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2008-401-5

Railway accident



On 6th September 2008 a regional passenger train - upon approaching Lövő station - collided with a car at an LC which was protected by warning lights and was operating normally. As a consequence of the collision, 4 of the passengers in the car died at the site and one was taken into hospital with serious, life-threatening injuries.

Factual statements directly connected to the occurrence of the accident

The LC at Lövő station is protected by warning lights which were operating normally at the time of the accident and were clearly visible.

The train passed the entry signal with approximately 66-68 km/h disregarding the prescribed 40 km/h speed limit.

Factual statements indirectly connected to the occurrence of the accident

The track does not have signal feed capability, therefore it is possible that engine-drivers follow a routine when they reduce speed only in the immediate vicinity of the points in order to save time. This practice does not pose a risk by itself because the reason for slowing down is the points, however, it is against the regulation which requires slowing down at the main signal. The distance between the entry signal and the points is 301 metres at the location of the accident.