**HU-6350**

**2020-0169-5 Vecsés - Üllő (Railway accident / Accident at level crossing)**

### Overview of the accident

The freight train № 82719 collided with an automobile at the level crossing (AS226) protected with serviceable warning lights and half-barriers between Vecsés and Üllő stations. The train pushed the car in front of it until it stopped. The wreck of the car reached into the track clearance of the left hand side track where a passenger train coming from the opposite direction hit it tangentially.

There was nobody in the car at the time of the collision, because it had entered the level crossing with the warning lights blinking white, then it drifted down off the STRAIL panels and became immobile. Its driver got out and left it behind when the half-barriers were closed.

TSB upholds its Safety Recommendation № BA2013-1118-5-01 issued earlier relating to the necessity of placing information signs at level crossings, and issues an additional safety recommendation relating to road markings at the level crossing concerned.

# CONCLUSIONS

## Direct causes

The factors which had direct effect on the occurrence were as follows:

1. one wheel of the car ran off the road between the two tracks and the car became immobile;
2. the car was not able to leave the level crossing before the arrival of the train;
3. it was not possible to notify the railway personnel in charge of the level crossing, and accordingly, no attempt could be made to stop the train.

## Indirect causes

Those findings relating to competences, procedures and maintenance which are related to the factors enumerated above:

1. The continuous line indicating the centreline of the road is not painted within the level crossing, and the edge of the road is not indicated either.
2. The contact data (telephone number, identification of the level crossing) necessary for quick and effective notification of the railway infrastructure operator is not indicated at the level crossing.

## Root causes

The IC revealed no causes that are distant in time and space from one another but which are related to system operation within the regulatory environment and in the safety management system.

## Safety recommendation

**BA2020-0169-5-01:** *The level crossing in the railway section № 226 between Vecsés and Üllő stations saw two accidents within half a year where a road vehicle had run off the road and become immobile within the level crossing. The investigation carried out by TSB found that the continuous line indicating the centreline of the road is not painted within the level crossing, and the edge of the road is not indicated either.*

**Transportation Safety Bureau recommends MÁV Zrt. to arrange for painting a continuous centreline as required by relevant legislation and, if possible, the painting of the lines indicating the edges of the road within the level crossing situated in the railway section № 226 between Vecsés and Üllő stations.**

*By acceptance and expected implementation of the safety recommendation, the course of the road will become better visible for its users, thus reducing the risk that road vehicles run over the edge of the road and get stuck in between the tracks where they expose both themselves and railway vehicles to the danger of collision.*