

MANUFACTURING SAFETY ALERT

Ask Yourself
“Could it happen here?”

DESCRIPTION OF EVENT

RAIL CAR LOADING - STRUCK BY

While a forklift was loading the second rail car in a string of four, all the cars began to roll. The cars were moving slowly, and the forklift operator was able to stop them after about 60 feet.

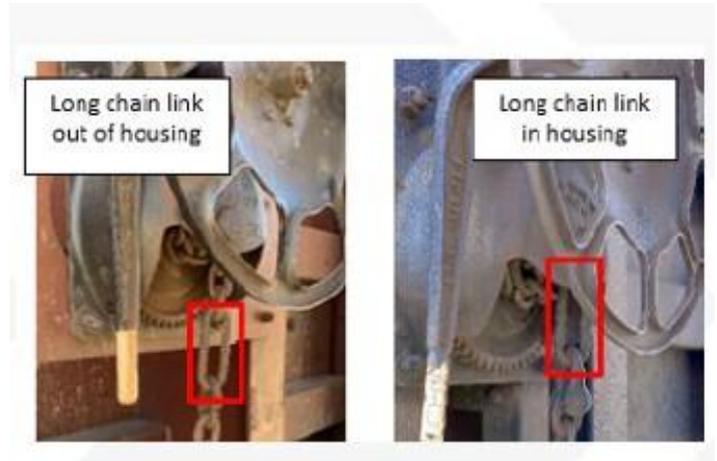
The safe work procedure requires brakes to be set on, at least, two cars in a string of this size. The rail crew had set handbrakes on three of the four cars.

An investigation found that two of the cars had long chain link brake systems that had become caught inside the chain housing. It's suspected this caused a jam that prevented the brakes from working properly.

The rail company later examined the cars and deemed them safe to travel to the rail maintenance yard for a more detailed inspection.

SUGGESTED ACTIONS

- Report the incident to the rail company and Technical Safety BC
- Instruct rail attendants to check brakes with long links near the housing to ensure there is no binding or jamming. If there is any concern, a rail car chock must be used



MOST IMPORTANT TAKE AWAY

Reinforce safety standards for railcar brake inspections and operator training.

Regular inspections and strict adherence to safety procedures are essential to preventing incidents like this.

