

Railway accident investigation report

Railway operator : Oigawa Railway Co., Ltd.

Accident type : Train derailment.

Date and time : About 12:18, November 24, 2013.

Location : In the premises of Ikawa station, Ikawa Line, Shizuoka City, Shizuoka Prefecture.

SUMMARY

On November 24, 2013, the outbound Passenger 203 train, composed of 9 vehicles, starting from Senzu station bound for Ikawa station, Ikawa Line, of Oigawa Railway Co., Ltd., had collided with a rock lying in the track while running between Kanzo station and Ikawa station, the driver of the train checked vehicles and found no abnormal situation, then the driver continued train operation. When the train approached to Ikawa station, the train driver heard the sound from vehicles and felt a shock after a short while, then the driver applied an emergency brake and stopped the train.

It was found that all two axles of the front bogie of the first vehicle were derailed, and the brake equipment of the bogie was damaged.

There is no casualty in the 110 passengers, the 2 train conductors and the train driver.

PROBABLE CAUSES

It is highly probable that all two axles of the front bogie were derailed because the bogie was pushed along the lead rail to the branch line in the turnout by the parts of the brake equipment, that had hang down to below the rail surface level by successive running after collision of the metal suspension parts of the brake equipment with the rock lying on the track and caught under the vehicle body while the train was running.

It is probable that the fact that the train driver continued train operation being aware of collision of the train with the rock and could not notice the fallen metal parts which should suspend the brake equipment by the inspection resulted in the occurrence of the accident.

In addition, it is probable that the rock lying on the track had fallen from the slope in the track side by missing its stability.