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LIRR UTU member killed on job

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Long Island Rail Road car inspector **Russell DeCeck**, 48, a member of Local 722, Babylon, N.Y., was killed Sunday, Aug. 14, when he reportedly came in contact with the third rail while working at the carrier's Babylon yard in West Islip, N.Y.

DeCeck, of Coram, N.Y., had 28 years of service. He joined the UTU in 1989.

"On behalf of our entire membership in the UTU family our thoughts and prayers are with Russell's family and close friends," LIRR General Chairperson Anthony Simon said. "We are all heartbroken over this tragic loss. This accident is a reminder of just how dangerous railroading can be, and shows the importance of continuing the fight in keeping our members safe."

DeCeck is the sixth UTU member killed in an on-duty accident in 2011, and the third in a yard accident.

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