

Grand Rapids-to-Chicago train hits freight

by UPI

CHICAGO -- Amtrak's Pere Marquette traveling from Grand Rapids, Mich., slammed into the rear of a Norfolk Southern freight train on Chicago's South Side, Amtrak said. The four-car train -- three passenger cars and one locomotive -- remained upright. The five Amtrak crew members aboard were seriously injured, Amtrak said. Many of the 187 passengers suffered minor cuts and bruises, WLS-TV, Chicago, reported. The Amtrak's locomotive climbed up on the rear of the stopped freighter, partially crushing a trailer atop a flatbed, in a busy switching yard about 4 1/2 miles south of Chicago's downtown Union Station. The accident occurred about 11:30 a.m. CST. The Red Cross was on the scene and the National Transportation Safety Board said it was assembling a team of investigators to send to the site. Fifteen ambulances were dispatched to the scene and the Chicago Fire Department helped remove passengers from the train, many of them children.

Copyright © 2007, by United Press International. All Rights Reserved.

Grand Rapids-to-Chicago train hits freight by UPI