - CMNT Report

E23852

#### **ROCS SPOTS Report**

#### ROCS SPOTS REPORT

based on up-to-the-second operational performance data from the Rail Operations Control System Current date/time: Sun Dec 3 15:49:05 2023 Select Platform: and/or Select ID: Leave blank to remove criteria and/or Select 4-digit car number: 3061 Leave blank to remove criteria Select Date: Nov ▼ 28 ▼ 2023 ▼ Select Times (0-24HRS): From 20:00 ▼ To 21:00 ▼ Generate Report Headway Right Right Left Left Head Tail door open ID Platform length dcode door door dwell door door dwell cars Arrived cleared close open open close 20:07:09 20:07:25 16 20:06:28 20:07:59 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 515 F09-1 515 F08-1 20:10:06 20:10:22 16 20:09:30 20:10:44 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 2:57 515 F07-1 6 44 20:13:20 20:13:37 17 20:11:57 | 20:14:08 | 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 | 3:14 515 F06-1 20:15:56 20:16:16 20 20:15:26 20:16:42 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 2:36 16 44 515 F05-1 6 20:18:35 20:19:30 55 20:18:02 20:19:50 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 2:39 20:20:50 20:21:06 16 515 F04-1 20:20:23 20:21:49 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 2:15 515 F03-1 20:22:51 20:24:38 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 -20:25:52 20:26:05 13 515 F02-1 44 20:25:12 20:26:27 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 5:02 20:27:23 20:28:22 59 20:26:44 20:29:01 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 1:31 515 F01-1 44 515 E01-1 16 20:31:06 20:31:20 14 20:30:33 20:31:39 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 3:43 20:32:31 20:32:44 13 515 E02-1 20:32:01 20:33:11 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 1:25 20:34:08 20:34:21 13 20:33:39 20:35:52 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 1:37 515 E03-1 515 E03-1 44 20:35:55 20:35:57 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 515 E03-1 44 20:36:00 20:36:05 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 515 E03-1 6 44 20:36:11 20:36:13 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047

Figure 4 - Train ID 515 schedule 20:00 - 21:00 hours.

20:39:19 20:39:28 9

92

192

#### Office of Systems Maintenance, Office of Radio Communications (COMR)

20:39:05 20:40:01 56

No communications issues were identified during this incident.

#### Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)

Adopted from RTRA report:

715 E04-1

715 E05-1

At approximately 20:40 hours, Train ID 515 at Columbia Heights Station, track 1 was experiencing intermitting speed commands.

CMNT personnel boarded at L'Enfant Plaza Station and recycled the ATC package due to the intermittent speed command issue.

The train was instructed to offload. During this offloading period, the Train Operator reported that the doors closed on the platform side and opened on the non-platform side.

At approximately 21:00 hours, a ground walk around inspection was completed. Single tracking commenced until the train was removed from revenue service and transported to Branch Avenue Yard.

At approximately 22:40 hours, the Train Operator was transported for post incident testing.

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

Drafted By: SAFE 705 - 12/05/2023 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 - 12/11/2023 Approved By: SAFE 70 - 12/12/2023

20:38:32 20:57:15 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 4:57

20:59:17 21:01:31 3061-3060.3034-3035.3046-3047 -

#### **Interview Findings**

As part of the investigation launched into the event, SAFE interviewed one person. The interview identified the following key findings associated with this event. Findings detailed below include reported information from involved personnel and may conflict with other data sources contained in the report.

#### Train Operator Train ID 515

- The Train Operator stated they were on their second trip operating on the Green Line toward Greenbelt Station. The Train Operator stated they had just relieved a Train Operator at Navy Yard Station whom they had heard over the radio having issues with speed commands and Train ID 515. The Train Operator stated this issue persisted when they took over the operation of Train ID 515.
- The Train Operator stated they then picked up the CMNT Road Mechanic at Waterfront Station, and the Road Mechanic recycled the ATC circuit breakers at L'Enfant Plaza Station. The Train Operator said they continued losing speed commands after the recycle.
- The Train Operator stated the CMNT Road Mechanic recommended to the MICC that Train ID 515 be removed from service. The Train Operator stated that they prepared to offload the train at Columbia Heights Station.
- The Train Operator stated that once on the scene at Columbia Heights Station, they activated the platform side doors that allowed customers to alight Train ID 515. The Train Operator stated they also made announcements for all customers to alight and flashed the interior lights off and on to make it known that Train ID 515 was out of service.
- The Train Operator stated that during this time, the non-platform side doors opened. The Train Operator stated they did not activate the non-platform side doors instead stating they believed the doors activated as a result of the ongoing faults with Train ID 515.
- The Train Operator stated they were not stressed during the incident, and they further stated they did not believe that they accidentally, manually opened the non-platform side doors.
- The Train Operator stated they then relayed the information to the MICC, and an RTRA Supervisor took over the operation of Train ID 515 in order to move it to Branch Avenue Rail Yard.

#### Weather

On November 28, 2023, at the time of the incident, NOAA recorded the temperature as 38°F, with moderate cloud cover, winds averaging 12.6 mph, and 43% average humidity. Weather was not a contributing factor in this incident (Weather source: NOAA) – Location: Washington, DC.

#### **Related Rules and Procedures**

MSRPH SOP #40: Door Operations and Station Servicing Procedures.

#### **Human Factors**

#### Fatigue

Signs and Symptoms of Fatigue

Conditions at the time of the incident were evaluated to distinguish whether evidence of fatigue was present. No video of the incident was reviewed for behaviors suggesting fatigue. The employee reported feeling fully alert at the time of the incident and reported experiencing no symptoms of fatigue in the time leading up to the incident.

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

#### Fatigue Risk

Incident data was evaluated for fatigue risk factors. There were no major risk factors for fatigue identified. The incident time of day (20:39 hours) does not suggest an increased risk of fatigue-related impairment. The employee worked evening shifts (14:50 – 00:40 hours) in the days leading up to the incident. The employee reported 7 hours of sleep in the last sleep period preceding the incident and was awake for 11.65 hours at the time of the incident. The employee was off duty for a total of 14.167 hours, which provided the opportunity for 7-9 hours of sleep. The employee reported usual workday sleep durations of 7 hours and no issues with sleep.

#### Post-Incident Toxicology Testing

WMATA's Drug and Alcohol Program determined that the personnel involved complied with the Drug and Alcohol Policy and Testing Program 7.7.3/6.

## <u>Findings</u>

- Train ID 515 experienced intermittent speed commands between Naylor Road and Columbia Heights Stations.
- The Radio RTC provided permissive blocks for Train ID 515 to continue movement.
- The Road Mechanic boarded Train ID 515 at Waterfront Station and attempted to troubleshoot the problems, and at L'Enfant Plaza Station, the Road Mechanic recycled the ATC circuit breakers but this did not rectify the issue.
- The Road Mechanic advised the MICC that Train ID 515 should be removed from service.
- The Train Operator then commenced offloading at Columbia Heights Station, opening the platform side doors and flashing the interior lights while making announcements.
- The non-platform side doors were opened, and the Train Operator affirmed that they did not open the non-platform side doors at any point during the incident.
- CMOR-IIT's download of Train ID 515 determined a fault with the Zero Speed Relay that closed the platform side doors, uncommanded as a fail-safe.
- CMOR-IIT's report further established that the push button activated the non-platform side doors in the Operator's cabin.

#### **Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence**

- Train Operator Train ID 515 was removed from service post-incident
- Train ID 515 was removed and sent to Branch Avenue Rail Yard for download and analysis.
- CMNT replaced Train ID 515's ATP module, rectifying the Zero Speed Relay issue.

#### **Probable Cause Statement**

The probable cause of the Improper Door Operation event on November 28, 2023, at Columbia Heights Station was the Train Operator's human factors error in operating the train doors on the non-platform side, exacerbated by the malfunctioning train.

#### **Recommended Corrective Actions**

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

Corrective Action Code	Description	Responsible Party	Estimated Completion Date
113066_SAFECA PS_RTRA_001	Retraining of the Train Operator.	RTRA SRC	Completed
113066_SAFECA PS CMNT 001	Repair of Train ID 515 and replacement of the Zero Speed Relay module.	RTRA SRC	Completed

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

#### **Appendices**

## **Appendix A – Interview Summary**

The below narratives summarize the incident and represent the statements made by the involved individual. As such, times and details may present a conflict with the data contained in systems of record.

#### Train Operator Train ID 515

The Train Operator stated that they had been with WMATA for approximately 14 years and had spent 9.5 years' operating trains. The Train Operator stated they currently hold an RWP Level 2 that expires on 08/31/2024.

The Train Operator stated they were on their second trip operating on the Green Line toward Greenbelt Station. The Train Operator stated they had just relieved a Train Operator at Navy Yard Station who they had heard over the radio having issues with speed commands and Train ID 515. The Train Operator stated this issue persisted when they took over the operation of Train ID 515.

The Train Operator stated they then picked up the CMNT Road Mechanic at Waterfront Station, and the Road Mechanic recycled the ATC circuit breakers at L'Enfant Plaza Station. The Train Operator said they continued losing speed commands after the recycle.

The Train Operator stated the CMNT Road Mechanic recommended to the MICC that Train ID 515 be removed from service. The Train Operator stated that they prepared to offload the train at Columbia Heights Station.

The Train Operator stated that once on the scene at Columbia Heights Station, they activated the platform side doors that allowed customers to alight Train ID 515. The Train Operator stated they also made announcements for all customers to alight and flashed the interior lights off and on to make it known that Train ID 515 was at its final stop.

The Train Operator stated that during this time, the non-platform side doors then opened. The Train Operator stated they did not activate the non-platform side doors; instead, they believed the doors were activated due to the ongoing faults with Train ID 515.

The Train Operator stated they were not stressed during the incident, and they further stated they did not believe that they accidentally, manually opened the non-platform side doors.

The Train Operator stated they then conducted a ground walkaround and found nothing out of place.

The Train Operator stated they then relayed the information to the MICC, and an RTRA Supervisor took over the operation of Train ID 515 in order to move it to Branch Avenue Rail Yard.

The Train Operator stated they were then subjected to post-incident drug and alcohol testing.

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

#### Appendix B – RTRA Documentation

		RTRA Sup	pervisors' Re	DEPARTM	DEPARTMENT OF OPERATIONS-RAIL SERVICE			
<b>M</b>		WASHINGTON METR	OPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT A	Offic	Office of Rail Transportation			
Date 11-28-2023		cident Time: 0:40	Incident Locati Columbia Heig	on (Station Mezzanine#) hts		Track/Mezz Track#1	anine#	
Equipment Number (Tra Train#515 LC:3047-3035		r Numbers; Escala	tor/Elevator #,		,			
ncident Description Reportedly doors a	utomatica	lly opened off the p	olatform side					
VMATA Personnel Invol	lved		Employee #	Rule Violation?	Home	Division	Post Incident	
					Branc	h Avenuie	Yes	
							Lina	
lame /a			Address				Injury?	
lame /a			Address				Injury?	
lame a/a			Address				Injury?	
Arrival Time		Unit Number	Person In Charge		Remarks			
t approximately 20:40 l	; Include s	statement of Emplo		lusion speriencing intermitting s automatically closed o				
t approximately 21:00 lervice and transported			inspection was comple	eted. Single tracking con	nmenced until th	e train was remov	ved from revenue	
t approximately 22:40 h	hours, I tra	insported operator	Davis for testing.					
n addition, stated sommands which was p				at L'Enfant Plaza and rec	cycled the ATC p	ackage due to the	intermitting speed	
50.437 09/10		F	REPORT MUST BE FAXED	TO ROCC 301-618-1012 at	end of tour			

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours

Document 1 – RTRA Supervisor's Report Page 1 of 1.

Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

Drafted By: SAFE 705 - 12/05/2023 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 - 12/11/2023 Approved By: SAFE 70 - 12/12/2023

WMATA/RTRA Incident/Accident Incident Information: This page m			) Page of	
Date: Incident Time:		orted: 8:40 pm	Reported by: Customer I	☐ Employee ☐
11-28-23 -9-	20-	A Lorente	ROCC □ Other □	
Location				
Station Mezza		rack #/Destination	Chain Marker/Signal Nur	mber
TYPE OF INCIDENT		1/GEZENBOIT		
☐ Property Damage ☐ Smoke		☐ Fire	☐ Customer Compl	aint
☐ Customer injury ☐ Custome	r Illness C	☐ Employee Injury	☐ Employee Illness	
☐ Criminal Activity ☐ Elevator	Entrapment 6	Rail Vehicle Incident	Other (Explain in	description of incident)
WEATHER	LIGHT CONDITIO	NS (natural lightin	91	ificial lighting)
Clear S Rain	Dawn/Dusk 🗆 Dayli	ight 🗆	Lights On & Lig	hts Off 🗆
Snow  Sleet/Ice	Dark Tunnel/Unde		Lights Not Work	ing 🗆
STATION INCIDENTS: Always incli		mber you use for M		
Elevator/Escalator#:	AFC #:		Room Number/Location:	
Failure Number(s):				
Parking Lot D Paid Area D Free Area D	Garage   Station E	Entrance  Stairway #	Platform And	cillary Room 🗆
Injury/Illness reported aboard Train 🔾 Ott				
Name of Responding Supervisor:	Name/Dep	artment of PLNT/AFC or	other WMATA responder	
TRAIN INCIDENTS				
Train ID Destination		ers(list all cars in consis		
515 GREEN BE	1+			847
Name of Responding Supervisor:	N	ame/Department of CMI	NT/TRST or other WMATA	responder
DESCRIPE THE INCIDENT I I I				
DESCRIBE THE INCIDENT: Include			and who you notified	and when.
Describe any property damage a	nd the extent of any ir	njuries.		
AS I OF LOMED	TRAIN I	D= 515	TRACK"1 0	columbia Heights
I Noticed Team	doors 25	ECYCLE PIN	Iform side	Ry THEMSElvE.
I RE Opened the	docs .	then Notic	ed off Die	official OPEN I
				( )
closed and report	Ed to	CENTRAL.		
Employee Completing Report				
Emplgyee Name: (print)	Employee/	Signature:(sign)	Employee #:	Date: 11- 25 - 23
Division:	Bun d	Block d	Assisted Dave	11-50-53
	Run # 56⊃	Block#	Assigned Days:	
TRANCH AVF	30 '	212	-/3	)
To Be Completed By Reviewing Manager				
Supervisor Name:(print)	Supervisor	Signature	Employee #	Date:
Action taken/needed				
SMS Number:				
50.753A 04/12 White Copy: Division or Supervisor	r Yellow Copy: For any incide	nt involving escalators or elevato	rs; remains in klosk for use of elever	tor/escalator inspectors

Document 2 – Train Operator's Written Statement Page 1 of 1. **Appendix C – CMNT Documentation** 

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852



#### Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

#### CMNT INCIDENT REPORT

Modified Incident	Report	Prepar	red by:			0		
Date of Incident:	11/28/	2023	Time of Incident:	21:10	Department:	CMNT	Division or Section:	ROCC
Train No.:	51	5	Car No(s).:		L 3047/46	6 - 3035/34 -	- 3060/61 T	
Location of Incide	ent:	E04 - C	COLUMBIA HEIGHT	S				
Type of Incident:	Ī	DOOR	S OPEN OFF PLAT	FORM				
					Your Involvement			
			Time a	nd Incident	Chronology for Yo	ou		
Time					Order of Events			te Row
			scene from a previo latform side and reo			the passen	ger offload, the doors	suddenly
21:11	he door	s then	closed on the non-p	latform side.	Doors then reoper	ned on the pl	latform side.	
21:12	contacte pened o	d the c n their	perator on intercom r own. I told him he r	and let him needed to co	know what I observ ntact ROCC and up	red. He state odate them o	ed that the doors close on the situation. Train	ed and holding.
21:30 T	rain on	the mo	ove. Exited at L'Enfa	nt Plaza.				
Submitted Signat	ure:				Employee Numbe	r:		

Date:

Document 3 – CMNT Road Mechanic's Timeline Page 1 of 1.

# Appendix D - Maximo

Title / Position:

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

Drafted By: SAFE 705 - 12/05/2023 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 - 12/11/2023 Approved By: SAFE 70 - 12/12/2023

# Work Order #: 18264145

Type: CM

#### Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Maintenance and Material Management System

**Work Order Details** 

Status: COMP 12/01/2023 14:35

Page 1

MX76PROD

Work Description: The operator reported the doors opened off the platform automatically while performing an offload., 11/20, E04, OTH, INVE, 515 Job Plan Description:

Work Information Asset: R3046 3046, RAIL CAR, BREDA, 3000 AC, A CAR Owning Office: CMNT-CMNT-CMNT Asset Tag: R3046 Maintenance Office: CMNT-WFCH-INSP Create Date: 11/29/2023 20:48 Asset S/N: 3046 Labor Group: CMNT Actual Start: 11/29/2023 20:48 K99, WEST FALLS CHURCH YARD Actual Comp: 12/01/2023 14:35 Location: 2494 Crew: Work Location: 2279 F99. BRANCH AVENUE YARD Item: L18050002 Lead: Failure Class: CMNT014 DOOR GL Account: WMATA-02-33370-50499160-041-\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*-\*\*\*\*\*-OPR\*\* Problem Code: 2438 N/A CODE (DOOR SYSTEM) Supervisor: E002079 Target Start: Requestor Phone: 301/955-2230 Requested By: Target Comp: Chain Mark Start: Chain Mark End: Scheduled Start: Create-Mileage: 2693258.0 Complete-Mileage: 2693746.0

Task ID

TRAIN IN SHOP, FOLLOWING IIT/CENV RECOMMENDATIONS: VISUAL INSPECTED ATP AND ATO MODULES BACK PLAIN, INSPECTED NONE-VITAL INPUT AND VITAL INPUT (SBO) BOARDS, INSPECTED ATC VITAL RELAY FOR ZERO SPEED IN ATC CABINET ALL CHECK OK, NO SIGN OF DEFECTS NOR DAMAGE.

CYCLED DOORS BOTH SIDE OK SINCE ATC ZERO SPEED RELAY AND/OR SIGNALS FUNCTION PROPERLY. END OF SHIFT, NEED CONTINUE WORK ON THE REST OF IT RECOMMANDATIONS.

000-300-S00 SUBSYSTEM; AUTOMATIC TRAIN Component: CONTROL (ATC); 2K/3K/6K/7K Work Accomp: INSPECTED Status: COMP Position: Reason: INTERMITTENT Warranty?: N

see details below based on ITT recommendations.

Inspected ATC zero speed vital relay board on car 3046, for wiring and loose connection. Good.
 Inspect the voltage at the VPC board. The voltage indication is good. The light indication is "ON".
 Inspect the SB0 board. Found "SYSGO", not lit on. Upon ATP console trived SYSGO turned "ON".
 Measured Voltage at zero speed relay is Zero. (P4-16 to P4-20 = 0. Thus as per ITT recommendation "if no voltage present" replaced ATP module. Further, DST on both cars tested good.

000-300-S00 SUBSYSTEM; AUTOMATIC TRAIN Component: CONTROL (ATC); 2K/3K/6K/7K

Component: CONTROL (ATC); 2K/3K/6K/7K		Work Accomp: INSTALLED		Reason: INTERNAL FAILURE St		Status: COMP	Position:	Warr	anty?: N	
Planned Mate	erials									
Task ID	Item	Description				Storer	oom Issue Unit	Quantity	Unit Cost	Line Cost
	M18593004	MODULE,ATP:2K/3K				25	2 EA	1	\$0.00	\$0.00
								Total Plann	ed Materials:	\$0.00
Actual Labor										
Task ID	Labor		Start Date	End Date	Start Time	End Time	Approved?	Regular Hours	Premium Hours	Line Cost
10			11/29/2023	11/29/2023	12:00	14:00	Υ	02:00	00:00	\$100.41
20			11/29/2023	11/29/2023	15:00	22:00	Y	07:00	00:00	\$359.83

12/5/2023 11:32 WT plust woprint.rptdesign

Document 4 - CMNT Replacement order of ATP Module Page 1 of 2.

Work Order #: 18264145

Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Maintenance and Material Management System **Work Order Details** 

MX76PROD

Type: CM



Status: COMP 12/01/2023 14:35

Work Description: The operator reported the doors opened off the platform automatically while performing an offload., 11/20, E04, OTH, INVE, 515 Job Plan Description:

	r iair boodilpaon.									
Actual Labor										
Task ID	Labor		Start Date	End Date	Start Time	End Time	Approved?	Regular Hours	Premium Hours	Line Cost
						Total	Actual Hour/Labor:	09:00	00:00	\$460.23
Related Incide	ents									
Ticket	Description		Class Status		Relationship					
8713698	The operator reported the doors opened off the platform automatically while performing an offload., 11/20, E04, OTH, INVE, 515		performing an	SR RESOLVED		ORIGINATOR				
Failure Repor	rting									
Cause	Remedy		Supervisor			Remark Date				
2349	MATERIAL FAILURE 0004 REPLACED		E002079 Saunders, Bradley			12/01/2023				
Remarks	UNABLE TO VERIFY FAILURE, REF	PLACED ATP MODULE PER IIT REC	COMENDATIO	NS.						

Document 5 - CMNT Replacement order of ATP Module Page 2 of 2.

#### Appendix E - Why-Tree Analysis

Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1- Improper Door Operation

E23852

Drafted By: SAFE 705 - 12/05/2023 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 - 12/11/2023 Approved By: SAFE 70 - 12/12/2023





# **Root Cause Analysis**



Incident Date: 11/28/2023 Time: 20:39 hours Final Report Ver 1– Improper Door Operation

E23852

Drafted By: SAFE 705 - 12/05/2023 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 - 12/11/2023 Approved By: SAFE 70 - 12/12/2023



# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Department of Safety (SAFE) Office of Safety Investigations (OSI)

## **FINAL REPORT OF INVESTIGATION A&I E24034**

Date of Event:	January 11, 2024
Type of Event:	O-15: Improper Door Operation
Incident Time:	23:26 hours
Location:	Federal Center SW Station, Track 1
Time and How received by SAFE:	23:27 hours via MAC
WMSC Notification Time:	00:08 hours
Responding Safety Officers:	WMATA SAFE: No
	WMSC: No
	Other: No
Rail Vehicle:	Train ID 411
	[L6052-6053.6014-6015.6133-6132T]
Injuries:	None
Damage:	None
Emergency Responders:	Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)
SMS I/A Number	20240121#114147

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

# Federal Center SW Station – Improper Door Operation

# January 11, 2024

## **Table of Contents**

Executive Summary	Abbreviations and Acronyms	3
Incident Site	Executive Summary	4
Purpose and Scope         5           Investigative Methods         5           Investigation         6           Chronological Event Timeline         9           Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)         10           Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Incident Investigation Team (IIT)         11           Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)         11           Interview Findings         12           Train Operator – Train ID 411         12           Weather         12           Related Rules and Procedures         12           Human Factors         12           Evidence of Fatigue         12           Fatigue Risk         12           Post-Incident Toxicology Testing         13           Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)         13           Work History         13           Certifications         13           Findings         13           Probable Cause Statement         13           Recommended Corrective Actions         14           Appendix B - Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)         16           Appendix B - Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)         16           Appendix D - RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)         17     <	Incident Site	4
Investigative Methods		
Investigation		
Chronological Event Timeline—         9           Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)—         10           Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Incident Investigation Team (IIT)         11           Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)—         11           Interview Findings —         12           Train Operator — Train ID 411 —         12           Weather —         12           Related Rules and Procedures —         12           Human Factors —         12           Evidence of Fatigue —         12           Fatigue Risk —         12           Post-Incident Toxicology Testing —         13           Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA) —         13           Work History —         13           Certifications —         13           Findings —         13           Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence —         13           Probable Cause Statement —         13           Recommended Corrective Actions —         14           Appendix A – Interview Summary —         15           Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged) —         16           Appendix D – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged) —         17           Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged) —         17 </td <td>nvestigative Methods</td> <td>5</td>	nvestigative Methods	5
Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)	Investigation	6
Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Incident Investigation Team (IIT)       11         Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)       12         Interview Findings       12         Train Operator – Train ID 411       12         Weather       12         Related Rules and Procedures       12         Human Factors       12         Evidence of Fatigue       12         Fatigue Risk       12         Post-Incident Toxicology Testing       13         Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)       13         Work History       13         Certifications       13         Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendix B – Interview Summary       15         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       16         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23	Chronological Event Timeline	9
Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)	Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)	10
Interview Findings	Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Incident Investigation Team (IIT)	11
Train Operator – Train ID 411       12         Weather	Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)	11
Weather       12         Related Rules and Procedures       12         Human Factors       12         Evidence of Fatigue       12         Fatigue Risk       12         Post-Incident Toxicology Testing       13         Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)       13         Work History       13         Certifications       13         Inmediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23	Interview Findings	12
Weather       12         Related Rules and Procedures       12         Human Factors       12         Evidence of Fatigue       12         Fatigue Risk       12         Post-Incident Toxicology Testing       13         Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)       13         Work History       13         Certifications       13         Inmediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23	Train Operator – Train ID 411	12
Human Factors       12         Evidence of Fatigue       12         Fatigue Risk       12         Post-Incident Toxicology Testing       13         Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)       13         Work History       13         Certifications       13         Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23	Weather	12
Evidence of Fatigue		
Fatigue Risk       12         Post-Incident Toxicology Testing       13         Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)       13         Work History       13         Certifications       13         Findings       13         Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23		
Post-Incident Toxicology Testing	Evidence of Fatigue	12
Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)		
Work History       13         Certifications       13         Findings       13         Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23		
Certifications       13         Findings       13         Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23	Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)	13
Findings       13         Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence       13         Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23		
Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence         13           Probable Cause Statement         13           Recommended Corrective Actions         14           Appendices         15           Appendix A – Interview Summary         15           Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)         16           Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)         17           Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)         19           Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report         21           Appendix F – MICC Incident Report         23		
Probable Cause Statement       13         Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23		. •
Recommended Corrective Actions       14         Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23	mmediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence	13
Appendices       15         Appendix A – Interview Summary       15         Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)       16         Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)       17         Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)       19         Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report       21         Appendix F – MICC Incident Report       23	Probable Cause Statement	13
Appendix A – Interview Summary		
Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)		
Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)		
Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)	Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)	16
Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report 21 Appendix F – MICC Incident Report 23	Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)	17
Appendix F - MICC Incident Report 23	Appendix D – RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report (Abridged)	19
Appendix F – MICC Incident Report 23 Appendix G – Why-Tree Analysis 24	Appendix E – CMNT Maximo Report	21
Appendix G – Why-Tree Analysis 24	Appendix F – MICC Incident Report	23
	Appendix G – Why-Tree Analysis	24

#### **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

AIMS Advanced Information Management System

ARS Audio Recording System

**CCTV** Closed-Circuit Television

**CMOR** Office of Chief Mechanical Officer

**CMNT** Office of Car Maintenance

IIT Incident Investigation Team

MICC Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center

MOR Metrorail Operating Rulebook

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

RTC Rail Traffic Controller

RTRA Office of Rail Transportation

ROCC Rail Operations Control Center

**ROQT** Rail Operations Quality Training

**SAFE** Department of Safety

SMS Safety Measurement System

**SPOTS** System Performance On Time Summary

WMATA Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

WMSC Washington Metrorail Safety Commission

E24034

# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Department of Safety – Office of Safety Investigations

#### **Executive Summary**

\*Note that all times listed are approximate and may contain minor variations due to differences between systems of record. \*

On Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 23:26 hours, a Largo Division Train Operator operating outbound revenue Train ID 411 [L6052-6053.6014-6015.6133-6132T], opened the train doors on the non-platform side (right-side) at Federal Center SW Station (a center platform station) on Track 1.

After closing the non-platform side doors, the Train Operator of Train ID 411 contacted the Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center (MICC) Radio Rail Traffic Controller (RTC) and reported the incident. The Radio RTC subsequently instructed the Train Operator of Train ID 411 to announce that the train was being offloaded, key down, and perform a ground walkaround inspection.

The Train Operator of Train ID 411 verified that the train was clear of customers and conducted a ground walkaround inspection and reported negative results. The Radio RTC dispatched an Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA) Rail Supervisor to assist and instructed them to intercept Train ID 411 at Potomac Avenue Station. The RTRA Supervisor boarded Train ID 411 at the Potomac Avenue Station and assumed control of the train operations.

The Train Operator was removed from service for post-incident testing. The incident train was also removed from service for further investigation.

No injuries or damages were reported as a result of this incident.

The probable cause of the Improper Door Operation event on January 11, 2024, at Federal Center SW Station was an incorrect application of door operation procedures that resulted in the Train Operator mistakenly commanding the non-platform side doors to open. The Train Operator activated the non-platform side open door button prior to verifying the platform side of the station. This action led to the right-side doors being opened off the platform.

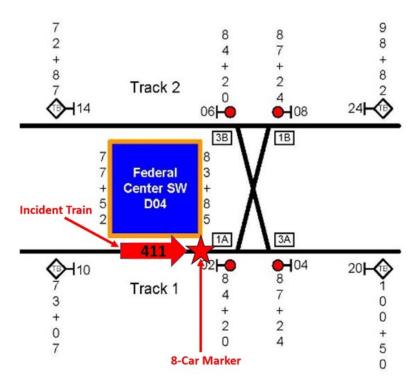
#### Incident Site

Federal Center SW Station is a Direct Fixation Track governed by signals D04-06, 08, and D04-02, 04. This is an above-ground station with a center platform.

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

#### Field Sketch/Schematics



The above depiction is not to scale.

#### **Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this accident investigation and candid self-evaluation is to collect and analyze available facts, determine the probable cause(s) of the incident, identify contributing factors, and make recommendations to prevent a recurrence.

#### **Investigative Methods**

The investigative methodologies included the following:

- Site assessment through documentation
- Formal Interview SAFE interviewed one individual as part of this investigation. The
  interview included persons present at, during, and after the incident, those directly
  involved in the response process, and representatives from the Washington Metrorail
  Safety Commission (WMSC) were invited to participate. SAFE interviewed the following
  individuals:
  - Train Operator Train ID 411
- Documentation Review A collection of relevant work history information and process documentation contained in Metro systems of record. These records include:
  - Train Operator Incident Statement
  - Train Operator Training Record
  - Train Operator 30-day Work History
  - RTRA Supervisor's Report
  - RTRA Managerial Incident Investigation Report

- SOP 40 Procedure for Platform Berthing, Station Servicing and Overruns
- Metrorail Operating Rulebook (MOR)
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
- Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center (MICC) Incident Report
- Maximo Data
- System Data Recording Review A collection of information contained in Metro Data Recording Systems. This data includes:
  - Audio Recording System (ARS) playback, including OPS 2 Radio
  - The Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) Incident Investigation Team (IIT) Vehicle Monitoring System (VMS)
  - System Performance On-Time Summary (SPOTS)
  - Closed-circuit television (CCTV)

#### **Investigation**

On Thursday, January 11, 2024, at 23:26 hours, a Largo Division Train Operator operating outbound revenue Train ID 411 [L6052-6053.6014-6015.6133-6132T], opened the train doors on the non-platform side (right-side) at Federal Center SW Station (a center platform station) on Track 1.



Image 1 - Train ID 411 doors open the doors on the non-platform side (right side) at Federal Center SW Station, Track 1, at 23:26:01 hours.

After closing the non-platform side doors, the Audio Recording System (ARS) revealed that the Train Operator of Train ID 411 contacted the MICC Radio RTC and reported the incident. The Radio RTC subsequently instructed the Train Operator of Train ID 411 to announce that the train was being offloaded, key down, and perform a ground walkaround inspection.

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034



Image 2 - Train ID 411 doors were closed the non-platform side (right side) at 23:26:03 hours.

The Train Operator of Train ID 411 verified that the train was clear of customers, conducted a ground walkaround inspection, and reported negative results. The Radio RTC instructed the Train Operator of Train ID 411 to change their identification marker to Train 711 and continue in non-revenue service towards New Carrollton Station.

The Radio RTC dispatched an RTRA Supervisor to assist with the incident and directed them to intercept the train at Potomac Avenue Station. The RTRA Supervisor boarded Train ID 411 (711) at the Potomac Avenue Station and assumed control of the train operations.

The Train Operator was removed from service for post-incident testing. The incident train was also removed from service for further investigation.

No injuries or damages were reported as a result of this incident.

The Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) revealed that at 23:25:51 hours, Train ID 411 arrived at Federal Center SW Station on Track 1. The Train Operator of Train ID 411 subsequently opened the right-side doors on the non-platform side at 23:26:01 hours.

The Train Operator closed the right-side doors and opened the left-side cab window of Train ID 411 in lead car 6052 at 23:26:12 hours. The Train Operator opened the platform side doors and serviced the station at 23:26:13 hours.

The Audio Recording System (ARS) revealed that at 23:28 hours, the Train Operator of Train ID 411 contacted the MICC and reported that they opened the doors off the platform side. At 23:31 hours, the Train Operator of Train ID 411 reported the train was clear of customers, was granted foul time, and commenced their ground walkaround inspection. At 23:48 hours, the RTRA Supervisor reported they intercepted Train ID 411 (711) at Potomac Avenue Station, and the Train Operator was removed from service.

The System Performance On-Time Summary (SPOTS) revealed that Train ID 411 arrived at Federal Center SW Station on Track 1 at 23:25:27 hours. At 23:26:02 hours, the right-side doors

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

(non-platform side) were opened and closed at 23:26:05 hours. The Train Operator opened the doors on the non-platform side twice before opening the doors on the platform side. The station was serviced at 23:26:16 hours by opening the left-side doors, and subsequently, the identification marker was changed to Train ID 711.

#### **ROCS SPOTS REPORT**

based on up-to-the-second operational performance data from the Rail Operations Control System Current date/time: Wed Jan 24 21:47:25 2024 Select Platform: and/or Select ID: Leave blank to remove criteria and/or Select 4-digit car number: 6052 Leave blank to remove criteria Select Date: Jan > 11 > 2024 > Select Times (0-24HRS): From 23:00 > To 24:00 > Generate Report Headway Right Right Left Left Head Tail door open ID Platform length dcode dwell door door door dwell door cars Arrived cleared open close open close door open 411 C10-1 23:00:41 23:01:55 74 23:00:04 23:02:26 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 6 72 23:03:03 23:04:14 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 2:54 411 C09-1 23:03:35 23:03:53 18 411 C08-1 6 72 23:05:33 23:05:49 16 23:05:05 23:06:10 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:58 6 72 23:07:20 23:07:35 15 411 C07-1 23:06:48 23:08:03 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:47 411 C06-1 6 72 23:09:55 23:10:24 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 6 72 23:12:01 23:12:19 18 23:11:30 23:12:44 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 4:41 23:14:54 23:15:08 14 23:14:19 23:15:34 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 2:53 411 C04-1 72 411 C03-1 72 23:16:09 23:17:15 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:45 411 C02-1 72 23:18:09 23:18:25 16 23:17:34 23:18:50 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 23:19:16 23:20:34 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:42 411 C01-1 6 72 23:19:51 23:20:07 16 23:20:44 23:21:55 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:26 411 D01-1 16 72 23:21:17 23:21:30 13 23:22:18 23:23:27 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:29 411 D02-1 6 72 23:22:46 23:23:03 17 411 D03-1 16 72 23:24:27 23:24:50 23 23:23:52 23:25:16 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:41 711 D04-1 6 74 23:26:02 23:26:05 3 23:26:16 23:30:23 247 23:25:27 23:45:06 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 1:35 711 D05-1 74 23:45:57 23:46:32 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 711 D06-1 74 23:47:10 23:47:40 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 711 D07-1 74 23:49:34 23:49:43 9 23:48:20 23:51:12 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 23:32 711 D08-1 6 74 23:52:03 23:52:35 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 711 D09-1 6 74 23:56:16 23:56:46 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 711 D10-1 6 74 23:57:52 23:58:24 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 74 23:58:28 23:58:29 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052 711 D10-1 6 711 D11-1 6 74 23:59:50 00:00:16 6133-6132.6015-6014.6053-6052

Table 1 - SPOTS report illustrating the arrival time, departure time, and door activity for Train ID 411.

The Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Incident Investigation Team (IIT) provided an analysis after performing an inspection and determined that no mechanical failure could have contributed to this incident.

During the formal interview, the Train Operator stated that they were on their last trip for the night when the incident occurred, and was rushing through the door procedures and inadvertently pushed the incorrect door open button.

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

## **Chronological Event Timeline**

A review of ARS playback, i.e., phone and radio communications, revealed the following timeline:

Time	Description
23:25 hours	Train ID 411 arrived at Federal Center SW Station, Track 1. [SPOTS]
23:26 hours	<u>Train Operator of Train ID 411:</u> Opened the train doors on the non-platform side twice at Federal Center SW Station on Track 1. [SPOTS]
23:28 hours	Train Operator of Train ID 411: Contacted the MICC and reported they opened the doors on the non-platform side at Federal Center SW Station on Track 1.  Radio RTC: Acknowledged the report and instructed the Train Operator of Train ID 411 to close the doors and offload the train on the platform side only, verify the train was clear of customers, and conduct a ground walkaround inspection.  Train Operator of Train ID 411: Acknowledged. [Ops 2]
23:31 hours	Train Operator of Train ID 411: Reported the train was clear of customers, and they were ready to conduct the ground walkaround inspection.  Radio RTC: Acknowledged the Train Operator's transmission and granted foul time to conduct the inspection. Instructed an RTRA Supervisor to assist with the incident. [Ops 2]
23:38 hours	<u>Train Operator of Train ID 411:</u> Reported the ground walkaround inspection was complete, and no persons were found on the roadway, and no injuries. <u>Radio RTC</u> : Acknowledged. [Ops 2]
23:44 hours	Radio RTC: Instructed the Train Operator of Train ID 411 to change the identification marker to Train ID 711 and continue in non-revenue service toward New Carrollton Station.  Train Operator of Train ID 411: Acknowledged. [Ops 2]
23:48 hours	RTRA Supervisor: Reported they had intercepted Train ID 711 at Potomac Avenue Station on Track 1, and took over operating the train.  Radio RTC: Acknowledged. [Ops 2]

<sup>\*\*</sup>Note: Times above may vary from other systems' timelines based on clock settings and reporting sources.

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

## **Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV)**



Image 3 - At 23:26:12 hours, the Train Operator of Train ID 411 opened the left-side cab window and looked down the left side (platform side) of the train.

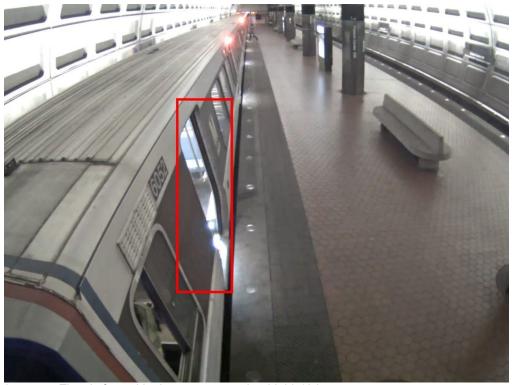


Image 4 - The platform side doors are opened at 23:26:13 hours.

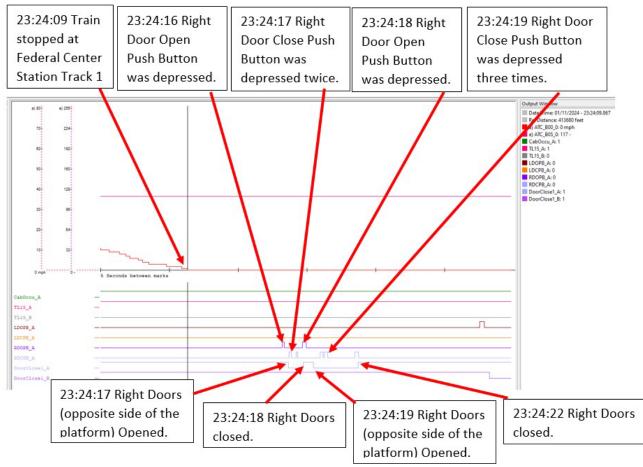
Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

# Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) / Incident Investigation Team (IIT) Adopted from the CMOR IIT report:

"Based on Vehicle Monitoring System (VMS) data, the IIT determined that no mechanical failure could have contributed to this incident. In summary, the right doors (opposite side of the platform) were manually operated twice while the train was stopped at Federal Center SW Station. The right signals that monitor the right-side door control push buttons confirmed the door push button was manually operated, and the analysis is provided. See the timeline of events below:"

Time	Description	
23:24:09 hours	Train ID 411 stopped at Federal Center SW Station on Track 1	
23:24:16 hours	The Right Door Open Push Button was depressed.	
23:24:17 hours	The right doors (opposite side of the platform) opened.	
23:24:17 hours	The Right Door Close Push Button was depressed twice.	
23:24:18 hours	The right doors closed.	
23:24:18 hours	The Right Door Open Push Button was depressed.	
23:24:19 hours	The right doors (opposite side of the platform) opened.	
23:24:19 hours	The Right Door Close Push Button was depressed three times.	
23:24:22 hours	The right doors closed.	



Graph 1 – Data analysis of Lead Car 6052 door operations.

Office of Car Maintenance (CMNT)

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

CMNT personnel performed door operational checks and inspections as recommended by CMOR IIT. CMNT inspected all Door Push Buttons, microswitches, and associated wiring. All door pushbuttons were depressed without sticking, and CMNT cleared the train for service. (See Appendix E).

#### **Interview Findings**

As part of the investigation launched into the event, SAFE interviewed one person. The interview identified the following key findings associated with this event. Findings detailed below include reported information from involved personnel and may conflict with other data sources contained in the report.

#### <u>Train Operator – Train ID 411</u>

- The Train Operator stated that they were on their last trip of the night when the incident occurred.
- The Train Operator stated that after they berthed at the 8-car marker, they accidentally
  pushed the right-side door open button without looking at which button they were
  actuating.
- The Train Operator stated they immediately reported the incident to the MICC and followed their directions.
- The Train Operator stated that there were no mechanical issues with the train.

#### Weather

On January 11, 2024, at the time of the incident, NOAA recorded the temperature as 38° F, clear, no wind, and 83% humidity. This is a below ground station. Weather was not a contributing factor in this incident (Weather source: NOAA – Location: Washington, DC).

#### **Related Rules and Procedures**

SOP 40 – Procedure for Platform Berthing, Station Servicing and Overruns

#### **Human Factors**

#### Evidence of Fatigue

Conditions at the time of the incident were evaluated to distinguish whether evidence of fatigue was present. The video of the incident was reviewed for behaviors suggesting fatigue. No indications of fatigue were evident from the video. The Train Operator reported feeling alert at the time of the incident. The Train Operator reported experiencing no symptoms of fatigue leading up to the incident.

#### Fatigue Risk

Incident data was evaluated for fatigue risk factors. No significant risk was identified. The incident time of day (23:24 hours) does not suggest an increased risk of fatigue-related impairment. The Train Operator reported keeping a regular sleep schedule in the days leading up to the incident. The Train Operator worked the evening shift in the days leading up to the incident. The Train Operator was awake for 6.18 hours at the time of the incident. The Train Operator reported 10 hours of sleep in the 24 hours preceding the incident. The off-duty period was 93 hours, which provided the opportunity for 7-9 hours of sleep. This was a comparable amount of sleep to the employee's usual workday sleep durations. The Train Operator reported usual workday sleep durations of 8-9 hours and no issues with sleep.

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

#### Post-Incident Toxicology Testing

WMATA's Drug and Alcohol Program determined that the Train Operator complied with the Drug and Alcohol Policy and Testing Program 7.7.3/6.

#### Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)

RTRA determined that the Train Operator would receive discipline in accordance with the Disciplinary Administration Program (DAP). The Train Operator is scheduled to attend refresher training with the Office of Rail Operations Quality Training (ROQT).

#### Work History

The Train Operator is a WMATA employee with over five years of service: four and a half years as a Bus Operator and six months as a Train Operator. The Train Operator is certified to the RWP-2 Level and expires in March 2024. This employee has no history of sleep issues to report.

#### Certifications

The Train Operator completed their train qualification on July 3, 2023, with 80% on the MSRPH Exam and 79% on the TVOIM/TOIM Exam. The Train Operator completed the practical application portion on August 4, 2023, with a QL – 3 rating. In the first attempt, the Train Operator's scores in each section are as follows: QL-2 in preparation for service, QL-1 in Mainline Operations, QL-3 in Yard Operations, and QL-3 in Miscellaneous.

#### **Findings**

- The Train Operator stated that they were on their last trip for the night when the incident occurred.
- The Train Operator stated that they were rushing through the door procedures and inadvertently pushed the incorrect door open button.
- The Train Operator was operating in manual mode.

#### **Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence**

- Train ID 411 was offloaded at Federal Center SW Station, Track 1.
- The MICC instructed the Train Operator to perform a ground walkaround inspection.
- The MICC dispatched an RTRA Supervisor to take over operating the train.
- The Train Operator was removed from service for post-incident testing.
- Train ID 411 was removed from service for post-incident inspection.

#### **Probable Cause Statement**

The probable cause of the Improper Door Operation event on January 11, 2024, at Federal Center SW Station was an incorrect application of the procedures that resulted in the Train Operator mistakenly commanding the non-platform side doors to open. The Train Operator activated the non-platform side open door button prior to verifying the platform side of the station. This action led to the right-side doors being opened off the platform.

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

#### **Recommended Corrective Actions**

Corrective Action Code	Description	Responsible Party	Estimated Completion Date
114147_SAF ECAPS_RTR A_001	(RC-1) Train Operator to attend refresher training with an emphasis on SOP #40 Procedure for Platform Berthing, Station Servicing, and Overruns.	RTRA SRC	Completed

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

#### **Appendices**

#### **Appendix A – Interview Summary**

The below narratives summarize the incident and represent the statements made by the involved individual. As such, times and details may present a conflict with the data contained in systems of record.

The Train Operator is a WMATA employee with over five years of total service: four and a half years as a Bus Operator and six months as a Train Operator. The Train Operator is certified to the RWP-2 Level and expires in March 2024. This employee has no history of sleep issues to report.

During the interview, the Train Operator stated at the time of the incident, they were on their last trip for the night. After arriving at Federal Center SW Station, the Train Operator stated they mistakenly operated the right-side open doors button and immediately closed the doors.

The Train Operator stated that after they closed the right-side doors, they contacted the MICC to report the incident. They were instructed to key down, clear the train of customers, and conduct a ground walkaround inspection of the area.

The Train Operators stated they conducted the inspection and determined that no one had fallen from the train. The Train Operator stated that they were then instructed to continue on and pick up an RTRA Supervisor at Potomac Avenue Station.

The Train Operator stated that they were rushing through their door procedures and inadvertently pushed the incorrect door open button upon arriving at the Federal Center SW Station. The Train Operator stated that there were no distractions during the incident and no mechanical issues with the train.

The Train Operator reported no problems with their sleep; they were fully alert at the time of the incident and made an honest mistake by operating the doors on the non-platform side.

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

#### **Appendix B – Train Operator Incident Statement (Abridged)**

WMATA/RTRA Inci	dent/Accident Repor	t (Other than Motor Vehicl completed for all incidents	e) Page	AN 12 AV2:29
Date: //// 24	Incident Time:	Time Reported: 28	Reported by: Cus	stomer 🗆 Employee 🗖
Location				
Station Deval	Mezzanine #	Track #/Destination	Chain Marker/Sig	
TYPE OF INCIDENT	D. Omerle	C) Fire	Custome.	- Complaint
☐ Property Damage	☐ Smoke ☐ Customer Illness	□ Fire □ Employee Injury	☐ Custome ☐ Employee	
☐ Customer injury ☐ Criminal Activity	☐ Elevator Entrapme	,		plain in description of incident)
WEATHER		CONDITIONS (natural lighti		NG (artificial lighting)
Clear Rain		Ousk □ Daylight □		n □ Lights Off □
Snow □ Sleet/Ice □		Tunnel/Underground 🗆		ot Working 🗆
	'S: Always include equ	ipment number you use for		
Elevator/Escalator#:		AFC #:	Room Number/L	ocation:
Failure Number(s):				
		Station Entrance  Stairway	# Platform	Ancillary Room 🗆
Name of Responding Su	board Train  Other	Name (Department of DI NT/AFC	o- other MANATA	
name of Responding Su	pervisor:	Name/Department of PLNT/AFC	or other wiviala res	sponder
TRAIN INCIDENTS				
Train ID	Destination	Car Numbers(list all cars in cons	sist):	Lead Car:
411	Upreg O			6052
Name of Responding Su	pervisor:	Name/Department of C	MNT/TRST or other	WMATA responder
DESCRIBE THE INC	IDENT, Include what w	ou did to conset the much los		atified and when
		ou did to correct the probler	n and who you n	otinea and when.
Describe any p	roperty damage and the ex	ctent of any injuries.		
1/11/24	arraine 1	1,28 pm		
approaching	ng Fede	ral Cender	-8W	pulled
p 40	8 CAT V	marker on	Track	1
and op	en the	doors on	the U	urong
510c (	ana an	ica Contra	1 ASAP	was
(V40) WG	0.4 0.4	correct sid	prong &	oles Les
on wall	1. Chouse	L. Clase Dois	tomars	plattorn
60 a	rance V	vall opposed	) notes	ing fand
Then pi	ched up	SIBERTIKOZ. O	A Poto	man Ave
Employee Completing R	Report			
Employee Name:(print)	0 6	Employee Signature: (sign)	1 Employ	ee #: _ Date: / 1 /
Division: LARGO	V Run #	502 Block # 41	Assigne	d Days; (- 1
To Be Completed By Re	viewing Manager			
Supervisor Name:(print) Action taken/needed Investige	ation Ong	Supervisor Signature	Employe	Date: 1 12 24
SMS Number:	J	J		
50.753A 04/12 White Co	opy: Division or Supervisor Yellow Co	opy: For any incident involving escalators or elev	ators; remains in kiosk for u	se of elevator/escalator inspectors

Document 1 -Train Operator's Incident Report.

#### **Appendix C – RTRA Supervisor's Report (Abridged)**

			0 10 0 W	w I				
Date:	Incident Time Appr	ox. Incident Loca	ation (Station Mezzanine)	<del>F</del> )	Track/Mezzanine			
01-11-2024	23:28		Federal Center SW		Track#			
Incident Description	Introduction							
Customer claimed someo WMATA Personnel Involv		Employee#	Rule Violation?	Home Divis	ion	Post Incident		
Train Operator	9/18/			Largo		Yes		
Train operator				22.90		1.00		
Name (Witness)						Injury?		
Name						Injury?		
Name (Witness)			obsT T T Table		mail mount make	Injury?		
Arrival Time	Unit Number	Person In Charge	200 40 40	Remarks	SHARES BUTT			
Supervisor		T croon in onarge		Romano				
(Arrival Time Unknown) Keyed on train at Potomac Avenue Track #1	48							
Trondo Hadrini								
Chronological Account o	f Incident							
Train operator sta		un to the eight o	or marker at Fode	oral Cantar SM	cooped	right side		
window, and open					ediately infor			
	directives.	, , ,			•			
and followed their								

Document 2 - RTRA Supervisor's Report (page 1 of 2).

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

Supervisor Submitting Report (Include payroll #)

Date
01-11-2024

Report Reviewed by

| - | 2 - 2 4

Document 3 - RTRA Supervisor's Report (page 2 of 2).

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034



# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority



Office of Rail Transportation: Managerial Incident Investigation Report

			Incident Status:	PRELIMINARY
GENERAL IN	CIDENT INFORMATION			
Incident Type:	Improper Door Operation	Delay (Minutes):	16 Minutes	
Incident Date:	Thursday, January 11, 2024	Vehicles Involved:	L-6052-6014-6132	
Incident Time:	11:28 PM	First Reported By:	RVO	
Location:	Federal Center SW (D04) Track #1			
BRIEF DESCR	RIPTION:			
	atform. Operator was instructed was	report to ROCC ted to off-load the train and	hat she opened the doors perform a ground walk are	
Post Incident Rail Oper Oper	er SW pulled up to the 8-car marker on TP was informed to close the wrong side at ormers then do a ground walk around not testing & Employee History:  Vehicle Operator was hired on November 13, 20 has been a Certified Rail Vehicator had a STOV in September ator had a Red Signal Overrun	nd open on the correct sidhing found then picked up noved from service and tra 018. cle Operator since August 2023. in November 2023. vice in January 2024 for	on the wrong side and cale on platform do walk through the Supervisor at Potomac Avensported for Post Inciden 2023, (Passed on 2 <sup>nd</sup> Atte	lled Central ough clear re. it Testing. empt).
SIGNIFICANT	I INCIDENT TIMELINE:			
one at Federa		opening the train doors or structed to close the train o conduct a ground walk aro	doors, offload her train on	•
11:31 pm – 0 to perform a g	perator reported that the train ground walk around inspection of the tra	was clear of customers. O in. Unit RTRA Supervis		anted foul time tched to assist.
11:38 pm – O on the roadw	perator reported a ground wall ay track one at Federal Center SW. No re	k around inspection was corported injuries.	ompleted and no unautho	orized personnel
11:44 pm – Tr RTRA Supervi	rain 411 was instructed to re-block Train sor instructed to intercept tra			arrollton Yard.
12:00 am - O Supervisor notified.	. Operator was instruc	vice and transported for po ted to submit an incident		ent was
Office of Rail Tra	ansportation: Managerial Incident Investigation F	Report		Page 1 of 3

Document 4 - RTRA Managerial Incident Report (page 1 of 2).

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1 E24034

Drafted By: SAFE 702 – 03/09/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024 Approved By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024

Page 19



## **Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority**



Office of Rail Transportation: Managerial Incident Investigation Report

SIGNIFICAN	T INCIDENT	TTIMFIINF

#### SIGNIFICANT FINDINGS & PENDING ISSUES:

While reviewing Operator Incident Report, admitted opening the doors on the opposite side of the platform.

#### **CORRECTIVE ACTIONS:**

The investigation is ongoing.

Office of Rail Transportation: Managerial Incident Investigation Report

Page 2 of 3

Page 20

Document 5 - RTRA Managerial Incident Report (page 2 of 2).

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

Drafted By: SAFE 702 – 03/09/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024

Approved By: SAFE 707 - 03/11/2024

#### Appendix E - CMNT Maximo Report



# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Maintenance and Material Management System Work Order Details

Page 1 of 2 MX76PROD

Work Order #: 18343847 Type: CM



Status: CLOSE 01/16/2024 09:01

Work Description: TRAIN OPERATOR OPENED TRAIN DOORS OPPOSITE SIDE OF PLATFORM., 20/16, D04, RTR, DOPS, 411 Job Plan Description:

TRAIN OFFLOAD, GROUND WALK AROUND INSPECTION PERFORMED. NOTHING FOUND. TRAIN AND OPERATOR REMOVED FROM SERVICE. Work Information Asset: R6052 6052, RAIL CAR, ALSTOM, 6000 AC, A CAR Owning Office: CMNT-CMNT-CMNT Parent: Create Date: 01/12/2024 00:58 Asset Tag: R6052 Maintenance Office: CMNT-GRBT-INSP Asset S/N: 6052 Labor Group: CMNT Actual Start: 01/12/2024 00:59 Location: 1437 E99, GREENBELT YARD Actual Comp: 01/12/2024 14:02 Crew: Work Location: 1230 D99, NEW CARROLLTON YARD Item: A18050001 Failure Class: CMNT014 DOOR GL Account: WMATA-02-33392-50499160-041-\*\*\* Problem Code: 2438 N/A CODE (DOOR SYSTEM) Supervisor: Target Start: Requested By: Requestor Phone Target Comp Chain Mark Start: Chain Mark End: Scheduled Start: Create-Mileage: 1214576.0 Complete-Mileage: 1215037.0 Task ID DOWNLOADED VMS EXT LOG AND HANDED TO SUPERVISOR 000-300-V02-002 VEHICLE CONTROL UNIT; VCU; Component: VMS; 2K/3K/6K Work Accomp: DOWNLOADED Reason: INCIDENT//ACCIDENT Status: CLOSE Position: doors are operating normally; no door related discrepancies found during DI DOWNLOADED VMS EXT LOG AND HANDED TO SUPERVISOR: FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS FROM IT TO RELEASE THIS TRAIN. ENSURED VMS IS COMMUNICATING WITH ALL SUB SYSTEMS 000-300-M00 SUBSYSTEM; DOOR CONTROL (SIDE Work Accomp: TESTED Reason: NO TROUBLE FOUND Status: CLOSE Position Component: DOOR); 2K/3K/6K/7K Warranty?: N Actual Labo Premium Task ID Labor Start Date **End Date** Start Time **End Time** Approved? Line Cost 10 01/12/2024 01/12/2024 05:00 06:00 01:00 00:00 \$48.76 20 01/12/2024 01/12/2024 08:00 08:30 00:30 00:00 \$25.70 Total Actual Hour/Labor: 01:30 00:00 \$74.46 Relationship Ticket Description Class Status 8723461 TRAIN OPERATOR OPENED TRAIN DOORS OPPOSITE SIDE OF PLATFORM., 20/16, SR CLOSED ORIGINATOR

WT\_plust\_woprint.rptdesign 01/24/2024 22:32

Document 6 - CMNT work order illustrating the inspections conducted (page 1 of 2).

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

Drafted By: SAFE 702 – 03/09/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024 Approved By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024 Page 21



# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Maintenance and Material Management System Work Order Details

Page 2 of 2 MX76PROD

Status: CLOSE 01/16/2024 09:01



Work Description: TRAIN OPERATOR OPENED TRAIN DOORS OPPOSITE SIDE OF PLATFORM., 20/16, D04, RTR, DOPS, 411 Job Plan Description:

Cause	Remed			Supervisor	Remark Date	
2476	NO DEFECT; NORMAL SERVICES PERFORMED	3192	TESTED / INSPECTED		01/12/2024	

WT\_plust\_woprintrptdesign 01/24/2024 22:32

Document 7 - CMNT work order illustrating the inspections conducted (page 2 of 2).

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

Drafted By: SAFE 702 – 03/09/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024 Approved By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024

Page 22

#### Appendix F - MICC Incident Report

#### View Approved Incident Report

#### INCIDENT ID: 2024011BLUE6 DATE TIME **ITEM** LINE 2024-01-11 2328 Blue LOCATION/CHAIN MARKER (If REPORTED BY LOCATION (STATION/YARD) Applicable) Train Operator Federal Center SW (D04) (Largo) TRAIN ID DIRECTION TRACK NUMBER **DEPTS NOTIFIED** Everbridge Alert/Messaging CAR NUMBERS (XXXX-XXXX) **Lead Car** 6052-6053 6132-6133 6014-6015 Caused Issue ☑ Caused Issue □ Caused Issue □ Caused Issue □ **RESP CODE** TRBL CODE DOPS-DOORS **OPENED OPPOSITE** SIDE TYPE INCIDENT Train Operator opened doors opposite side of platform

#### **ACTION PLAN**

Offload, ground walk around, dispatch RTRA Supervisor

			DELAYS IN N	INUTES				
LINE		INCIDE	ENT	TRA	IN	T	OTAL	DURATION
	20		20		16		0	
			TRIPS MOI	DIFIED			1	
PARTIAL	GAP TRAIN			NOT DISPATCHE	D	OFFLOADS		
1	0		0	0		0		1
		FIVE PR	IMARY CONSC	LE INDI	CAT	ONS	E DE	
ВСР	BRAKES O		ALL DOORS CLOS				BPP	
						AUTO		

Document 8 - MICC Incident Report (page 1 of 2).

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

## View Approved Incident Report

				Production see					
Mary Mary			INCIDENT CHRONOLOGY						
TIME	DESCRIPT	TON							
2328	doors, offlo conduct a g	ad train on ground walk aro	, reported opening the train of ral Center SW. Operator was the platform side only, verify the train and of train. MICC Assistant Opera ITPD, MAC and all concerned personne	is clear of customers and to ations Manager, CMNT,					
2331	Operator granted fou Supervisor	I time to perform	d that the train was clear of customers m a ground walk around inspection of dispatched to assist.						
2338			d a ground walk around inspection was the roadway track one at Federal Cent						
2344			re-block Train ID to 711 and continue ervisor instructed to intercep						
2348		erviced train 41 the longest cus	1 customers, track one, at Federal Centomer delay.	ter SW in the direction of Largo					
2349	RTRA Super New Carroll		took over operations of Train 711 at P	otomac Ave. in the direction of					
0000	by RTRA Su	NOTE: Operator was removed from service and transported for post incident evaluation by RTRA Supervisor Operator was instructed to submit an incident report. Division Management was notified.							
<b>MAXIMO</b> 8723461	TICKET#								
REPORT F	PREPARED BY	NAME		CLICK TO SIGN					
BUTTON C	ONTROLLER 1 CONTROLLER 2 CONTROLLER 2			·					
Marie Car		SUPERINTE	NDENTS OR ASSISTANTS SECTIO	N					
	NAL FOLLOW-U OR REMARKS	P CORRECTIV	E						
	UP INFORMATI		FROM						
NOTIFICA	ATIONS/PAGE O	ROUPS	#1/CEO 🗖 #2/DGM &BELO	W ■					
ADDITION PHONE	NAL NOTIFICAT	TIONS MADE B	SY.						
APPROVE	D BY		NAME	CLICK TO SIGN					
REPORT A	APPROVED BY S	SUPT. OR ASST		1					

© 2014 - Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

Document 9 - MICC Incident Report (page 2 of 2).

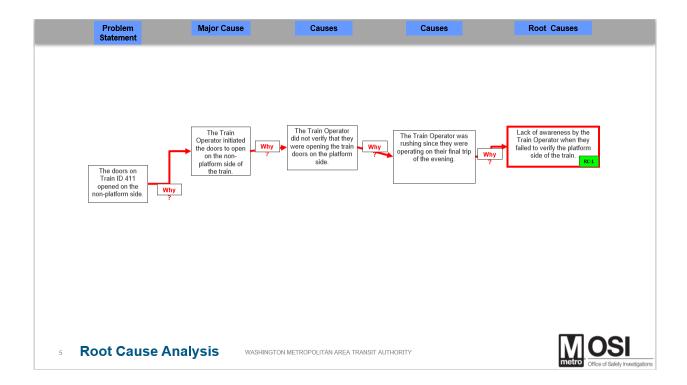
#### Appendix G - Why-Tree Analysis

Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034

Drafted By: SAFE 702 – 03/09/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024 Approved By: SAFE 707 – 03/11/2024

Page 24



Incident Date: 01/11/2024 Time: 23:26 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24034



# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Department of Safety (SAFE) Office of Safety Investigations (OSI)

#### **FINAL REPORT OF INVESTIGATION A&I E24133**

Date of Event:	February 17, 2024
Type of Event:	O-15(a): Improper Door Operation
Incident Time:	12:54 hours
Location:	Rhode Island Station, track 2
Time and How received by SAFE:	13:52 hours MAC Desk
WMSC Notification Time:	15:36 hours
Responding Safety Officers:	N/A
Rail Vehicle:	Train ID 124
	(L7094/95X7003/02X7454/55X 83/7082T)
Injuries:	N/A
Damage:	N/A
Emergency Responders:	NA
SMS I/A Number	20240217#114841MX

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

### **Rhode Island Avenue Station – Improper Door Operation**

#### February 17, 2024 Table of Contents

Abbreviations and Acronyms	3
Executive Summary	4
Incident Site	4
Field Sketch/Schematics	5
Purpose and Scope	5
Investigative Methods	5
Investigation	6
Chronological Event Timeline	6
Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) – Incident Investigation Team (IIT)	8
System Performance On-Time Summary (SPOTS)	11
Signal Engineering Investigation Report	12
Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)	12
Interview Findings	13
Weather	13
Related Rules and Procedures	13
Human Factors	14
Evidence of Fatigue	14
Fatigue Risk	14
Post-Incident Toxicology Testing	14
Findings	14
Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence	15
Probable Cause Statement	15
Recommended Corrective Actions	15
Appendices	16
Appendix A – Interview Summary	16
Appendix B – RTRA Operations Personnel Notice: Return to Automatic Door on the	
Appendix C – RTRA Auto Doors Job Task Proficiency Evaluation	
Appendix D – RTRA Investigation Report	
Appendix E – Why-Tree Analysis	
11 '''' ''' ''' ''' ''' ''' '''' '''' ''''	

#### **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

**ADO** Automatic Door Operations

AIMS Advanced Information Management System

AOM Assistant Operations Manager

ARS Audio Recording System

**CCTV** Closed-Circuit Television

**CMOR** Office of Chief Mechanical Officer

IIT Incident Investigation Team

MAC Mission Assurance Coordinator

MICC Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center

MOR Metrorail Operating Rulebook

NOAA National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

**OAP** Operations Administrative Policy

RTC Rail Traffic Controller

RTRA Office of Rail Transportation

**ROCC** Rail Operations Control Center

**SAFE** Department of Safety

SMS Safety Measurement System

SPOTS System Performance On-Time Summary

**TWC** Train Wayside Communication

WMATA Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority

WMSC Washington Metrorail Safety Commission

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

Drafted By: SAFE 703 – 04/13/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 04/17/2024 Approved By: SAFE 707 – 04/17/2024 Page 3

# Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority Department of Safety – Office of Safety Investigations

#### **Executive Summary**

\*Note that all times listed are approximate and may contain minor variations due to differences between systems of record. \*

On Saturday, February 17, 2024, at 12:53 hours, Train ID 124 (L7094/95X7003/02X7454/55X 83/7082T) entered the platform limits at Rhode Island Station on track 2. The train stopped at the 8-car marker, and then the Train Operator opened the doors on the platform side and serviced the station. After servicing the station, at 12:54 hours the platform side doors were closed. Moments later, the non-platform side doors opened at 12:54:54 hours and closed at 12:55:05 hours. The Train Operator did not report opening the doors on the non-platform side to the Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center (MICC), and Train ID 124 continued toward Dupont Circle Station.

At 12:57 hours, a customer who was aboard the train reported the event via social media. Closed-circuit television (CCTV) revealed that the train doors were opened on the non-platform side.

Train ID 124 continued to Dupont Circle Station on track 2, then placed out of service and reblocked as Train ID 123 in service to Glenmont Station on track 1. At 13:45 hours, the Radio Rail Traffic Controller (RTC) instructed the Train Operator to offload the train at Fort Totten Station.

In adherence to Standard Operating Procedure 102-01-02, which outlines the protocol for Removing an Employee from Service for involvement in an operational safety event, the Radio RTC dispatched a Rail Supervisor to relieve the Train Operator from duty for post-incident testing.

In accordance with the Office of the Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) Incident Investigation Team (IIT) Operations Administrative Policy (OAP) 102.06, the Metro Integrated Command and Communications Center (MICC) initiated the removal of Train ID 124 from revenue service for post-incident investigative measures. This action adhered to the Rail Vehicle Event Investigation Policy, ensuring a comprehensive examination of the incident.

The probable cause for the Improper Door Operation at Rhode Island Station on February 17, 2024, was complacency. The Train Operator failed to follow the proper procedures after they serviced the station.

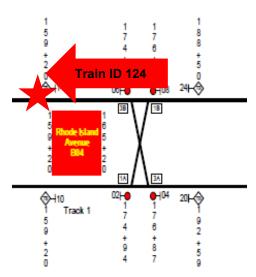
#### **Incident Site**

Rhode Island Station is an outdoor aerial station with a center platform and direct fixation tracks. There is an interlocking on the outbound end of the station.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### Field Sketch/Schematics



The above depiction is not to scale

#### **Purpose and Scope**

The purpose of this accident investigation and candid self-evaluation is to collect and analyze available facts, determine the probable cause(s) of the incident, identify contributing factors, and make recommendations to prevent a recurrence.

#### **Investigative Methods**

The investigative methodologies included the following:

- Site assessment through document review
- Formal Interviews SAFE interviewed one individual as part of this investigation. The
  interview included persons present at, during, and after the incident, those directly
  involved in the response process, and representatives from the Washington Metrorail
  Safety Commission (WMSC). SAFE interviewed the following individual:
  - Train Operator Train ID 124
- Informal Interviews Collected through conversations with individuals during the investigation to provide background and supporting information. Written statements were reviewed from personnel present during the event.
- Documentation Review A collection of relevant work history information and process documentation contained in Metro systems of record. These records include:
  - Metrorail Operating Rulebook (MOR)
  - National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA)
  - CMOR Incident Report
  - Train Operator 30 Day Work History
  - Train Operator Training Record

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1 E24133

- Train Operator Certification Record
- Signal Engineering Report
- System Data Recording Review A collection of information contained in Metro Data Recording Systems. This data includes:
  - Audio Recording System (ARS) playback, including OPS 1 Radio
  - Closed-circuit television (CCTV)
  - Train Wayside Communication (TWC)
  - System Performance On-Time Summary (SPOTS)

#### <u>Investigation</u>

On Saturday, February 17, 2024, track maintenance was scheduled on the red line. Trains were single-tracking between Van Ness Station and Friendship Heights Station, and some trains were operating between Dupont Circle Station and Glenmont Station.

The System Performance On-Time Summary (SPOTS) revealed that at 12:53 hours, Train ID 124 entered the platform limits at Rhode Island Station on track 2. At 12:53:58 hours, the Train Operator opened the doors on the platform side and serviced the station. After servicing the station, the platform doors closed at 12:54:29 hours.

The non-platform side doors opened seconds later at 12:54:54 hours and then closed at 12:55:05 hours. The Train Operator did not report opening the doors on the non-platform side at Rhode Island Avenue Station to the MICC, and then continued toward Dupont Circle Station.

At 12:57 hours, a customer who was aboard the train reported the event via social media. CCTV confirmed an improper door operation occurred. The cameras on the platform captured the improper door operation. However, the cameras do not have a clear view of the doors opening off the platform. The shadow on the railcar floor showed the doors were open.

At 13:11 hours, Train ID 124 arrived at Dupont Circle Station on track 2, was offloaded, and continued to the interlocking. At 13:14 hours, Train ID 124 returned to Dupont Circle Station on track 1 as Train ID 123 and then departed towards Glenmont Station at 13:18 hours.

At 13:35 hours, the MICC Assistant Operations Manager (AOM) contacted the Button RTC to inform them that they received notification that the doors on Train ID 123 opened while the train was moving.

At 13:36 hours after departing Brookland Station, the Radio RTC instructed Train ID 123 to stop the train, key down, and walk through the train to make sure all the doors were closed. The Train Operator advised the Radio RTC they did not see any opened doors nor did any customers say the doors opened. The Radio RTC instructed the Train Operator to key up and offload their train at Fort Totten Station.

An RTRA Rail Supervisor was dispatched to meet the train at Fort Totten Station, where they and the Station Manager assisted with offloading the train. The Rail Supervisor took over operating the train, and the train was transported to Glenmont Yard for post-incident inspection.

#### **Chronological Event Timeline**

A review of ARS playback, i.e., phone and radio communications, revealed the following timeline:

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

Time	Description
12:53:28 hours	Train ID 124 arrived at Rhode Island Avenue Station on track 2. [SPOTS]
12:54:54 hours	Train ID 124 doors opened on the non-platform side. [SPOTS]
12:55:05 hours	Train ID 124 doors closed on the non-platform side. [SPOTS]
12:55:55 hours	Train ID 124 departed at Rhode Island Avenue Station on track 2. [SPOTS]
12:57:00 hours	A customer reported the doors open on the non-platform side via social
	media. [Social Media]
13:11:17 hours	Train ID 124 arrived at Dupont Circle Station on track 2. [SPOTS]
13:13:00 hours	Train ID 124 departed at Dupont Circle Station on track 2. [SPOTS]
13:14:15 hours	Train ID 124 returned to Dupont Circle Station on track 1 as Train ID 123. [SPOTS]
13:18:34 hours	Train ID 123 departed at Dupont Circle Station on track 1. [SPOTS]
13:35:44 hours	MICC Assistant Operations Manager: Contacted the Buttons RTC to inform them there was a report of Train ID 123 doors opening while the train was moving, and the train needed to be offloaded at Fort Totten Station. [Rail 2 Phone]
13:36:11 hours	Radio RTC: Instructed the Train Operator of Train ID 123 to stop their train, key down, perform a radio check on their handheld, and walk through the train to make sure all doors were closed because they received notification that the doors may have opened while the train was moving.  Train Operator: Gave 100% repeat back. [Ops. 1]
13:39:19 hours	Train Operator: Advised that no customers said the doors opened while the
40.40.00	train was moving. [Ops. 1]
13:42:28 hours	Radio RTC: Instructed the Train Operator to key up and continue to Fort Totten Station, and an RTRA Supervisor would meet them on the platform. Train Operator: Gave a 100% repeat back. [Ops. 1]
13:44:18 hours	Radio RTC: Instructed the RTRA Supervisor to check the emergency doors when boarding the train and ensure the seals were not broken.  RTRA Supervisor: Gave 100% repeat back. [Ops. 1]
13:45:47 hours	Radio RTC: Advised the Train Operator they would be offloading at Fort Totten Station, track 1. Train Operator: Gave 100% repeat back. [Ops. 1]
13:47:36 hours	Train ID 123 arrived at Fort Totten Station on track 1. [SPOTS]
13:48:49 hours	Radio RTC: Instructed the Train Operator to stay in the cab and wait while the RTRA Supervisor and Station Manager verified the train was clear of customers.
12.51.22 hours	Train Operator: Gave 100% repeat back. [Ops. 1]
13:51:33 hours	Train Operator: Contacted the Radio RTC to ask if they were servicing the next station or staying out of service and alighting back to Glenmont. Radio RTC: Advised the Train Operator to reblock to 723, remain out of service, and the RTRA Supervisor would operate to Glenmont Yard. [Ops. 1]
13:52:41 hours	RTRA Supervisor: Informed the Radio RTC that the train was cleared of customers, and they had a report that a Hispanic woman was messing with the doors. [Ops. 1]
13:53:23 hours	Train ID 123 (723) departed at Fort Totten Station on track 1. [SPOTS]
14:06:28 hours	Train ID 123 (723) arrived at Glenmont Station on track 1. [SPOTS]
14:10:09 hours	Train ID 123 (723) was dispatched at Glenmont Yard and was stored on track 1. [Radio GM-YD2]

<sup>\*\*</sup>Note: Times above may vary from other systems' timelines based on clock settings and reporting sources.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### Office of Chief Mechanical Officer (CMOR) – Incident Investigation Team (IIT)

Adopted from CMOR IIT report with minor formatting and grammatical edits:

On February 17, 2024, at approximately 12:53:28 (ROCS SPOTS time – See Figure 2), Train ID 124, traveling inbound on track 2, entered Rhode Island Avenue Station (B04-2). Per a ROCC Alert (Figure 1) a tweet was received at approximately 12:37p, with a photo showing a door on a 7K vehicle with a door opened on the off-platform side, on an ariel structure. The photo of the opened door was taken on car 7454, which was part of consist L7094/95 x 03/7002 x 7454/55 x 83/7082T.

The data reveals the train was operating in Auto Doors Mode. The train received the Left-Side Door Open command at 12:53:58. The Left-Side doors were manually closed at 12:54:29. The Right-Side Doors were manually opened via the Auxiliary Door Control Panel at 12:54:54 and manually closed at 12:55:05. Train ID 124 departed Rhode Island Station at 12:55:55.

#### C2: Rail Incident - Rhode Island Avenue

Incident Summary: Communications Section received a tweet at approximately 1237, showing a door opened on a 7K consist off of the platform side on an ariel structure. Upon Investigation, MICC rail section confirmed the incident Train to be Train 123, Car #7454. The train was offloaded at Fort Totten, track #1 and proceeded non-revenue to Glenmont Yard (B98) for post incident inspection. Additional information via Rail Operations Control System and Closed Circuit Television, shows that the Train Operator appeared to perform a door operation opposite side of the platform. Division Management was notified and the Glenmont Train Operator was removed from service. Track inspections are in the process of being performed between Rhode Island Avenue and NoMa-Gallaudet. Update to follow.

Additional Information

Incident Date/Time: 02-17-2024 14:00

Incident Level: C2

Location: Rhode Island Avenue

Track Number: 2



Figure 1

ID	Platform	length	dcode	Right door open	Right door close	dwell	Left door open	Left door close	dwell	Head Arrived	Tail cleared	cars	Headway door open to door open
103	B04-1	8	13				12:01:56	12:02:12	16	12:01:24	12:02:38	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	-
103	B05-1	8	13				12:04:01	12:04:15	14	12:03:29	12:04:41	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	2:05
103	B06-1	8	13				12:09:50	12:10:10	20	12:09:21	12:10:38	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	5:49
103	B07-1	8	13				12:13:10	12:13:25	15	12:12:39	12:13:50	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	3:20
103	B08-1	8	13				12:15:49	12:16:05	16	12:15:19	12:16:31	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	2:39
103	B09-1	8	13				12:19:08	12:19:24	16	12:18:36	12:19:51	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	3:19
103	B10-1	8	13				12:22:13	12:22:34	21	12:21:38	12:22:59	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	3:05
124	B11-1	8	12	12:32:22	12:33:37	75	12:25:47	12:25:48	1	12:25:06	12:34:22	7082-7083.7455-7454.7002-7003.7095-7094	3:34
124	B10-2	8	12				12:36:52	12:37:16	24	12:36:18	12:37:42	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	11:05
124	B09-2	8	12				12:39:56	12:40:37	41	12:39:19	12:41:04	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	3:04
124	B08-2	8	12				12:43:29	12:43:48	19	12:42:59	12:44:14	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	3:33
124	B07-2	8	12				12:46:09	12:46:26	17	12:45:36	12:46:49	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	2:40
124	B06-2	8	12				12:49:12	12:49:30	18	12:48:38	12:49:56	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	3:03
124	B05-2	8	12				12:51:59	12:52:15	16	12:51:27	12:52:42	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	2:47
124	B04-2	8	12	12:54:54	12:55:05	11	12:53:58	12:54:29	31	12:53:28	12:55:55	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	1:59
124	B35-2	0	1				12:58:57	12:59:18	21	12:58:21	12:59:45	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	4:59
124	B03-2	8	1				13:01:13	13:01:35	22	13:00:38	13:02:00	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	2:16
124	B02-2	8	1	13:03:19	13:03:37	18				13:02:47	13:03:59	7094-7095.7003-7002.7454-7455.7083-7082	2:06
				Name and Address of the Owner, when the Owner, which the Owner, whi	The state of the s								

Figure 2

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

Drafted By: SAFE 703 – 04/13/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 04/17/2024 Approved By: SAFE 707 – 04/17/2024 Page 8

#### Lead Car 7094 Incident Time Event Table #1

Time	Event
02/17/24	lead Car 7094 came to a complete stop on Track-2 at Rhode Island Ave
12:53:45	(B04)
02/17/24	Left Door open Train line command goes high, ALL Door closed and locked
12:53:50	signal goes low indicating Door opened left side.
02/17/24	Left Door close push button is depressed and ALL Door closed, and the
12:54:18	locked signal goes high, indicating the Door closed Left-hand side, the
	correct side of the Platform
02/17/24	Right Door open push button depressed, Right Door open Train line
12:54:46	command goes high, All Door closed and locked signal goes low indication
	Door also opened on the Right as seen in the NVR Video
02/17/24	Right Door Close push button is depressed, and ALL Door closed, and
12:54:53	locked signal goes high, indicating All Door closed and locked on both sides,
	and the Train begins moving to the next station (Noma-Gallaudet on Track-
	2)
02/17/24	Master Controller in P1-P4, and the Train began moving to the next Station
12:55:21	(B35) Noma-Gallaudet on Track-2

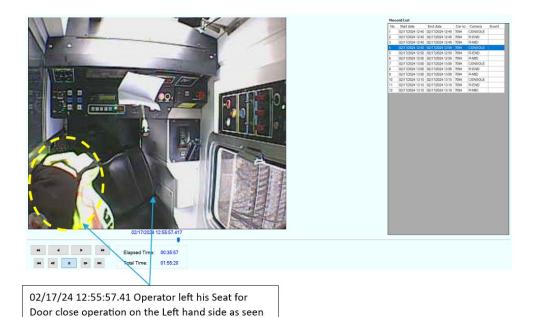


Figure 1: Car 7094 NVR Video Screenshots for Operator reaching out to the Left side Door Control Panel for Door operation.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

in the NVR Video Cab Video

E24133



Figure 2: Car 7094 Cab video screenshot showing the Operator's finger depressing the Right Door open push button on the Right Door Controller panel.

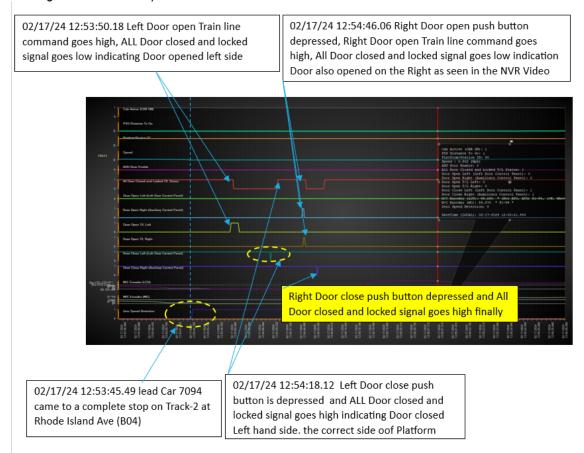


Figure 3: Lead Car 7094 ER Analysis Graph #1 of this Incident.

Train ID 124, operating in Auto Doors Mode, on Track 2 at Rhode Island Avenue station, properly berthed and opened the Left-Side doors as expected. The Operator manually closed the Left-

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

Side, prior to manually opening the Right-Side Doors via the Auxiliary Control Panel. The Right-Side doors were manually closed shortly thereafter, and the train resumed its route. The were no faults found with the operation of Train ID 124.

#### **System Performance On-Time Summary (SPOTS)**

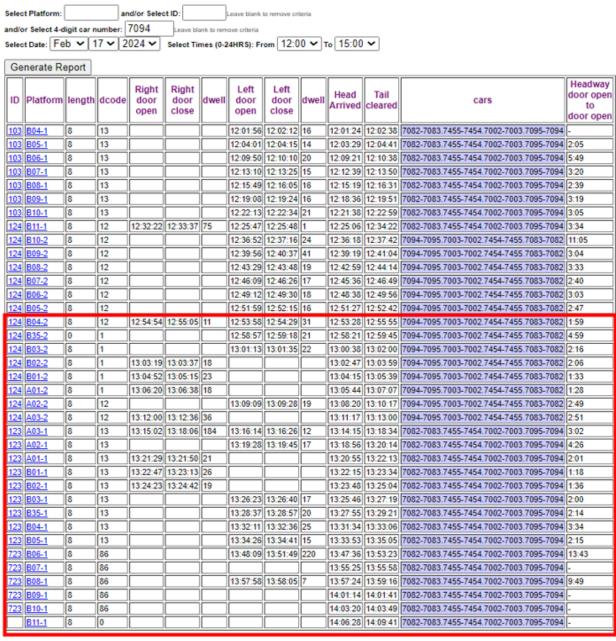


Figure 4: Shows that the doors were opened on both sides at Rhode Island Station.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### **Signal Engineering Investigation Report**

#### Signal Engineering Investigation Report

Title:	B04 TK 2 - Improper Door Operation
Date/Time:	February 17, 2024 12:53 hours
Location:	Rhode Island Station, Track 2

#### **Event Description**

Saturday, February 17, 2024, Signal Engineering received notification of a Door Opening on the wrong side at Rhode Island Station, track 2. See notification from Twitter.

#### Summary of Findings (Review of TWC Report)

- 1. Red Line is operating in Auto Doors. Manual requests are not required.
- The train to Wayside Communications report indicates that the Train Doors were opened twice.
- 1st time the doors were open via Auto Doors. (Indication "2" Left Side Doors – Correct Side Door Opening)
- 2<sup>nd</sup> time the doors were open via Manual. (Indication "1" Right Side Doors – Wrong Side Door Opening) See below.
- 5. "3" indicates doors closed



			_									t - A berat	uto [ tion	)oor
B04-2 TWC and O	B2-165 Pre Occ	B2-162 Pltf Occ	B2-155 Post Occ	ita ID	Dest	Len	PSS	Train Auto	ATP	Door	Ready	Berth	Motion	Door Man
Sat Feb 17 12:45:37 2024	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:20 2024	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:27 2024	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:29 2024	0	0	1	124	12	8	1	0	1	3	0	0	1	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:42 2024	0	0	1	124	12	8	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:44 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	3	0	0	1	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:50 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	3	0	1	1	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:51 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	3	0	1	0	0
Sat Feb 17 12:53:57 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	2	0	1	0	0
Sat Feb 17 12:54:05 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	2	0	0	0	0
Sat Feb 17 12:54:29 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	0
Sat Feb 17 12:54:51 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	3	0	0	0	.1
Sat Feb 17 12:54:53 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	1	0	0	0	7/1
Sat Feb 17 12:54:54 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	<b>4</b> 1	0	0	0 /	0
Sat Feb 17 12:55:05 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	/ 3	0	0	0/	0
Sat Feb 17 12:55:27 2024	0	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	1	3	0	0	1/	0
Sat Feb 17 12:55:31 2024	1	0	0	124	12	8	0	0	0 /	3	0	0	/1	0
Sat Feb 17 12:55:32 2024	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/	0	0	0	/ o	0
O . F . 47 40 FF F0 0004		<b>⊤</b> 1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0/	0	0	0 /	0	0
14 TB→159+20 N		1	1	0	0	0	0	0	ø	0	0	0	0	0
14 TB -159+20 Q	6 6 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8 1 8				Wro Doo	ng S r Op		g	_/		2nd - Door	- Ma · Red		t

#### Office of Rail Transportation (RTRA)

Adopted from RTRA Investigation report:

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### See Appendix D

#### **Interview Findings**

As part of the investigation launched into the event, SAFE interviewed one person. The interview identified the following key findings associated with this event. The findings detailed below include reported information from involved personnel and may conflict with other data sources contained in the report.

- The Train Operator stated that they were working the extra board.
- The Train Operator stated that they were completing their first-round trip.
- The Train Operator stated that they were operating in ADO, auto/manual, when the incident occurred.
- The Train Operator stated that they serviced the station according to SOP 40.
- The Train Operator stated that another Train Operator asked for a southbound drop-off at Brentwood Yard.
- The Train Operator stated that they were hesitant because they had never performed a southbound drop-off at Brentwood Yard, and they attempted to contact the MICC.
- The Train Operator stated that they were waiting for Central when they opened the doors on the non-platform side.
- The Train Operator stated that a security guard informed them of the improper door operation.
- The Train Operator stated that they never reported the improper door operation to the MICC.

#### Weather

On February 17, 2024, at the time of the incident, NOAA recorded the temperature as 37.4°F, with clear skies, winds of 17 mph, and 47.69% humidity. The weather did not contribute to this incident (Weather source: NOAA) – Location: [Washington, DC].

#### **Related Rules and Procedures**

- 6.2 Door Opening Procedures
  - 6.2.2 When train is operating in Mode 2 and the Door Mode Selector is in the Auto/Manual position, to automatically open the doors, the Rail Vehicle Operator shall:
    - 6.2.2.1 Depress the Train Berth pushbutton at three (3) miles per hour (mph) or less; and
    - 6.2.2.2 Properly berth the train on the platform.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### **Human Factors**

#### Evidence of Fatigue

We evaluated conditions at the time of the incident to distinguish whether evidence of fatigue was present. No sign of fatigue was indicated by the available data. Video of the incident was reviewed for behaviors suggesting fatigue. No indications of fatigue were evident from the video. The Train Operator reported feeling moderately alert at the time of the incident. The Train Operator reported experiencing no symptoms of fatigue in the time leading up to the incident.

#### Fatigue Risk

We evaluated incident data for fatigue risk factors. Risk factors for fatigue were not present. The incident time of day did not suggest an increased risk of fatigue-related impairment. The Train Operator reported keeping a regular sleep schedule in the days leading up to the incident. The Train Operator performed day and night work in the days leading up to the incident. The Train Operator was awake for 4.9 hours at the time of the incident. The Train Operator reported 10 hours of sleep in the 24 hours preceding the incident. The off-duty period was 14 hours, providing an opportunity for 7-9 hours of sleep. This was a comparable amount of sleep as the Train Operator's usual workday sleep durations. The employee reported no issues with sleep.

#### Post-Incident Toxicology Testing

WMATA's Drug and Alcohol Program determined that the Train Operator complied with the Drug and Alcohol Policy and Testing Program 7.7.3/6.

#### **Findings**

- The Train Operator reports to Glenmont Division and certified as a Train Operator in October 2023.
- The Train Operator has only operated on the red line.
- The Train Operator was a Bus Operator for four years before transitioning to rail operations.
- The Train Operator was working the extra board and completing their first-round trip when the event occurred.
- Train ID 124 was operated in ADO, auto/manual.
- The Train Operator used ADO according to SOP 40.
- The Train Operator reported that while on the platform at Rhode Island Avenue Station and waiting for the MICC to request to perform a platform stop at Brentwood Yard, they intended to reopen the doors and could have mistakenly opened the doors on the nonplatform side.
- The Train Operator did not contact the MICC to manually reopen the doors after servicing the station.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### **Immediate Mitigation to Prevent Recurrence**

- The Radio RTC instructed the Train Operator to verify if any doors were opened in the consist
- The train was offloaded.
- A Rail Supervisor was dispatched to take over operating the train.
- The Train Operator was removed from service.
- The consist was removed for post incident inspection.

#### **Probable Cause Statement**

The probable cause for the Improper Door Operation at Rhode Island Station on February 17, 2024, was complacency. The Train Operator failed to follow the proper procedures after they serviced the station.

#### **Recommended Corrective Actions**

Corrective Action Code	Description	Responsible Party	Estimated Completion Date
114841_SAF ECAPS_RTR A_001	Train Operator will complete refresher training with an emphasis on SOP 40.	RTRA SRC	Completed

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### **Appendices**

#### **Appendix A – Interview Summary**

The below narrative summarizes the incident and represent the statement made by the involved individual. As such, times and details may present a conflict with the data contained in systems of record.

The Train Operator is a WMATA employee with four (4) years of experience but less than a year of experience as a Train Operator. The Train Operator certified as a Train Operator in October 2023. The Train Operator previously worked as a Bus Operator. The Train Operator is RWP Level 2 certified and must recertify in May 2024.

The Train Operator stated the most challenging part of the training was the radio communications. The Train Operator mentioned feeling moderately alert while operating their train. The Train Operator stated no non-work-related circumstances affected their opportunity to get good sleep. The Train Operator did not experience any mechanical issues while operating Train ID 124. The Train Operator was completing their first-round trip when this event occurred. The Train Operator has only operated on the Red Line. The Train Operator was working the extra board on the day of the incident.

During the interview, the Train Operator stated they operated in Automatic Door Operations (ADO), auto/manual, when the incident happened. The Train Operator was certified for ADO in November 2023. The Train Operator stated after servicing the station; another Train Operator was asking them to do a southbound drop-off at Brentwood Station. The Train Operator said, "So I was kind of stuck for a minute because I've never done a southbound before, and I was trying to figure out where the southbound was located before I was like, OK, let me do the southbound, so when the operator requested that, I sat down and I thought about, let me contact central before proceeding towards southbound because once you get like really deep into Brentwood, like communication is almost nonexistent." The Train Operator continued to say, "I was trying to contact Central and then in my mind I figured since I'm at the platform, let me reopen the doors."

The Train Operator said they were confused when the security guard told them it was an emergency. The Train Operator noticed they opened the doors on the non-platform side but failed to inform the MICC. The Train Operator continued their trip to Shady Grove Station without reporting the improper door operation to the MICC. On their return trip to Glenmont, the Train Operator was contacted by the MICC to stop their train, key down, and walk through to ensure all doors were closed because they received notification that the doors opened while the train was moving. The Train Operator did not locate any open doors and was instructed to offload their train at Fort Totten Station.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133



# RTRA OPERATIONS PERSONNEL NOTICE

Tuesday, December 05, 2023 RTRA-603-121-00

# **UPDATE**: Return to Automatic Door Operations on the Red Line

Metrorail resumed the use of Auto/Manual Train Doors on Red Line trains only on December 5, 2023. Below is some early feedback from staff in the field on Auto/Manual Train Doors operations on the Red Line.

1. Operators need clarification on when to contact RTC related to SOP 40 (manual door operations).

See reference to SOP 40 6.2.4 below.

2. Operators need clarification on bypassing a station and NOT opening the doors.

If given permission from the RTC to bypass the station, Train operators should make good announcements to customers and continue to the next station without berthing the train

When after initiating train berth and train doors fail to open, Red Line operators shall:

- Follow the Door Opening Procedures outlined in SOP 40 under 6.2.4 (6.2.4.1 6.2.4.4)
- 6.2.4 When train doors fail to open automatically for a properly berthed train, the Rail Vehicle Operator shall:
  - 6.2.4.1 Activate the ATO STOP pushbutton if train is operated in Mode 1;
  - 6.2.4.2 Contact the RTC and obtain permission to open doors manually on the platform side, NOTE: For 7K only, once manual door operation is approved by RTC, perform the steps needed to manually enable the door control push-buttons;
  - 6.2.4.3 After the RTC grants permission, verify the platform side of the train, place their head out of the cab window and look at the doors to observe any activity in front of the doors, with hands to their side for five (5) seconds; and
  - 6.2.4.4 Depress the Open Doors pushbutton on the platform side of the train.

Do not hesitate to contact a Rail Supervisor for additional information on Auto/Manual Train Doors operations.



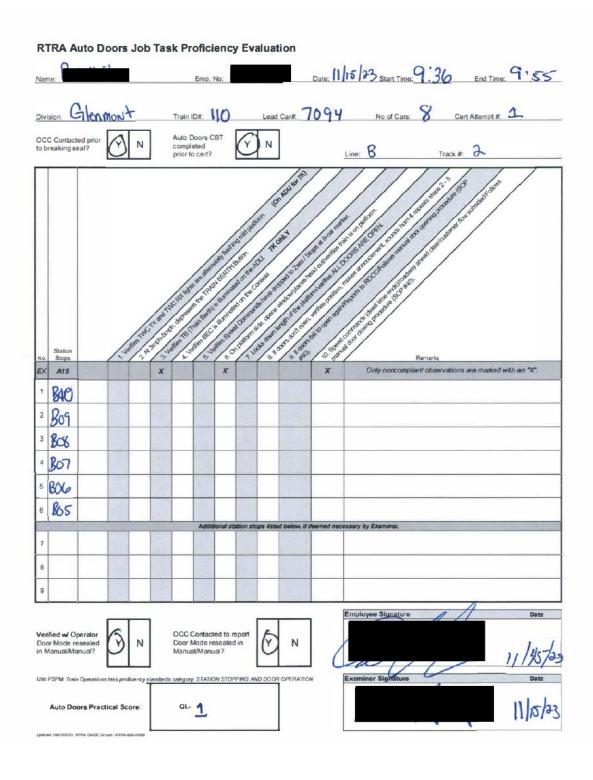
To report a potential safety risk, please scan the QR code or use this link: tinyurl.com/ReportRisks

Electronic devices shall only be used in designated areas and in accordance with the WMATA Electronic Device Policy.

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### Appendix C – RTRA Auto Doors Job Task Proficiency Evaluation



Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

INVESTIGATION REPORT		DIVISION: Glenmont		RAGE: N/A	FILE NO: 20240220-114894			
DATE OF OCCURRENCE: February 17, 2024	TIME: 12:54PM	VEHICLE NO.: L7094-7003-7454-7083		RUN NO.: Platform 02-1	SHIFT: 11am- 2:30p	BLOCK NO.		
LINE: Red Line		OCATION: dand Ave. Track #2		_	DESTINATION: Dupont Circle			
TYPE OF CASE Violation: MOR 1.1.5, 1.2.1, 1.6 8.18.3, 8.18.4	5.1, 1.6.2, 1.16.7, 8.	18.2,	Cusi	REPORT omer Commer		nedia		
NAME O	F EMPLOYEE INVO	OLVED:		E	MPLOYEE	NC		
NATURE OF OCCURRENCE:	Improper Door Ope	ration - Doors Open C	pposite P	latform Side	Vh naph	m+14.+3.1+0		
1. SUMMARY	OF INVESTIGATION	2 CTATEMENT OF EM	01.01/55.0					
1.Train Operator , an inverse , an inverse , and audio recording On Saturday, Februar were assigned a rou	cts / EVIDENCE IN stigation into this inc gs, all of which comb y 17, 2024, you we not trip of run GM-	SUPPORT OF RULE V cident was conducted bined, revealed the fol- re assigned platform of 401 operating ID 124	using all in lowing: luties wor 4 on the	5. ASSESSMENt incident reports, king As Directe Red Line by	CENV data	cLINE downloads, vid ont Terminal. Y		
1.Train Operator , an inverse and audio recordings, and audio recording.  On Saturday, Februar were assigned a rou 12:53:58pm, Train ID doors were manually of Door Control Panel at 12:55:55pm without no	stigation into this income, all of which come y 17, 2024, you wend trip of run GM-124 received the lestosed at 12:54:29pn 12:54:54 and man offying the MICC of	support of Rule vicident was conducted bined, revealed the follower assigned platform of 401 operating ID 124 ft-side door open community. The right-side doors ually closed at 12:55: the incident.	using all in lowing: luties wor 4 on the mand at were the 05pm. Tra	5. ASSESSMENt neident reports, king As Directe Red Line by Rhode Island An manually openin ID 124 departs	CENV data dat Glenmo Supervisor I evenue track ned via the ri arted Rhode	downloads, vident Terminal. Y  #2. The left-sight-side Auxilia Island Station		
1.Train Operator , an inverse recordings, and audio recordings and audio recording   On Saturday, Februar were assigned a rou   12:53:58pm, Train ID   doors were manually or   Door Control Panel at   12:55:55pm without no   2. Operator , you stated in   me to stop the train due to a rep   passengers on board of the inc   Fort Totten." In addition, when it	stigation into this income, all of which come y 17, 2024, you wend trip of run GM-124 received the lelosed at 12:54:29pn 12:54:54 and manutifying the MICC of an your incident reponent of doors opening interviewed by Supe	support of rule vident was conducted bined, revealed the following re assigned platform of 401 operating ID 12-ft-side door open com. The right-side doors ually closed at 12:55: the incident.  The "While in approach of the while train was in more of the right and proach of the while train was in more of the right and the while train was in more of the right and the was in more of the was in more of the right and the was in more of the was in the was in more of the was in the wa	using all in lowing: luties wor 4 on the mand at were their possible. Traffic Fort Totion, I stodoor, I was	5. ASSESSMENt cident reports, king As Directer Red Line by Rhode Island An manually open ain ID 124 depicted after service peed the train is instructed off	CENV data  ed at Glenmo Supervisor Avenue track ned via the ri arted Rhode  cing Brookla to investigate load the trai	downloads, vident Terminal. Y  #2. The left-sight-side Auxilia Island Station  and MICC order e, questioning terminal one I arrived		
1.Train Operator , an inverse recordings, and audio recordings and audio recording   On Saturday, Februar were assigned a rou   12:53:58pm, Train ID   doors were manually or   Door Control Panel at   12:55:55pm without no	stigation into this income, all of which come y 17, 2024, you wend trip of run GM-124 received the le losed at 12:54:29 pm 12:54:54 and man otifying the MICC of an your incident report of doors opening ident. Nobody confiniterviewed by Superthe opposite side."	cident was conducted bined, revealed the following recommendation of the assigned platform of 401 operating ID 12-ft-side door open commanded to a 12:55: the incident.  The "While in approach g while train was in more med seeing an open erintendent."  and Supervisor orm." After viewing the	using all in lowing: luties word 4 on the mand at were their population. I stodoor. I was on the da	5. ASSESSMENt cident reports, king As Directe Red Line by Rhode Island An manually open ain ID 124 depoint ID 1	CENV data  d at Glenmo Supervisor  twenue track ned via the ri arted Rhode  cing Brookla to investigate load the trai t, you stated  stated that, here you sai	downloads, vident Terminal. Yes  #2. The left-sight-side Auxilia Island Station  and MICC orders  e, questioning to in one I arrived in your intervie  "I didn't realize w yourself initia		
On Saturday, Februar were assigned a rou 12:53:58pm, Train ID doors were manually on Door Control Panel at 12:55:55pm without not stop the train due to a repassengers on board of the incept of the incept of the train due to a repassenger on the train due to a repassenger on board of the incept Totten." In addition, when it that, "I didn't open the doors on the open door and close door to the open door and close door to	stigation into this income, all of which come y 17, 2024, you were the policy of run GM-124 received the leads at 12:54:29 pm. 12:54:54 and manufatifying the MICC of an your incident report of doors opening the policy of the opposite side."  Superintendent side side of the platticulations on the auxiliary stigates and the platticulations of the platticulations on the auxiliary stigates and the platticulations of the platticulations are provided to the platticulations of th	cident was conducted bined, revealed the following recommendation of the assigned platform of 401 operating ID 12-ft-side door open commanded to a 12:55: the incident.  The "While in approach g while train was in more med seeing an open erintendent."  and Supervisor orm." After viewing the	using all in lowing: luties wor 4 on the mand at were then 05pm. Tractor Fort Totion. I stodoor. I was on the da on e video of that, "I die	5. ASSESSMENt cident reports, wing As Directed Red Line by Rhode Island An manually open ain ID 124 depicted after service peed the train is instructed off by of the incident with the incident	CENV data  d at Glenmo Supervisor  twenue track ned via the ri arted Rhode  cing Brookla to investigate load the trai t, you stated  stated that, here you sai	downloads, vident Terminal. You #2. The left-side Auxiliar Island Station and MICC ordered, questioning the none I arrived in your interview yourself initia		

Attachment 1: RTRA Investigation Report pg.1 of 4

EMPLOYEE MAY WRITE A STATEMENT IN THIS SPACE:

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

Drafted By: SAFE 703 – 04/13/2024 Reviewed By: SAFE 707 – 04/17/2024 Approved By: SAFE 707 – 04/17/2024

Page 19

#### WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN AREA TRANSIT AUTHORITY

#### Investigation Report Continuation Sheet

- 3. Based on the above investigation you violated the following Metrorail Operating Rules:
- MOR 1.1.5- If any doubt exists regarding the exact meaning of any rule, regulation, special order, procedure, written or verbal instruction or radio transmission, employees shall immediately secure additional information or clarification from their supervisor.
- MOR 1.2.1- Employees involved in, witnessing, or informed of an accident or incident, to include near misses, on the Metrorail system shall inform their supervisor, Metro Transit Police Department, Rail Operations Control Center and/or other appropriate authority as soon as possible, and shall file a written report.
- MOR 1.6.1- All employees of WMATA, regardless of rank or title, shall be knowledgeable of and abide by the rules set forth in this manual as well as rules and procedures contained in documents pertaining to their specific work assignments while working on or traveling within the Metrorail system whether on or off duty.
- MOR 1.6.2- Failure of any employee to abide by established rules and procedures, failure to comply with the verbal instructions of supervisors, or failure to use sound judgement, regardless of the time, place, or circumstance, to compromise the safety of the public or fellow employees will result in the employee's immediate removal from service, pending an investigation. Disciplinary action will include permanent disqualification from safety sensitive positions or dismissal.
- MOR 1.16.7- No employee shall knowingly make any false statement or falsify any official report; or knowingly enter, or cause to be entered, any inaccurate, false, or improper information on the books, reports, logs, or records of WMATA.
- MOR 8.18.2- In revenue service, Train Operators shall not manually operate any OPEN DOORS control except the crew door key switch while any side doors of the train are outside the limits of a station platform, except when directed by Rail Traffic Controller.
- MOR 8.18.3- In revenue service, when the train is otherwise within the limits of a station platform, Rail Vehicle Operators shall not manually operate the OPEN DOORS control on the side of the train opposite the platform.
- MOR 8.18.4- In the event train doors are opened outside the platform limits or on the off side of the platform. The Rail Vehicle Operators shall close doors, notify the Rail Traffic Controller, and conduct a ground walk around inspection. The Rail Traffic Controller will determine if the train is to be taken out of service and if it is safe to discharge customers at that station.
- 4. An investigation into this incident was conducted by Glenmont Division Managers. The investigation included your incident report, the MICC's incident report, the incident report provided by an employee who witnessed the event, an interview conducted with you, an interview conducted with the witness, platform video of the incident, cab video of the incident, audio recordings from the NICE system, VMS and TWC Data Reports from the train, and an interview with Safety personnel. Combined, these data points revealed the following.

Train Operator was operating train ID 124 at Rhode Island Avenue Station, Track #2, lead car 7094 on February 17, 2024. Once the train properly berthed at the 8-car marker at 12:53pm, the left side doors opened correctly in accordance with the ADO procedure, cab video shows depressing the Train Berth button once the train was stopped. At 12:54pm the train's VMS data and wayside SPOTS report indicates the left-side doors were closed manually in accordance with the door closing procedures. At 12:54:46 pm VMS data indicates the train's right-side doors were opened by the pressing of the door open push button on the Auxiliary Door Control Panel. This is also shown in the overhead cab video. At 12:55:05pm the right-side doors are closed by depressing the door close button on the Auxiliary Door Control Panel. This resulted in the doors being opened for approximately 11 seconds on the off-platform side. The train then departed Rhode Island Ave. at 12:55:21pm without notification to the MICC.

Attachment 1: RTRA Investigation Report pg.2 of 4

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

The doors opening on the opposite side of the platform were witnessed by a WMATA employee who boarded the train at Rhode Island Avenue. The witness stated in his report that he boarded the train and requested a southbound platform stop at Brentwood Yard. The witness stated that he informed the operator that the doors had opened on the alternate side of the platform. He also stated that he could hear "audible chatter with central but couldn't make out what was said" after the doors had opened offside.

Review of the NICE audio recordings indicates there were two conversations between and the Control Center. The first consisted of the request for the southbound platform stop at Brentwood Yard, consistent with the witness' statement. The second conversation was of Central Control verifying the train's destination of Dupont Circle (there were short trips in effect due to track work). The overhead cab camera confirms the first conversation taking place prior to the right-side doors being opened off platform. The second conversation is recorded as taking place after the train has already begun to move, departing Rhode Island Ave. Station. At no time is the door off platform incident reported to the Control Center.

When interviewed by Superintendent	stated that he did not ope	n the doors on the opposite side of the platform.
In a second interview with Assistant Superintendent	and Supervisor	stated that he was not aware that the
doors opened on the off-platform side. In the interview with	stated	that he saw the doors open but was unaware of
what to do because it had never happened to him before	(if true, a violation in that	did not ask for further guidance). The
statements made by are contradicted by the wi	tness' statement of the ev	ents, by the camera footage, and by the audio
recordings. The evidence shows that knowing	ly and intentionally made	false statements, both in his written statement
and in interviews, to management concerning the doors be	ing opened on the off side	of the platform at Rhode Island Avenue station.

Lead Car 7094 Incident Time Event Table #1

Time	Event
02/17/24 12:53:45.49	lead Car 7094 came to a complete stop on Track-2 at Rhode Island Ave (B04)
02/17/24 12:53:50.18	Left Door open Train line command goes high, ALL Door closed and locked signal goes low indicating Door opened left side.
02/17/24 12:54:18.12	Left Door close push button is depressed, and ALL Door closed and locked signal goes high indicating Door closed Left hand side, the correct side oof Platform
02/17/24 12:54:46.06	Right Door open push button depressed, Right Door open Train line command goes high, All Door closed and locked signal goes low indication Door also opened on the Right as seen in the NVR Video
02/17/24 12:54:53.55	Right Door Close push button is depressed, and ALL Door closed and locked signal goes high indicating All Door closed and locked on both sides and the Train began moving to the next station (Noma-Gallaudet on Track-2)
02/17/24 12:55:21.45	Master Controller in P1-P4 and the Train began moving to the next Station (B35) Noma-Gallaudet on Track-2

Attachment 1: RTRA Investigation Report pg.3 of 4

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

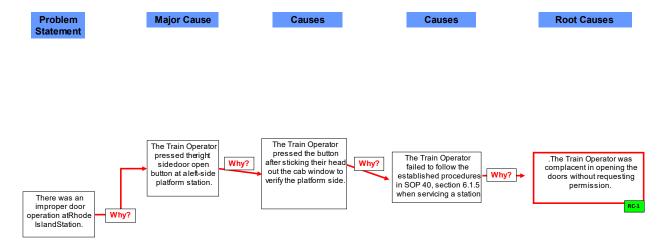
#### Spots Report: Spots Report 1 Spots Report 2 Spots Wild cards ROCS SPOTS REPORT Current date/time: Tue Mar 12 09:03:04 2024 Select Platform: B04-2 Select Date: Feb v 17 v 2024 v Select Times (0-24HRS): From 12:00 v To 13:00 v Generate Report Right Right Left Left door door Arrived cleared open close open close 12:08:31 12:08:48 17 12 07 56 12 09 12 7184-7185 7153-7152 7048-7049 7171-717 12 18 41 12 19:05 24 12 18 09 12 19 31 7124-7125 7087-7086 7 150-7151 7389-7388 10 10 118 804-2 12 12 25 35 12 25 56 21 [12 25 07 12 26 22] 7096-7097-7157-7156-7036-7037-7133-7132 6.54\_ 120 B04-2 12 12 35 14 12 35:33 19 [12:34 47] [12:35:57] [7008-7009 7235-7234 7680-7081 7191-7190] 9:39 12:44:52 12:45:10 18 12 44 22 12 45 34 7030-7031 7019-7018 7148-7149 7135-7134 9 38 12:53:58 12:54:29 31 12 53 28 12 55 55 7094-7095 7003-7002 7454-7455 7083-7082 9 06 , in determining the appropriate disciplinary penalty for your actions, Glenmont Division Management considered many factors. The records of WMATA indicate you have been an employee since January 6, 2020, and a Train Operator since October 27, 2023. You have no previous safety violations on file. Having reviewed the circumstances of this violation, the Authority does not find any mitigating factors to consider that would impact the final action to be taken. In multiple interviews, you continued to deny knowledge of the doors being opened offside, despite a witness statement and camera evidence showing otherwise. Considering the severe nature of this safety violation to include the doors being opened off side at an aerial station with a large drop, the failure to perform a ground walkaround inspection, the failure to inform the MICC of the incident, and the multiple demonstrably false statements denying the occurrence to management, you will be suspended for a total of 30 working days (10 days for opening the doors off platform and 20 days for failure to report the incident/ no ground walkaround performed) in accordance with all arbitration agreements governing violations of this nature. This suspension will begin today, March 18, 2024, and will include the following dates March 19,20,21,22,25,26,27,28,29, April 1,2,3,4,5,8,9,10,11,12,15,16,17,18,19,22,23,24,25, and 26th. You will report to training upon your return from suspension on , be advised, that progressive disciplinary action, to include termination from the April 29, 2024. Washington Metro Area Transit Authority, will be applied to any further violations. may, in accordance with the CBA: "...elect to utilize earned vacation to protect earning levels to the extent possible, however, such voluntary election will preclude the employee from filing a grievance pursuant to Section 104(a & b) as it relates to the violation finding and disciplinary action taken." chooses to use vacation: Yes or No Number of days of vacation requested to be applied \_\_\_\_

Attachment 1: RTRA Investigation Report pg.4 of 4

Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133

#### Appendix E - Why-Tree Analysis



## **Root Cause Analysis**



Incident Date: 02/17/2024 Time: 12:54 hours Final Report – Improper Door Operation Rev. 1

E24133