

# Bulletin of General Information

## Runaway of a passenger train Mechelen - 24/05/2024

## DOCUMENT VERSION TABLE

Version number	Subject of revision	Date
1.0	First version	13/06/2024

*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 Dutch version.*



# 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

## 1.1. NATURE OF THE EVENT

Runaway of a passenger train with passengers on board, following an uncoupling manoeuvre at Mechelen station.

## 1.2. TYPE OF EVENT AND SAFETY INVESTIGATION

Incident with safety investigation.  
The safety investigation is ongoing.

## 1.3. DATE AND TIME OF THE EVENT

24/05/2024 around 09:16 a.m.

## 1.4. PLACE OF THE EVENT

Mechelen station

- Platform 5
- Line 53A – track B



## 1.5. TRAIN

SNCB/NMBS passenger train – E3458 (Bruxelles-Luxembourg – Mechelen), composed of two railcars.

## 1.6. VICTIMS

There were no victims.

## 1.7. DAMAGES AND CONSEQUENCES

- Minor damage to a switch.
- Train delays and cancellations.

## 2. FACTS

On Friday 24 May 2024, passenger train E3458 arrives at platform 5 at Mechelen station and is uncoupled into two trains E3480 and E3481. At around 09:16 a.m., during this uncoupling manoeuvre, passenger train E3480 with no railway staff on board runs away from platform 5 of Mechelen station. The train with about 30 passengers on board runs through a switch on track B of line 53. The passenger train comes to a halt after a train passenger operates the emergency brake.



## 3. INVESTIGATION

Investigators from the RAIU went to the scene of the incident to make initial findings and gather initial information.

The investigation into the incident is ongoing to determine the causal and contributing factors to the occurrence, including both immediate and deeper systemic factors.



**Rail Accident and Incident Investigation Unit**  
<http://www.raiiu.be>

