

My name is Steve Baldwin and I'm a train Engineer for Union Pacific railroad for the past 19 years and an employee for over 20 years. In that time, I have had several occasions where I was extremely lucky that there was a second person in the cab. Recently, my conductor and I were called on duty for an extremely large train. It was about 2am when we left the terminal and began to travel towards La Grande Oregon. We traveled about 15 miles when I noticed that the train wasn't moving as fast as it should be. That meant a possible issue with a locomotive not working properly. I stopped, called the dispatcher and went to see if all units were working. I had 4 locomotives to check and when I came through the door of the last unit, I immediately smelled something rancid. I went to the control stand to check the condition of the unit and caught a glimpse of a person, standing in the dark. I jumped up and asked, "who are you"? Without saying a word, this person started coming at me, but my conductor walked in to help, and we were able to chase him off. Without a second crew member, this could have been worse. This is only ONE story out of several that I have. My issue is everyone has stories out here. Some have turned out OK, many have not. This is simply about SAFETY. Everyone has a right to a safe work environment. EVERYONE !! Please sign SB723. Thank You