Peter Styles
Minister for Transport

**Rail Safety Week**

15 August 2014

Each year across Australia there are 1,000 near misses occurring on Australia’s railway crossings.

This year as part of National Rail Safety Week, the Territory Government is raising awareness about the importance of railway safety with the campaign message: ‘Near Miss... Near Hit’.

Minister for Transport, Peter Styles, said that the Territory has over 200 railway level crossings and it is important that every Territorian be aware of rail safety.

“It takes up to 2km for a freight train to come to a complete stop – that’s the length of 14 footy fields,” Mr Styles said.

“The trains can’t stop like our cars can so the message is simple – slow down, stop at level crossings and look both ways before proceeding. The train has right of way.

“The Giles Government is proud to support this national event. Every single death or injury on our railway is avoidable if people remain vigilant and obey the rules.

“Particularly in the Territory, we often see kids playing and walking along the train tracks. We encourage all parents and guardians to teach their children to stay off the tracks; they are not a place to play.

“To help keep people safe works have already started to build the $24 million rail overpass on the Stuart Highway in Alice Springs.”

Rail Safety Week runs from 11 -17 August. For more information, go to: [www.roadsafety.nt.gov.au](http://www.roadsafety.nt.gov.au)

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