


Filed in [Metro](#) | [Crime and public security](#) Newspaper Edition

Maglev train catches fire

Yang Lifei

2006-08-12

ONE of the city's prized maglev trains caught fire yesterday as it pulled into a Pudong station.

Nobody was injured, according to the city government.

The cause of the fire was still unknown, but preliminary investigations have ruled out arson, the government said in a statement.

The fire started in a carriage at 2:40pm as the train approached the Longyang Road Station coming from Pudong International Airport.

"Smoke was rising out of the fourth carriage of the train as it pulled into the station and I thought the track was on fire," said an eyewitness surnamed Wu, who was waiting on the station platform when the emergency occurred.

"All passengers were immediately evacuated. The train was started again after two train staff, a man and a woman, went in," Wu said. "The train stopped 500 meters away from the station and it was only then that we realized the train was on fire."

At least four fire brigades were dispatched to the blaze.

Nearby villagers said firemen rescued the male train driver and female conductor from the control room after erecting a ladder to the carriage, which sat on the maglev track 15 meters above the ground.

Another team of firefighters scaled a ladder at the other end of the train where the fire was burning, villagers said.

"It seemed as if the fire started at the bottom of the carriage because the floor was burnt out and several chairs were destroyed," said a villager.

The fire was put out on 3:40pm. Other maglev trains were not affected by the fire and were running on time, according to the maglev authority.

The maglev line went into operation on December 31, 2002 and runs for 30 kilometers.

###