

What is the Confidential Close Call Reporting System (C³RS)?

The Confidential Close Call Reporting System (C³RS) is a partnership between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), participating carriers, and labor organizations. It is designed to improve railroad safety by collecting and studying reports detailing unsafe conditions and events in the railroad industry. Employees will be able to report safety issues or “close calls” without fear of discipline – and with confidentiality.

Why NASA?

NASA has administered a similar and very successful program, the Aviation Safety Reporting System (ASRS) since 1976 and has received over 900,000 reports from the aviation community without ever violating a reporter’s confidentiality. NASA is an independent, respected research organization that does not have a regulatory or enforcement interest. It therefore serves as an objective, trustworthy custodian of reports submitted by frontline personnel in the aviation and railroad industries.

Need More Information?

More NASA program information including contact information is available through the C³RS website at <http://c3rs.arc.nasa.gov>.

For any questions regarding your C³RS territory boundaries and protections, please see a member of your local C³RS Peer Review Team (PRT) or refer to your governing IMOU.



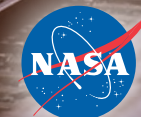
NASA Confidential Close Call
Reporting System

P.O. Box 177
Moffett Field, CA 94035-0177

<http://c3rs.arc.nasa.gov>



CONFIDENTIAL CLOSE CALL
REPORTING SYSTEM



C³RS Reporters are Protected

FRA and participating carriers have agreed to offer people who report to C³RS two important guarantees: confidentiality and protection from discipline. These organizations are offering these guarantees in exchange for potential life saving information obtained through C³RS reporting. NASA removes all personal names, facility names, locations, and other identifying information before entering reports into its database.

Reporting to C³RS Will Benefit You

In addition to the discipline protection provisions associated with C³RS, people who report benefit from knowing that they are helping to improve railroad safety for themselves, their co-workers and the general public. People who report to C³RS will also gain an increased understanding of the factors contributing to safety incidents.

What is Considered a Close Call?

A close call is any condition or event that has the potential for more serious safety consequences. Reporting close calls provides the opportunity to develop improved safety practices using information from reported events or conditions. Examples of a close call would include, but are not limited to a train in dark territory exceeding its limits, a train missing a temporary speed restriction, or a train striking a derailed without derailing.



How is the C³RS Form Used?

The C³RS form consists of three parts:

Report Form Return Receipt

NASA may use the contact information in the Return Receipt (ID Strip) to get in touch with you if additional information about the event is needed. The ID Strip will be mailed to you as proof that your report has been received and NASA does not retain any personal information provided on the ID Strip. You may need to show the ID strip to your company if requested, so keep it in a safe location.

General Information

This section asks for background information about your position, experience and general event characteristics.

Narrative

A blank space for writing what happened in your own words, and any safety lessons you may have learned from the experience. The back of the form provides additional space for the narrative.

How to Submit a C³RS Report

Electronic Report Submission (ERS):

Open the C³RS website at <http://c3rs.arc.nasa.gov> to fill out and securely submit your C³RS report online.

Download and Print:

A report form may be downloaded from the C³RS website, filled out on your computer and printed (or printed and filled out by hand). Place the completed form in an envelope, affix proper postage, and send to the NASA address below:

NASA Confidential Close Call Reporting System
P.O. Box 177
Moffett Field, CA 94035-0177

Official Paper Copies:

Paper copies of the C³RS report form can be found in convenient locations such as crew rooms, yard offices and superintendent's offices. Official legal size copies of the C³RS form are postage free and preaddressed. Just fold the form, staple or tape the edge and mail it. Or, you may contact NASA's Close Call Reporting System office at the P.O. Box address listed in this brochure to request your free copies of the report form.

report
and you can
improve safety