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Organizations:

Nothing Happened! *Thank Goodness.*

On July 8, 2009, WeatherData began service for Ferromex, the largest railroad in Mexico. Sixteen days later, the service proved its value many times over. In this case, it is what *didn't* occur that is newsworthy.



Photo courtesy of Ferromex

The Copper River Canyon "Q" line is one of Mexico's most scenic rail routes. Passengers come from all over the world to take the train from sea level through some of Mexico's most spectacular and rugged terrain.

On July 23rd, the train faced disaster as torrential rains fell along its mountainous right-of-way. But, disaster was averted. In the words of Ferromex's Al Cisneros, "the railroad saved lives by preventing the passenger train from going over a washout." Here is what occurred.

WeatherData's meteorologists sent a warning of dangerous weather conditions to Ferromex's train dispatching center in Guadalajara via our exclusive SmartRAD® system which insures timely delivery of critical information. The dispatchers, responding to the warning, sent a hyrail vehicle (a truck with iron railroad wheels) out ahead of the train to scout the track to look for washouts. The hyrail crew had instructions to "to pay particular attention between the kilometer posts covered by the alert."

The hyrail reported water flowing over the track. *The train was stopped before it went into the remote canyon country.* Its passengers were put on buses and made it safely to Chihuahua. When the water receded, the washouts were revealed.

Mr. Cisneros adds, "*Your services are excellent and make the difference between life and death.*"

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