

INTELLIGENCE & RESPONSE ALERT

April 2025

Location: California

Incident: Rail Pilferage and Recovery of Athletic Footwear

On April, Overhaul enabled the recovery of rail freight cargo from a rail pilferage performed in the Phelan, CA area.

Late in the evening, the Overhaul GSOC alerted that a shipment was being pilfered from its container on rail near Phelan, CA.

Coordinating with the BNSF Railroad police, the Overhaul LE Connect team provided officers with the real-time location and critical sensor data needed to locate precisely where the theft had occurred.

It is a well-known practice for rail cargo thieves in this area of the country to board targeted trains in areas where the train must slow down, search multiple containers while the train is in motion, and throw the pilfered cargo from the train to be collected by accomplices.

As such, Law Enforcement was directed to the location that indicated the first activity and were able to locate the pilfered cargo and perform a full recovery as the cargo lay beside the tracks. Multiple suspects were apprehended in the process.

It should be noted that while pilferage from rail is common, recoveries of cargo stolen from rail are rare. Cargo on rail is notoriously difficult to secure, requiring granular, real-time visibility to be able to identify stolen cargo before it arrives at destination. Even with this granular visibility, the lack of direct control of the cargo while on rail, coupled with the remote locations where these thefts often happen, make recoveries near impossible. Overhaul has assisted in the recovery of \$35 million in stolen cargo from a single rail line.

Over rail, there is far less control of the cargo when compared to over the road, and so contextual intelligence, remote compliance monitoring, real-time visibility, and an immediate escalation process with a path to effective law enforcement engagement are critical to recognizing and recovering stolen cargo.



About Overhaul's Intelligence and Response Team:

Overhaul's Intelligence and Response Team provides shipment information directly to the responding law enforcement officers via LE Connect. LE Connect sends real-time tracking, pictures, and data directly to the officer's smartphone streamlining communication and providing critical information directly in the hands of those who need it most. To learn more, visit www.over-haul.com.