

# BLUE SHEET

## Preliminary Summary Report



### VEHICLE ACCIDENT Moreno Valley Engine #248

August 6, 2005

Riverside Unit  
CARRU-065888

This Preliminary Summary Report is intended as an aid in accident prevention, and to provide factual information from the first 24 hours of the accident review. To that end it is published and distributed within a short time frame. Information contained within this report may be subject to revision as further investigation is conducted, and other reports and documents are received.

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## Synopsis

At approximately 3:00 p.m. on August 6, 2005 City of Moreno Valley Engine #248 was responding to a public service assist in Cherry Valley north of the city of Beaumont. While traveling eastbound on Interstate 10 just east of the State Route 60 interchange in heavy rain, the driver lost control of the apparatus, which subsequently left the roadway and slid down the freeway embankment striking two trees. The driver and one fire fighter were ejected from the apparatus. The fire fighter sustained fatal traumatic injuries, and the operator is hospitalized with moderate injuries. The third crew member, a fire fighter II, was not injured. The apparatus sustained major damage.

## Narrative

At approximately 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, August 6, 2005, Moreno Valley Engine #58, a Type-I engine assigned to the Moreno Beach station #58 in the eastern section of the City of Moreno Valley, was placed out of service for mechanical reasons. Moreno Valley reserve engine #248 (Type I) was placed in service as Engine #58. The assigned crew included one (1) Fire Apparatus Engineer and two (2) Fire Fighter IIs. The crew was on the first day of their assigned 3-day shift.

At 2:36 p.m., Engine #58 (248) was dispatched to cover Station #66 in the City of Beaumont. While enroute, they were diverted to a public service assist in Cherry Valley north of Beaumont. The area was experiencing a heavy monsoonal rainstorm with standing water on the roadway at the time of the incident.

At approximately 3:00 p.m., Engine #58 (248) was eastbound on Interstate 10 at the junction of State Route 60 when the driver lost control of the apparatus and it spun approximately 180 degrees with the front of the apparatus facing west. The apparatus subsequently crossed the curb on the south side of the freeway, struck a tree, and slid approximately 40 feet down the embankment striking a second tree. As a result of the impact, the driver was ejected through the windshield and the fire fighter in the rear jump seat was also ejected. The fire fighter sustained fatal traumatic injuries, and the driver was hospitalized with moderate injuries. The second fire fighter riding in the company officer position was not injured. The apparatus sustained major damage and is considered a total loss.

A California Highway Patrol Major Accident Investigation Team (MAIT) has been assigned and will conduct a complete investigation of the incident. Their initial examination is inconclusive whether all personnel were wearing seat belts.

## Recommendations for Immediate Corrective Action

1. Ensure ALL personnel are wearing seat belts prior to movement of any vehicle.
2. REDUCE SPEED in severe weather conditions.

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