

1,500 Km of Rail Damaged

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A former railroad worker turned drug addict rendered unsafe 1,500 kilometers of railroad in Siberia by stealing 9,000 anti-creeper devices in two weeks, the Interior Ministry reported on its web site Tuesday.

The 35-year-old man, whose name was withheld, sold the devices — which prevent the rails from shifting under the weight of passing trains — for scrap metal to obtain money for drugs, the ministry said.

The suspect was detained by Kemerovo region police and faces up to two years in prison on theft charges.

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