LOWNDES COUNTY, Miss. (WTVA) - Lowndes County Coroner Greg Merchant reports the fatal train accident near the town of Artesia, southwest of Columbus.

The accident happened late Sunday morning.

Merchant received a call from the engineer of an Alabama Southern train headed back to Tuscaloosa from the Columbus area.

The engineer and conductor of that train had been performing a routine track switch just east of Highway 45 alternate near Artesia.

The conductor had given the all-clear to move about 20 car lengths.

When the engineer moved the train and didn't hear back from the conductor, he stopped to make a visual inspection.

He found the conductor had been struck by the train and killed.

The conductor has been identified as 36 year-old Christopher Ross Hubbard of Cotondale, Alabama.

No word on how the conductor might have been hit.

The accident is under investigation by a number of railroad authorities.

Kansas City Southern owns the tracks where the accident occurred.

- See more at:
http://www.wtva.com/news/Fatal_train_accident_in_Artesia_kills_conductor.html#sthash.mg1U9103.dpuf