

## **REPORT VERSION TABLE**

<u>Version number</u>	Subject of revision	<u>Date</u>
1.0	First version	23/03/2021

Any use of this report with a different aim than of accident prevention - for example in order to attribute liability - individual or collective blame in particular - would be a complete distortion of the aims of this report, the methods used to assemble it, the selection of facts collected, the nature of questions posed and the ideas organising it, to which the notion of liability is unknown. The conclusions which could be deduced from this would therefore be abusive in the literal sense of the term. In case of contradiction between certain words and terms, it is necessary to refer to the French version.

# **GENERAL INFORMATION**

#### **Nature of the event:**

Derailment of a passenger train due to the collision with a metal object in the track.

#### Type of event and safety investigation:

Accident of type "other": main line derailment.

The investigation is ongoing.

## **Date and time of the event:**

Thursday 4 March 2021 at 6:35 p.m.

### Place of the event:

Line 161A, Germoir station (Ixelles), platform II, kilometre marker 7.465.

#### **Trains:**

- Train SNCB/NMBS E3289, route Leuven Braine l'Alleud, AM 906 + 950.
- Train SNCB/NMBS E2189, route Aalst Mechelen, AM 08175.

#### **Victims:**

There are no victims.

#### **Damages and consequences:**

The motor coach AM950 of train E3289 derailed on one axle and did not overturn. No damage to the infrastructure.

A single-track service could be quickly organised.

# **FACTS**

On Thursday 4 March 2021, at around 6:35 p.m., SNCB/NMBS passenger train E3289 arrives at Germoir station for a commercial stop. The train driver notices a metal object in the track: he performs an emergency braking but cannot avoid the collision with the metal object. As a result of the impact, the first axle of the train derails. He launches a GSM-R alarm. With the train at the platform, passengers can evacuate the train safely via the station platform.

The metal object could be identified as the box containing the emergency coupling of an AM08 "Desiro" motor coach: it comes from train E2189 which passed through Germoir station a few minutes earlier.

# INVESTIGATION

The investigators of the Investigation Unit could visit the SNCB/NMBS workshops in Schaerbeek to make initial findings on the rolling stock concerned.

The investigation is ongoing to determine the causal, contributing and systemic factors leading to the presence of the box and its contents on the track and to the derailment.

