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**To:** Distribution List

**Subject:** August 2017 AAR Circular Letter Summary

The August 2017 summary includes the (12) 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, please send any future questions and issues to [Pubs@aar.com](mailto:Pubs@aar.com).

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
<b>Implemented Changes, Effective the Date of Circular</b>		
C-12936 Aug. 2, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of New MSRP Section T, S-5027 21-Point Control Plug, Cable Assembly and Receptacle (TC-21 Tender Control Cable).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of new S-5027 21-Point Control Plug, Cable Assembly and Receptacle (TC-21 Tender Control Cable).</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> It is planned that M-1004 and all supporting Standards will be available for purchase under a new MSRP titled Section T – Interoperable Fuel Tenders for Locomotives at <a href="http://www.aarpublications.com">www.aarpublications.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Fuel Tenders</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> M-1004 and supporting standards will only be available via implementation Circular Letters. The first full edition of Section T will include the following Specification and Standards as noted within this circular.</p>
C-12937 Aug. 2, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of New MSRP Section T, S-5025 Gaseous Natural Gas Supply Hose Unit for Natural Gas Fuel Tenders and S-5026 Heat Exchange Fluid Hose Unit for Natural Gas Fuel Tenders.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Fuel Tenders</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	<p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of new S-5025 Gaseous Natural Gas Supply Hose Unit for Natural Gas Fuel Tenders and S-5026 Heat Exchange Fluid Hose Unit for Natural Gas Fuel Tenders.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> It is planned that M-1004 and all supporting Standards will be available for purchase under a new MSRP titled Section T – Interoperable Fuel Tenders for Locomotives at <a href="http://www.aarpublications.com">www.aarpublications.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Comments:</b> M-1004 and supporting standards will only be available via implementation Circular Letters. The first full edition of Section T will include the following Specification and Standards as noted within this circular.</p>
C-12938 Aug. 2, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of New MSRP Section T, M-1004 Specification for Fuel Tenders.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of new M-1004 Specification for Fuel Tenders.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> It is planned that M-1004 and all supporting Standards will be available for purchase under a new MSRP titled Section T – Interoperable Fuel Tenders for Locomotives at <a href="http://www.aarpublications.com">www.aarpublications.com</a>.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Fuel Tenders</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> M-1004 and supporting standards will only be available via implementation Circular Letters. The first full edition of Section T will include the following Specification and Standards as noted within this circular.</p>
C-12941 Aug. 9, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revisions to the 200 Series Pipe Figures – Section 2 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> Revisions to the 200 series pipe figures – Section 2 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR). There were numerous revisions to these figures to remove inconsistencies, reorder "detail" sketches and Figure 134-A was archived and incorporated into Figure 247.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The implementation of Section 2 revisions are effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. Insert the circular attachment for these figures in your copy Section 2.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Open Top Gondolas</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Refer to the attached document to view these changes. 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>
<b>Changes Pending 30-Day Comment Period from Date of Circular</b>		
C-12939 Aug. 9, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section D, Trucks and Truck Details, Standards S-306 and S-307, Regarding Hadfield Manganese Steel for Vertical and Horizontal Bowl Liners.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section D, Standards S-306 and S-307, regarding revisions to chemistry and hardness requirements for Hadfield manganese steel for vertical and horizontal bowl liners.</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> Interested parties should review the proposed revisions to S-306, and S-307 and provide comments as requested within the 30 day period.</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	<p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the CSTCC prior to taking action on the revisions which are the subject of the comments.</p>	
<p>C-12940 Aug. 9, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Appendix G Wiring and Electrical Hardware, to be added to M-1004 Specification for Fuel Tenders.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to solicit comments for a new Appendix for MSRP Section T, M-1004 Specification for Fuel Tenders. The new addition is Appendix G Wiring and Electrical Hardware.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the Natural Gas Fuel Tender Technical Advisory Group prior to taking action on the revisions which are the subject of the comments.</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> Interested parties should review the proposed new addition is Appendix G Wiring and Electrical Hardware. and provide comments as requested within the 30 day period.</p>
<p>C-12942 Aug. 21, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of comments for revisions proposed for Section F, Sensors, S-6102 - Wayside Passing Data Format.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This Circular Letter is intended to solicit comments for revisions proposed for Section F, Standard S-6102 - Wayside Passing Data Format.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of issuance of this Circular will be considered by the EHMC 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 to S-6101 are in the attachment to this circular.</p>
<p>C-12943 Aug. 24, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment, Standard S-401 Brake Design Requirements, Welding reference to S-402.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment, Standard S-401 Brake Design Requirements, to correlate the welding requirements with those described in S-402 Welding of Air Brake Pipe and Fittings for Railroad Cars- Welding Procedures.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the Brake Systems Committee prior to taking action on the revisions which are the subject of the comments.</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 proposed change adds paragraph 13.5. Changes are highlighted with change bars in the attached file S-401.</p>
<p>C-12944 Aug. 24, 2017</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment, S-400 Brake Equipment - Installation Specifications, Multiple Updates.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p>

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
	<p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment, S-400 Brake Equipment - Installation Specifications, to clarify language and align S-400 with other standards that have been updated. The modifications are listed 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 Brake Systems Committee prior to taking action on the revisions which are the subject of the comments.</p>	<p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Interested parties should review and provide comments to AAR per the instructions noted within this circular.</p>
C-12945 Aug. 25, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments: Revisions to MSRP Sections C Part II (Design, Fabrication and Construction of Freight Cars) and Section D (Trucks and Truck Details), M-1001 Chapter 11 Service-Worthiness Tests and M-976 Truck Performance for Rail Cars</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The AAR Equipment Engineering Committee (EEC) is requesting comments on the following changes to Section D, Trucks and Truck Details, Specification M-976 Truck Performance for Rail Cars, and Section C Part II, Design, Fabrication and Construction of Freight Cars, Specification M-1001 Design, Fabrication, and Construction of Freight Cars, Chapter 11 Service-Worthiness Tests and Analyses for New Freight Cars 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 EEC prior to taking action on the 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> Attached to this circular are drafts of both M-976 and M-1001 Chapter 11 with changes highlighted by change bars.</p>
C-12946 Aug. 28, 2017	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Appendix J Inspections and Maintenance, to be added to M-1004 Specification for Fuel Tenders.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to solicit comments for a new Appendix for MSRP Section T, M-1004 Specification for Fuel Tenders. The new addition is Appendix J Inspections and Maintenance.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the Natural Gas Fuel Tender Technical Advisory Group prior to taking action on the revisions which are the subject of the comments.</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 resulting M-1004 Specification and accompanying standards apply to new natural gas fuel tenders to be qualified for free, unrestricted interchange freight service. The AAR documents identify the tender's structural design requirements, operating performance, crashworthiness, fuel interfaces needed to supply natural gas to dual-fuel locomotives, and interfaces needed to load the tender with fuel.</p>
C-12947 Aug. 29, 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.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Locomotives</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p>

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	<p><b>Summary:</b> The LC has approved the proposed terminology noted within this circular and revised definitions for addition to MSRP Standard, S-5019- Locomotive Definitions.</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>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> A draft of the revised standard S-5019 is attached to this circular 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>