

Bulletin of General Information
Derailement of a SNCB passenger train
Leuven - 18th February 2017

1. GENERAL INFORMATIONS

Nature of the accident

Derailment of passenger train in switches.

Type of investigation

Serious accident with safety investigation.

Date and time of the accident

18th February at 01:13pm.

Place of the accident

Exit of the station Louvain-Leuven.

Train

A passenger train from SNCB E3636, Leuven - Gent-Sint-Pieters
Composed of one EMU (3 units) MR 326
Max. speed 160 km/h,
Capacity : 172 seating, 168 standup places, 84 passengers on board

Victims

- Unfortunately 1 fatality passenger
- 3 seriously injured passengers
- Train driver and 24 passengers light injured.
- 84 passengers were evacuated.

Damages

- Important damages to infrastructure
- Important damages on the first unit, laying down on its flank
- Damages at the second unit.



Facts

At 13:09 the train left the Station of Leuven in direction to Brussels, destination La Panne.
At 13:13, the train derailed on switches on the exit grid of the station of Louvain-Leuven.

Direct Cause

According to first elements in our possession, the derailment most probably has been caused by the overspeed of the train.

Speed estimation : ± 100 km/h on switches designed for 40km/h

On-going Investigation

Technical Investigation is done : no problems to the signaling, infrastructure and rolling stock have been detected.

A Human and Organizational Factor analysis is foreseen in order to identify possible indirect and root causes.



Investigation Body for Railway Accidents and Incidents
<http://www.mobilit.belgium.be>

