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## Two defendants charged in Moscow metro crash investigation



The Main Investigations Directorate of the Russia's Investigative Committee brought charges against senior track supervisor of Moscow Underground Railway Valery Bashkatov and his assistant Yuri Gordov. They have been accused of a crime under part 3 of article 263 of the RF Penal Code (violations of transportation safety causing the death of two or more persons).

According to investigators, Bashkatov and Gordov failed to properly install a track switch mechanism for launching a new section between Park Pobedy and Slavyansky Boulevard stations. Their actions and those of other defendants in the case caused the accident, which entailed derailment of a metro train killing 22 people and injuring over 150 more.

A number of complex technical, chemical, forensic medical and other expert examinations are currently underway. Together with other pieces of evidence, they will help in establishing the cause of the accident and determining the entire circle of persons subject to prosecution.

Charges will soon be brought against two other suspects, namely chief operating officer of the subcontractor "Spetstekhrekonstruktsiya" Anatoly Kruglov and section deputy chief of the metro's

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repair department Alexei Trofimov. All of the four defendants in this case are now in custody.

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