



Thanks to WeatherData and ARDC, Amtrak and New England Central Railroad averted disaster. Above image shows a 100' track washout.

"WeatherData pro-actively predicted several areas that received substantial rainfall and flooding and caused some major problems for New England Central Railroad. WeatherData predictions were right on."

Thomas Murphy
ARDC Director

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Success Story - ARDC

The Story

October 8-9, 2005 | Palmer, MA to Windsor, VT

- **October 8, 2:15 p.m.** – WeatherData issued American Rail Dispatching Center (ARDC) a flash flood warning for their track, from Palmer, MA, to Windsor, VT. The warning stated that 3" of rain had already fallen on the track and forecast 3" or more to fall throughout the night. The warning also stated to watch for high water and track washouts.
- **2:17 p.m.** – ARDC started notifying its crew of the alert and began making calls to engineers of the New England Central Railroad (NECR). Crews were dispatched to inspect the track.
- **October 9, 8:00 a.m.** – A track washout that was approximately 30' deep by 30' long was located. As a result, ARDC closed the track to all rail service. Two other washouts were also found.

An Amtrak passenger train was scheduled to travel along this specific section of track several hours later and would have hit the washout traveling at 59 MPH.

Due to the pro-active, accurate flood forecast by WeatherData's meteorologists, ARDC and NECR located the track washout and avoided a potentially catastrophic event by closing the track.

Benefits and Impact of Using WeatherData

- 1.) **Lives Were Saved.**
If ARDC was not partnered with WeatherData, an Amtrak passenger train traveling at 59 MPH would have hit the washed out track, resulting in a catastrophic derailment and significant loss of life.
- 2.) **Prevented Substantial and Costly Damage to Equipment.**
WeatherData helped ARDC prevent potentially astronomical damage to infrastructure and equipment by locating the track most-likely to be flooded. The track engineers knew exactly where to concentrate their efforts, saving precious time in a critical situation. WeatherData also prevented potential freight train derailments. The damage to the New England Central Railroad infrastructure was held at a minimum due to the warning and the pro-active closing of the affected areas of track.
- 3.) **24/7/365 Surveillance.**
Most companies wouldn't have a meteorologist available on a holiday weekend to issue a vital warning. At WeatherData, meteorologists monitor your site 24/7/365.

For More Information, Please Call:

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