1 railroad worker dragged to his death by CN train while working at CN rail yard in Illinois

JULY 27, 2015
GRIFFITH, ILLINOIS

A Schererville man died Saturday after he was dragged by a slow-moving train while working at a Canadian National Railway yard in East Hazel Crest, officials said.

Ryan D. Edwards, 27, suffered multiple injuries in the accident near 173rd Street and Ashland Avenue, according to the Cook County medical examiner's office.

A CN spokesman referred media inquires to the National Transportation Safety Board, which directed questions to the Federal Railroad Administration.

Matthew Lehner, a spokesman for the Federal Railroad Administration, confirmed the agency is investigating the fatality of a CN employee Saturday in Illinois.

Ryan Edwards dies in CN switching accident

August 5, 2015

Ryan D. Edwards, 27, of Schererville, Ind. was fatally injured July 25 while performing switching operations at Canadian National Markham Yard in Homewood, Ill. Edwards (Local 1299 of Schererville, Ind.) hired out in August of 2011.

Throughout his career with the railroad, Edwards worked as an intermodal operator at BNSF and as a freight train conductor at both CSX and CN. While at CSX, Edwards graduated number one from his training class.
Edwards attended Columbia College in Chicago. He was an avid St. Louis Cardinals baseball fan and could often be seen wearing a Cardinals hat. Edwards married his wife, Victoria, May 22, 2010 and welcomed her two children, Edward and Emily, as his own. They later welcomed his son Ryan “RJ” into their family. He loved his family tremendously.

Edwards leaves behind wife, Victoria; their three children Emily, Edward and Ryan; his parents Nicole and John; his siblings Scottie, Tyra and Joshua; his great grandmother; grandparents and many other friends and family.

SMART TD General Chairperson Adren Crawford (Canadian National GO 433) reports, “The NTSB is investigating along with the SMART TD National Safety Team. No details of the incident have been released. Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers during this very difficult time.”