



## Safety recommendation no. 135

<b>Date of the publication</b>	23.10.2018
<b>Number of the final report</b>	2018091903
<b>Safety deficit</b>	<p>At 04:16 on 19 September 2018, freight train 42017, travelling from Cologne Eifeltor (D) to Busto Arsizio (I), triggered an alarm in the profile and antenna location system after the south portal of the Gotthard Base Tunnel (GBT) in Claro (CH). The train was stopped in accordance with regulations for an inspection at the Bellinzona San Paolo intervention station. During the inspection, the locomotive driver discovered that the metal casing of a tank container loaded on the 16th wagon had come loose and was protruding sideways into the track area. This metal casing protruding beyond the clearance gauge damaged infrastructure elements over several kilometres between Claro and Bellinzona San Paolo.</p> <p>Violation of the clearance gauge by incorrectly fastened or loose parts of a wagon or its load can lead to hazards that can cause not only material damage but also injuries.</p> <p>Examples:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- When a train passes through the public area of a station, people can be injured or killed by protruding parts.</li><li>- Other trains or the infrastructure can be damaged.</li><li>- Loose or lost parts of a wagon or load can cause a derailment.</li></ul>
<b>Safety recommendation</b>	<p>With regard to the possible factors that could cause the clearance gauge to be violated, the STSB recommends that the FOT carry out a risk assessment as a basis for checking and/or determining the need for immediate measures and initiating their implementation. In particular, it should also be clarified whether tank containers of the same type that travel through Switzerland have comparable defects.</p>
<b>Addressees</b>	Bundesamt für Verkehr
<b>Stage of the implementation</b>	Implemented. The FOT has carried out a risk assessment and comes to the conclusion that no immediate measures are necessary. However, the situation is still being monitored.
<b>Investigation report concerning the safety recommendation</b>	<p><a href="#">Vorbericht</a> <a href="#">Zwischenbericht</a> <a href="#">Rapporto preliminare</a></p>