

The following report is based on the *Model for report on occurrences during the carriage of dangerous goods* in accordance with RID 1.8.5.4. Detailed information on this accident and what caused it can be found in the report by the Dutch Safety Board (OvV). The report is available via the following link:  
<https://www.onderzoeksraad.nl/uploads/phase-docs/1194/bf794f7757b1treinbotsing-tilburg-en-interactief.pdf>

We would also refer you to informal document INF.5, which the Netherlands have submitted to the 7<sup>th</sup> session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group (Prague, 22 to 24 November 2016), which is also annexed to this report.

<b>1. Mode</b>	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Rail Wagon number (optional): .....	<input type="checkbox"/> Road Vehicle registration (optional): .....
<b>2. Date and location of occurrence</b>	
Year: <b>2015</b> Month: <b>March</b> Day: <b>6</b> Time: <b>16:45</b>	
<u>Rail</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Station <input type="checkbox"/> Shunting/marshalling yard <input type="checkbox"/> Loading/unloading/transshipment site Location / Country: ..... or <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Open line Description of line: near Tilburg Goods yard Kilometres: .....	<u>Road</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Built-up area <input type="checkbox"/> Loading/unloading/transshipment site <input type="checkbox"/> Open road Location / Country: .....
<b>3. Topography</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Gradient/incline <input type="checkbox"/> Tunnel <input type="checkbox"/> Bridge/Underpass <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Crossing	
<b>4. Particular weather conditions</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Rain <input type="checkbox"/> Snow <input type="checkbox"/> Ice <input type="checkbox"/> Fog <input type="checkbox"/> Thunderstorm <input type="checkbox"/> Storm Temperature: ... °C	
<b>5. Description of occurrence</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Derailment/Leaving the road <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Collision <input type="checkbox"/> Overturning/Rolling over <input type="checkbox"/> Fire <input type="checkbox"/> Explosion <input type="checkbox"/> Loss <input type="checkbox"/> Technical fault  Additional description of occurrence:  <b>See informal document INF.5 the 7<sup>th</sup> session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group (Prague, 22 to 24 November 2016) attached to this report.</b>  <b>A passenger train collided with a stationary freight train of dangerous substances at Tilburg. The last tank-wagon of the freight train got damaged and leaked UN 1010 Butadiene. Furthermore the whole train consisted of several other (not damaged) tank-wagons which contained other dangerous goods (see the list of substances as mentioned under 6.).</b>	

6. Dangerous goods involved						
UN Number <sup>(1)</sup>	Class	Packing Group	Estimated quantity of loss of products (kg or l) <sup>(2)</sup>	Means of containment <sup>(3)</sup>	Means of containment material	Type of failure of means of containment <sup>(4)</sup>
1010	2		Minor (drip) leakage	7	Steel	1 (leak along seal of man-hole cover)
1005	2			7	Steel	
1093	3	I		7	Steel	
1230*	6.1	II		7	Steel	
2312*	3	II		7	Steel	
* empty uncleaned						
(1) For dangerous goods assigned to collective entries to which special provision 274 applies, also the technical name shall be indicated.				(2) For Class 7, indicate values according to the criteria in 1.8.5.3.		
(3) Indicate the appropriate number 1 Packaging 2 IBC 3 Large packaging 4 Small container 5 Wagon 6 Vehicle 7 Tank-wagon 8 Tank-vehicle 9 Battery-wagon 10 Battery-vehicle 11 Wagon with demountable tanks 12 Demountable tank 13 Large container 14 Tank-container 15 MEGC 16 Portable tank				(4) Indicate the appropriate number 1 Loss 2 Fire 3 Explosion 4 Structural failure		
7. Cause of occurrence (if clearly known)						
<input type="checkbox"/> Technical fault <input type="checkbox"/> Faulty load securing <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Operational cause (rail operation) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: .....						
8. Consequences of occurrence						
<u>Personal injury in connection with the dangerous goods involved:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Deaths (number: .....) <input type="checkbox"/> Injured (number: .....) <u>Loss of product:</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/> Imminent risk of loss of product <u>Material/Environmental damage:</u> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Estimated level of damage ≤ 50,000 Euros <input type="checkbox"/> Estimated level of damage > 50,000 Euros <u>Involvement of authorities:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes → <input type="checkbox"/> Evacuation of persons for a duration of at least three hours caused by the dangerous goods involved <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Closure of public traffic routes for a duration of at least three hours caused by the dangerous goods involved <input type="checkbox"/> No						



**INF. 5**

9 November 2016

(English only)

**RID:** 7<sup>th</sup> Session of the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group  
(Prague, 22 to 24 November 2016)

**Subject:** Report on a rail accident at Tilburg on 6 March 2015

**Transmitted by the Netherlands**

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### Information

1. With reference to RID 1.8.5.2 the government of the Netherlands wishes to inform the RID Committee of Experts' standing working group of the report of the Dutch Safety Board regarding the train accident that took place in Tilburg on 6 March 2015.

### Brief outline of the accident

2. On 6 March 2015 a passenger train collided with a stationary freight train carrying dangerous substances at Tilburg in the Netherlands. Eight people on the passenger train were slightly injured. The last tank-wagon of the freight train was damaged and leaked butadiene (UN 1010). Some police officers became unwell after inhaling the escaped gases.
3. In response to the accident the [Dutch Safety Board](#) (Onderzoeksraad voor Veiligheid) carried out an investigation and published the report "Risicobeheersing bij spoorvervoer" (Risk management in railway transport) in which it has made several safety recommendations to the Ministry of Infrastructure and the Environment, the railway infrastructure manager, carriers and chemical companies.

### Causes

4. The freight train was coming from the Chemelot chemical park in South Limburg and was en route to Rotterdam. Due to an adjustment in the schedule, the train left three hours later than originally planned and the carrier decided to stop in Tilburg to allow for a change of driver. When requesting the stop, the carrier's report on the length of the train was inaccurate, with the result that the train service management directed the train to a

siding that was too short. As a consequence, the rear wagon was so close to a switch that the signal for the passenger train remained red. The driver of the passenger train did not notice the red signal. The passenger train ran into the freight train. The front part of the passenger train climbed during the collision, and ended up against the tank of the butadiene tank-wagon.

### **Analysis**

5. The sidings at Tilburg are not protected against red light passage by an automatic train control system (the so-called ATB-VV system), so the passenger train was not slowed down automatically by this system.
6. Because the passenger train was of an older type which does not have buffers, the front part of the passenger train climbed during the collision, and ended up against the tank of the butadiene tank-wagon.
7. The "climbing" of the passenger train was able to occur because the tank-wagon was not equipped with protection measures against overriding of buffers. Such protection is only mandatory for tank-wagons containing very toxic substances.
8. The freight train also contained wagons with non-dangerous substances. If one of those wagons had been placed at the rear end of the train, no dangerous substances would have leaked. However, there is no legal obligation to place a wagon with non-dangerous substances at the rear of a train.

### **Safety recommendations**

9. The Dutch Safety Board highlighted in its report the importance of supply chain responsibility. It recommends rail companies not to make operational decisions that lead to an increase in known and managed safety risks. In addition, the Board recommends that passenger train railway undertakings should not use train types with poor collision compatibility on routes designated for the transport of dangerous goods.
10. Furthermore, the Board is of the opinion that the Minister of Infrastructure and the Environment should require that all types of tank-wagons be protected against overriding of buffers, and that the rear wagon of a freight train may not contain any dangerous goods.

### **Further steps**

11. The Netherlands are currently exploring the possibilities for following up of the recommendations made by the Dutch Safety Board.

### **References**

12. Overview of the recommendations (in English):  
<https://www.onderzoeksraad.nl/uploads/phase-docs/1194/7d35f4d5fcc1aanbevelingen-treinbotsing-tilburg-en.pdf>
13. Full report by the Onderzoekraad voor Veiligheid (in English):  
<https://www.onderzoeksraad.nl/uploads/phase-docs/1194/bf794f7757b1treinbotsing-tilburg-en-interactief.pdf>
14. Press release with summary of the report by the Onderzoekraad voor Veiligheid (in Dutch only):  
[https://www.onderzoeksraad.nl/uploads/fm/09032016\\_DEF\\_persbericht\\_Tilburg.pdf](https://www.onderzoeksraad.nl/uploads/fm/09032016_DEF_persbericht_Tilburg.pdf)

15. Report on the incident by the Inspectie voor Leefomgeving en Milieu (The Human Environment and Transport Inspectorate) (in Dutch only):

[https://www.ilent.nl/Images/Botsing%20Tilburg%20-%206%20maart%202015%20-%20definitief\\_tcm334-370747.pdf](https://www.ilent.nl/Images/Botsing%20Tilburg%20-%206%20maart%202015%20-%20definitief_tcm334-370747.pdf)

### The collision



### The situation



### The damage



### Situational overview

