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**To:** Distribution List  
**Subject:** January 2017 AAR Circular Letter Summary

The January 2017 summary includes the (26) circular letters issued during the month.

This document provides a summary of each Association of American Railroads (“AAR”) circular letter issued during the previous month. A circular letter provides information of general applicability to the railroad industry, including proposed and final rules, standards, and recommended practices. Circulars are a fee-based service provided by AAR’s Transportation Technology Center, Incorporated (“TTCI”) located in Pueblo, Colorado. You may sign up to receive AAR circular letters online. If you need further assistance with access to circulars, contact Kathy Trujillo at 719.584.0538.

The Field Manual of the AAR Interchange Rules, Rule 1, b. (11), requires maintaining a copy of each “*mandatory circular letter*” that revises an “*Interchange Rule*” or the “*Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices.*” For your convenience, this document identifies mandatory circular letters. For those circulars that propose or implement final changes to an existing rule, standard, or recommended practice, this document provides an impact statement to car owners, lessors, mechanical shops, and railroad operations.

The following matrix identifies the AAR circular letter number, a summary of the circular, any effective date of a rule, standard, or recommended practice, any comment due date, an impact statement, and to the extent it applies, if the circular letter is mandatory.

If you have any questions, please contact Tom DeLafosse at 630.512.7595 or [tom\\_delafosse@salcoproducts.com](mailto:tom_delafosse@salcoproducts.com).

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
C-12773 Jan. 3, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Notice of issuance of revised versions of Intermodal Interchange Rules, Appendix F, Appendix G and the Photo Glossary of Job Codes.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> Effective January 1, 2017, the AAR Intermodal Operations Committee has issued revised versions of the following publications: AAR Intermodal Interchange Rules, Appendix F - Repair Matrix. AAR Intermodal Interchange Rules, Appendix G - Association Table. AAR Intermodal Job Code photo Glossary</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All of the listed publications are now in effect. Previous versions have been archived.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Intermodal</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> See this circular to see web links and contact information.</p>
C-12774 Jan. 3, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> January 2016 Approved Field &amp; Office Manual Rule Changes - Summary of Comments.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> In November, 2016, several Circular Letters soliciting comments to the proposed rule changes were issued. In addition several letters were</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	<p>issued that advised of approved changes that would become effective on January 1, 2017. Shown below is a recap of those letters seeking industry comment, an indication of comments received (if any), considered and implementation details. Unless otherwise noted, the rule changes are for the Field Manual.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Accordingly, the various proposals as issued in the above listed letters, with the changes noted, stand approved and have been included in the January 2017 AAR Interchange Rule books.</p>	<p><b>Comments:</b> See this circular for a complete listing of the noted circulars.</p>
C-12775 Jan. 4, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Office Manual Rule 107 Cost Factor – 2016.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Office Manual Rule 107 Cost Factor for 2016, to be used in 2017, will be 209. The Cost Factor is based on the Freight Car Producer Price Index data from October 1, 2015 to September 30, 2016.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The new Office Manual Rule 107 Cost Factor of 209 will be published in the Office Manual and will become effective January 1, 2017.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b></p>
C-12776 Jan. 4, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Informational Circular, Enforcement of M-216 Compliance for E-Type Knuckles.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> As of January 1, 2017, all newly manufactured E-type knuckles are required to meet M-216 fatigue requirements. In accordance with M-216 and M-211 these knuckles are identified by the letter V at the end of the catalog number (e.g. E50AEV or E50BEV). After January 1, 2017 manufacturers must not accept orders for non-M-216 E-type knuckles except to draw down existing inventory.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> F-Type Knuckles – Path Forward: Two manufacturers have scheduled to test their F-type knuckles to M-216 requirements in early 2017. The CSTCC plans to discuss enforcement date for F-type knuckles in their spring face to face meeting tentatively scheduled for the week of March 6 in Jacksonville, FL.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> As existing non-M-216 inventory is exhausted, the CSTCC will work with CRB to begin removing corresponding Job Codes for application of new knuckles. In September 2015, the CSTCC set January 1, 2017 as the date to begin enforcement of the specification. The CSTCC has worked directly with manufacturers to meet this deadline. As of November 2016, all existing manufacturers' E-type knuckles have passed the fatigue test requirements of M-216.</p>
C-12777 Jan. 6, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Revised Implementation Date: Revision to AAR MSRP Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment, S-4027 Automated Single-Car Test Procedure, Conventional Brake Equipment-Design and Performance Requirements.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> Due to additional revisions, the BSC is issuing an extension to the implementation period in circular C-12443. This extension means that all hardware and software upgrades required in circular C-12443 must now be completed by March 31, 2018.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> As noted in section 10.2.2, upgrades to device hardware and software were to be completed no more than 18 months following the issue date of the circular letter notification that the upgrade was available.</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	<p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Questions regarding this circular letter can be directed to Devin Sammon, AAR Brake Systems Committee Manager via email at <a href="mailto:Devin_Sammon@aar.com">Devin_Sammon@aar.com</a>.</p>	
<p>C-12778 Jan. 9, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Registration Update – Class registration is now open for the 2017 AAR M-1003 Quality Assurance training courses: Root Cause Analysis Class, Basic Auditor Training Class, and Advanced Auditor Training Class.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Association of American Railroads (AAR) Quality Assurance Committee has scheduled the Quality Assurance Training classes, dates and locations noted within this circular. .</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Questions should be directed to Mr. Don Guillen, Manager of the Quality Assurance Committee at <a href="mailto:don_guillen@aar.com">don_guillen@aar.com</a> or Mr. Miles Lucero, Quality Assurance Specialist at <a href="mailto:miles_lucero@aar.com">miles_lucero@aar.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Information for the Industry</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Interested parties are encouraged to enroll promptly as classes tend to fill quickly and acceptance is based on a first-come first-served basis</p>
<p>C-12779 Jan. 11, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation for Comments – Revision to MSRP Section S, Casting Details, Specification M-220, Casting Component Nondestructive Testing Requirements</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This Circular Letter is soliciting comments for a proposed revision to Section S Casting Details, Specification M-220, concerning the recording of serial numbers.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of issuance of this circular will be considered by the CSTCC prior to final action on the proposed revisions.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The Coupling System and Truck Castings Committee has proposed a change to M-220 paragraph 5.0 to clarify that the requirement for recording serial numbers applies to manufacturing, reconditioning, or secondhand classification. The proposed changes are in the attachment to this circular.</p>
<p>C-12780 Jan. 11, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Revision to AAR Standard S-5018 - Dynamic Braking Control - Dynamic Brake Interlock (DBI).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> In light of test train results indicating that Positive Train Control (PTC) braking algorithms did not take Dynamic Brake Interlock (DBI) into account, the AAR Locomotive Committee and the Operating Practices Committee jointly resolved that Class 1 Railroads that utilize DBI would standardize to DBI Type-2 on locomotives equipped with PTC. As part of this standardization, DBI operation will be nullified from either a penalty or emergency brake application on locomotives while in dynamic braking. (Whenever the PC switch (PCS) is tripped in DB.) While this would be the standard for new locomotives going forward, some roads would need to begin retrofit programs.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the date of this Circular Letter will be</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Locomotives</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Railroads that do not utilize DBI will NOT be required to equip their locomotives with DBI Type-2. The goal is to complete any retrofit program by the time that Positive Train Control (PTC) would be implemented. It should be noted that for full braking effectiveness, all locomotives in a consist must be modified, not just the lead PTC locomotive.</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	considered by the Locomotive Committee prior to final action on the proposed revisions.	
C-12781 Jan. 11, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments on Proposed Archiving (and elimination from Field Manual Rule 1 requirements) of MSRP Section H-III Lubrication Manual (S-730, S-731, S-733, S-734, S-736). Relocating of S-732 and RP-750.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this Circular is to seek industry comments for the AAR Equipment Engineering Committee's (EEC) plan to archive MSRP Section H-III LUBRICATION MANUAL. All content will be archived, with the exception of Standard S-732 and Recommended Practice RP-750, which have previously been relocated to other Sections.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the EEC.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Any needed content in Standards S-730, S-731, S-733, S-734, and S-736, has been moved to the AAR Field Manual. The content of Standards S-733 and S-734 was no longer deemed necessary by the EEC and will be removed from AAR publications altogether.</p>
C-12782 Jan. 12, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments – Revision to MSRP Section F, Sensors, S-920, Axle Repair Tracking.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This Circular Letter is intended to solicit comments for revisions proposed for Section F, Sensors, S-920, AAR Component Identification Bar Code Standard, concerning the axle repairs that are to be reported when tracked by the wheel shop.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of issuance of this Circular will be considered by the EHC prior to final action on the proposed revisions.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The proposed changes are in the attachment to this circular. If Section F is a required publication for your location, be sure to download the attachment to this circular and update your manual.</p>
C-12783 Jan. 12, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Save the Date for the 2017 NARMO Seminar.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Association of American Railroads is pleased to announce that the 36th North American Rail Mechanical Operations (NARMO) Seminar will be held as follows: Date: Wednesday, May 3 through Friday, May 5, Location: Denver, Colorado.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Information on registration for the seminar, program topics, hotel accommodations, sponsors and exhibit booths will be available in mid-February.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Information for the Industry</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Attendance is open to all railroad personnel (field and office), private car owners, shippers, contract shops, leasing companies, fleet managers and all other interested parties. It will be of particular interest to anyone who deals with car repair and billing on a routine basis as well as up-and-coming mechanical department managers.</p>
C-12784 Jan. 13, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Correction to Office Manual Price Matrices Effective January 1, 2017.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> After the issuance of the January 1, 2017, Price Matrices it was brought to AAR's attention that</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	<p>the Price Matrices listed the incorrect CID for the new Job Codes 2174-2177.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Attached to this circular are the corrected pertinent pages (Pages 96, 97, and 98) affected and should be inserted into the previous paper copy of the Price Matrices effective January 1, 2017.</p>	<p><b>Comments:</b> Additionally, attached are the corrected pertinent pages of the Spanish Price Matrices (Pages 103, 104, and 105) affected and should be inserted into the previous paper copy of the Spanish Price Matrices effective January 1, 2017.</p>
<p>C-12785 Jan. 17, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments – Revision to MSRP Section G-II, Wheel and Axle Manual, S-659 and RP-633, Wheel Mounting Press and AAR-2A Contour and Acceptance Gauges.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Wheels, Axles, Bearings, and Lubrication Committee has proposed a revision to RP-633 to add an Acceptance gauge for AAR-2A wide and narrow flange wheels as Fig. 4.40, an AAR-2A wide flange contour gauge as Fig. 4.45, and an AAR-2A narrow flange contour gauge as Fig. 4.46. The revisions to S-659 include an update to the magnetic particle testing area of machined and secondhand axles, and an update to the required pressure gauges of wheel mounting presses. The proposed changes are in the attachments to this circular.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of issuance of this Circular will be considered by the WABL Committee prior to final action on the proposed revisions.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The proposed revisions concerning the wheel mounting press and AAR-2A gauges do not have costs associated with implementation.</p>
<p>C-12786 Jan. 18, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> New Circular Letter Release, S-9364.V2.0 – I-ETMS® Onboard Segment Data Distribution Messages Interface Control Document (ICD), In Support of AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-4, Railway Electronics Messaging Stand.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Interoperable Train Control Committee (ITC) has provided the Association of American Railroads (AAR) with a revised Standard S-9364.V2.0, I-ETMS® Onboard Segment Data Distribution Messages Interface Control Document (ICD).</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> This revision is effective with the issuance of this Circular Letter.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Locomotives</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The purpose of this ICD is to define the I-ETMS® On-board broadcast messages. This document contains the specifications for messages broadcast by the I-ETMS® as per the Class C Messaging Specification S-9355. This document is attached to this circular.</p>
<p>C-12787 Jan. 18, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments – Revision to MSRP Section S-II, Truck Details and Casting Codes, S-392 Trademark Updates.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Coupling System and Truck Castings Committee has proposed updates to the trademarks chart in S-392 and is seeking industry input to ensure the chart is complete. The proposed changes are in the attachment to this Circular.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The Coupling System and Truck Castings Committee has proposed updates to the trademarks chart in S-392 and is seeking</p>

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	<p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of issuance of this Circular will be considered by the CSTCC prior to final action on the proposed revisions.</p>	<p>industry input to ensure the chart is complete. The proposed changes are in the attachment to this Circular.</p>
<p>C-12788 Jan. 26, 2017 <b>Mandatory</b></p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Immediate Implementation of Revision to Field Manual, Rule 1 - Removal of Rule 1.5.a(18) – Cushion unit yoke/end cap wear gage.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> On November 7, 2016, Circular Letter C-12741 was issued to solicit comments on changes which included a new required gage (Cushion unit yoke/end cap wear gage) in Rule 1. On January 3, 2017, Circular Letter C-12774 was issued announcing the implementation of C-12741, with modifications to the effective date based on comments received. Additional comments have since been received which prompted review by the Equipment Engineering Committee and the Arbitration and Rules Committee. As a result, Rule 1.5.a(18) is removed from Rule 1 as identified within this circular.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Note that this revision was identified after the release of the January 2017 Field Manual. Consequently,</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes - Mandatory</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> <b>This Circular is identified as mandatory in accord with Rule 1.5.b.(12) and must be maintained until the next revision of the Field Manual. Effective date of the revision is January 1, 2017.</b></p>
<p>C-12789 Jan. 26, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Spring 2017 AAR Technical Committee Meeting Schedule.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> AAR meetings that have been planned for the first half of 2017 are listed within this circular.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The schedule above represents the regular "full" committee meetings planned for the 1st half of 2017. Monthly committee teleconferences and special meetings are not listed.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Industry Information</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Contact the staff person listed above if you have an item you wish to have considered by a committee in advance of the published meeting dates.</p>
<p>C-12790 Jan. 27, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments on Proposed Revisions to MSRP, Section M, Locomotives and Locomotive Interchange Equipment: Specification M-916 – Sand for Traction.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> During their January 24, 2017 conference call, the Locomotive Committee voted to approve a revision to a paragraph within the 3.0 Physical Requirements section of specification M-916. The revised specification clarifies the possible need for sand to be treated with a dust suppressant where required by law.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the Locomotive Committee and appropriate revisions, if any, will be made prior to implementation.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Locomotives</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Revised specification M-916 is attached to this circular. Specific details of the proposed revisions are highlighted with change bars in the attached file.</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
C-12791 Jan. 27, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments on Proposed Revisions to Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section M; Standard S-5019 – Locomotive Definitions.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Locomotive Committee (LC) has received, created, reviewed and approved a number of definitions applicable to locomotive technologies and terminology where clarification may be needed, and are noted within this circular.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the Locomotive Committee and appropriate revisions, if any, will be made prior to implementation.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Locomotives</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> A draft of the revised standard S-5019 is attached for review. Specific details of the proposed revisions are applicable to the majority of the document and are highlighted with change bars in the attached file.</p>
C-12792 Jan. 31, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments – New Specification M-1006 Passenger Equipment Performance Specification for MSRP Section M, Locomotives and Locomotive Interchange Equipment.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Association of American Railroads has formed a Passenger Standards Committee, with the goal to develop an AAR Specification to address areas of concern including insuring operational safety regarding the introduction and operation of new-design passenger equipment (both passenger cars and passenger locomotives) on freight railroad track.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of issuance of this Circular will be considered by the Committee prior to final action on implementation.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Locomotives</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> New passenger equipment is or soon will be delivered over North American freight rail systems, and testing on the same rail systems will be scheduled. Testing arrangements and agreements must be made with the advent of this new equipment and Sections 3.0 and 4.0 of the draft standard will be beneficial in those endeavors. The AAR therefore is issuing a draft of Sections 1.0 through 4.0 for industry comment.</p>
C-12793 Jan. 31, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of New Figure 55-A Crane, Hydraulic, Armored, Maximum Weight 87,400 LB, with Pneumatic Tires—Flatcars, Steel Deck, Chain—Section 6 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The AAR’s Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved the addition of new figure 55-A, Section 6 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The implementation of new figure 55-A, Section 6 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR’s OTLR Manual. In the interim, insert the circular attachment for Figure 55-A in your copy of Section 6 and be governed accordingly.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Gondolas</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Carriers are asked to ensure that copies of this circular letter are distributed to all concerned shippers and railroad personnel for their attention and guidance.</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
C-12794 Jan. 31, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation to Archive Figure 14-C, Section 2, AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The OTLR Committee has approved the archiving of Figure 14-C from Section 2. The OTLRC has determined that in addition to not being used, the load figure depicted is imbalanced and loaded on a 50' bulkhead flatcar that is no longer in use.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> These changes are effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manuals. In the interim, print or copy for your records until the new Section 4 is published.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Gondolas</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Carriers are asked to ensure that copies of this circular letter are distributed to all concerned shippers and railroad personnel for their attention and guidance.</p>
C-12795 Jan. 31, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments: Proposal to Require Corner Protection on Eye Bands for 29 Series Figures, Section 2 – AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) requests comments from the industry regarding the proposed additional requirements Steel Coil figures 29-B, 29-C, 29-I, and 29-K.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days from the date of this Circular Letter will be considered by the OTLR Committee prior to any action on the implementation of these changes to Section 2 of the Open Top Loading Rules Manual.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Gondolas</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> This proposed change to the 29 series figures is in response to a large number of broken eye bands on steel coils. Broken eye bands can cause damage to the product and pose a safety hazard.</p>
C-12796 Jan. 31, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revisions to Fig 112-A, Sec 5 to Reflect an Actual Load Height Allowance—Section 5 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The OTLRC requested comments from the industry regarding changing Note 3 in Figure 112-A to restrict the load height to not exceed the height of the bulkheads. Any stencil on the car limiting load height supersedes the load height limit. This change is due to FRA/RAC restrictions on shiftable loads and their train placement. The comments from the industry have been considered and the AAR Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved revisions to Figure 112–A, Section 5 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The implementation of this revision to Section 5 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, insert the circular attachment for Figure 112-A in your copy Section 5 and be governed accordingly.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Gondolas</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> This proposed change to the 29 series figures is in response to a large number of broken eye bands on steel coils. Broken eye bands can cause damage to the product and pose a safety hazard.</p>
C-12798 Jan. 31, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revisions to Figure 849 – Section 7 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Gondolas</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p>



Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	<p><b>Summary:</b> The AAR’s Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved the title change to Figure 849 in Section 7 of the Open Top Loading Rules manual.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The implementation of this revision to Section 7 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR’s OTLR Manual. In the interim, insert the circular attachment for Figure 849 in your copy Section 7 and be governed accordingly.</p>	<p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> This proposed change to the 29 series figures is in response to a large number of broken eye bands on steel coils. Broken eye bands can cause damage to the product and pose a safety hazard.</p>
<p>C-12799 Jan. 31, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revisions to Figure 1-D– Section 3 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The AAR’s Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved revisions to Figure 1-D– Section 3 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The implementation of this revision to Section 3 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR’s OTLR Manual. In the interim, insert the circular attachment for Figure 1-D in your copy Section 3 and be governed accordingly.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Gondolas</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> This proposed change to the 29 series figures is in response to a large number of broken eye bands on steel coils. Broken eye bands can cause damage to the product and pose a safety hazard.</p>

**James P. Grady**  
Assistant Vice President - Technical  
Services



**Thursday, January 12, 2017**

**C-12783**

**Circular Letter**

**Subject: Save the Date for the 2017 NARMO Seminar**

**To: EVERYONE**

**File Number: NARMO 2017**

The Association of American Railroads is pleased to announce that the 36th North American Rail Mechanical Operations (NARMO) Seminar will be held as follows:

**DATE:** Wednesday, May 3 through Friday, May 5

**LOCATION:** Denver, Colorado

NARMO is part of an ongoing educational effort to better equip car owners, shippers, car shop operators and railroad mechanical personnel with the latest information on mechanical inspections and the AAR Interchange Rules. Key program topics will include updates and changes to the AAR Interchange Rules, rules interpretations, various key industry systems, and discussions of MID programs and findings.

Attendance is open to all railroad personnel (field and office), private car owners, shippers, contract shops, leasing companies, fleet managers and all other interested parties. It will be of particular interest to anyone who deals with car repair and billing on a routine basis as well as up-and-coming mechanical department managers.

Information on registration for the seminar, program topics, hotel accommodations, sponsors and exhibit booths will be available in mid-February. In the meantime, please save the date.

**Sincerely,**  
**James P. Grady**  
**Assistant Vice President - Technical Services**  
**202-639-2141 202-639-2930 [Email: jgrady@aar.org](mailto:jgrady@aar.org)**

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**Safety and Operations**  
**Association of American Railroads**  
**425 Third Street, SW, Suite 1000, Washington D.C. 20024**



**Thursday, January 26, 2017**

**C-12788**

**Circular Letter**

**Subject: Immediate Implementation of Revision to Field Manual, Rule 1 - Removal of Rule 1.5.a(18) – Cushion unit yoke/end cap wear gage**

**To: MEMBERS AND PRIVATE CAR OWNERS**

**File Number: 0916 NB#15**

On November 7, 2016, Circular Letter C-12741 was issued to solicit comments on changes which included a new required gage (Cushion unit yoke/end cap wear gage) in Rule 1. On January 3, 2017, Circular Letter C-12774 was issued announcing the implementation of C-12741, with modifications to the effective date based on comments received.

Additional comments have since been received which prompted review by the Equipment Engineering Committee and the Arbitration and Rules Committee. As a result, Rule 1.5.a(18) is removed from Rule 1 as identified below.

**Present:** Rule 1.5.a(18) (see Field Manual page 10)

**Revised:** Rule 1.5.a(18)

## RULE 1

- (8) E coupler secondhand and parts replacement contour limit gage (5½ inch) No. 25623-1, Side B.
  - (9) E coupler reconditioned contour limit gage (5 inch) No. 28393.
  - (10) E knuckle nose worn limit gage No. 44057.
  - (11) F knuckle nose worn limit gage No. 49822.
  - (12) F knuckle wear and stretch gage No. 44250-3.
  - (13) F coupler contour limit gage No. 47120-2.
  - (14) F coupler Guard Arm Distortion Gage No. 36527-2A or No. 36527-3.
  - (15) Pedestal Ceiling Wear Gage No. EC-1200.
  - (16) Tread worn hollow gage.
  - (17) 70, 100, and 125 ton (Grade C) Ride Control, Super Service Ride Control, SK-1546-1, and SK-1546-2 gages.
  - ~~(18) Cushion unit yoke/end cap wear gage, effective April 1, 2017.~~
- b. Publications [contact manufacturer directly for items b.(3) through b.(5) and b.(15) through b.(18) links to publications at <http://www.mid.aar.com/>]
- (1) Field Manual of the AAR Interchange Rules (current year and revisions).
  - (2) Code of Air Brake System Tests for Freight Equipment (AAR Standard S-486).
  - (3) Instruction Leaflet No. 2391, Sup. 1, Repair Track Maintenance, Freight Brake Equipments "AB" Type.
  - (4) Repair Track Maintenance, Freight Brake Equipment DB-60 and DB-60L Control Valves.
  - (5) Repair Track Maintenance, Freight Brake Equipment ABDX and ABDXL Control Valves.
  - (6) Brake Systems Safety Standards for Freight and Other Non-Passenger Trains and Equipment (FRA).
  - (7) Railroad Freight Car Safety Standards (FRA).
  - (8) Reflectorization of Rail Freight Rolling Stock (FRA)
  - (9) Safety Appliance Standards (FRA)
  - (10)
    - a. AAR Forms: MD-11, AAR Roller Bearing Hot Box and Shop Inspection Report, MD-12, AAR Failed Axle Report, MD-115, Defective Wheels Removed, Causing Derailments, or Line-of-Road Setouts Reports, MD-500, Truck Side Frame and Bolster Failure Report, all located at <http://www.aar.com> in the Technical Standards section.
    - b. M-1003, QA-7.1 Non-Conformance Report, or access to online reporting at <http://aar.iirx.net>.
  - (11) Lubrication Manual, *MSRP*, Section H-III.
  - (12) Circular letters that revise an Interchange Rule or the *MSRP* and identified as mandatory must be maintained until next revision of the manual is published.
  - (13) Certified tank car facilities need additional publications as listed in Rule 81.E.
  - (14) Wheel and Axle Manual, *MSRP*, Section G-II (only if performing ultrasonic testing of wheels.)
  - (15) Miner Field Guide
  - (16) Stucki's "Pocket Guide"

Note that this revision was identified after the release of the January 2017 Field Manual. Consequently, this Circular is identified as mandatory in accord with Rule 1.5.b.(12) and must be maintained until the next revision of the Field Manual. Effective date of the revision is January 1, 2017.

**Sincerely,**

**Nichole Fimple**  
**Executive Director, Rules and Standards**  
**202-639-2143 202-639-2930 [Email:nfimple@aar.org](mailto:nfimple@aar.org)**

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# INCIDENT ALERT

On 1/13/2017, while performing an air brake test, a UP carman discovered two tank cars that were vandalized. The vandals made cuts in several locations on the cars that posed a safety risk to anyone getting on or off the cars. The cars were found in the Alamo Rail Yard in Elmendorf, TX.

All employees are asked to remain vigilant and report any suspicious activity to RMCC at (888)UPRR-COP.

