



Thomas E. DeLafosse
 Vice President
 Salco Products
 Engineering and Technical Services
 1385 101st Street, Suite A
 Lemont, IL 60439
 630.512.7595
Tom_delafosse@salcoproducts.com

To: Distribution List
Subject: January 2021 AAR Circular Letter Summary

The January 2021 summary includes the (15) 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.

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.

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
Implemented Changes, Effective the Date of Circular		
C-13727 Dec. 31, 2020	<p>Subject: January 2021 Field and Office Manuals, Summary of Comments, and Implementation Details</p> <p>Summary: In October and November 2020, several Circular Letters soliciting comments to the proposed rule changes were issued. In addition, several letters were issued that advised of approved changes that would become effective on January 1, 2021.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Refer to this circular shows a recap of their status.</p>	<p>Car Type: All</p> <p>Car Owner: Yes</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Note, unless otherwise noted in the circular letter comments, the rule changes are for the Field Manual.</p>

<p>C-13728 Jan. 4, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to Figures 267-A, 287 and 298 from Section 2 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p> <p>Summary: The AAR's Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved the noted revisions within this circular to Figures 267-A, 287 and 298 from Section 2 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules (OTLR) Manual.</p> <p>Implementation Date: The implementation of these revisions is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the OTLR manual. In the interim, insert the circular attachments for Figures 267-A, 287 and 298 from Section 2.</p>	<p>Car Type: Open Top Gondolas</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: 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>
<p>C-13730 Jan. 5, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Office Manual Rule 107, Freight Car Index Factor.</p> <p>Summary: The AAR Car Repair Billing Committee has approved the 2020 Freight Car Index Factor of 201 to be used in 2021. The Freight Car Index Factor is based on the Freight Car Producer Price Index from October 1, 2019 to September 30, 2020.</p> <p>Implementation Date: The new Freight Car Index Factor is published in Rule 107 of the Office Manual and is effective January 1, 2021.</p>	<p>Car Type: All Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No Change</p> <p>Repair Shop: No Change</p> <p>Comments: This number is unchanged from the 2019 Freight Car Index Factor.</p>
<p>C-13731 Jan. 5, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation of Retirement of MSRP Section M, Recommended Practice – RP-545 Testing Electrical Components.</p> <p>Summary: This Circular is to notify the industry of the retirement and archival of MSRP Section M, Recommended Practice – RP-545 Testing Electrical Components.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Effective immediately, RP-545 is retired.</p>	<p>Car Type: Locomotive</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: If Section M is a required publication for your location, remove and discard RP-545.</p>

<p>C-13729 Jan. 7, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to Figures 240, 244, 247, 260, 263, 267, and 285 from Section 2 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR).</p> <p>Summary: The AAR's Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) approved implementation of the revisions to figures 240, 244, 247, 260, 263, 267, and 285 from Section 2 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules (OTLR) Manual.</p> <p>Implementation Date: The changes to Sections 2 OTLR are effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. Insert this circulars attachment for Figures 240, 244, 247, 260, 263, 267, and 285 in your Section 2, if this is a required publication for your facility.</p>	<p>Car Type: Open Top Gondolas</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: 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>
<p>C-13735 Jan. 12, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Informational Circular Letter, CRB Data Exchange Error Code 4T.</p> <p>Summary: The intent of the circular letter is to clarify details regarding the implementation of new CRB error code 4T and inform users of a change to the error code language to be added to the CRB Procedures Manual.</p> <p>Implementation Date: During the informational period, the 4T error will apply to all repair dates. That is, users will receive the informational 4T error for detail source JD and JI repairs submitted after 7 account months, regardless of repair date. After the July 2021 run of the CRB Data Exchange, the edit will become mandatory and will apply exclusively to repair dates January 1, 2021 and greater.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: Yes</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: It is recommended that this information be shared with all Car Repair Billing and IT personnel in your company that work with or are responsible for Car Repair Invoices submitted to and/or received from Railinc's Data Exchange.</p>
<p>C-13736 Jan. 19, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-I Railway Electronics Systems Architecture and Concept of Operations, Standard S-9058.V1.0.</p> <p>Summary: ITCTM relies on participants providing their own ITCTM interface with their ticketing system per the ITCTM ICD and the ITCTM requirements with the use cases within this document. Reference the ITCTM ICD for ITCTN architecture and message descriptions with examples.</p> <p>Implementation Date: This Standard will be incorporated in the next issue of the MSRP, Section K-I Railway Electronics Systems Architecture and Concept of Operations.</p>	<p>Car Type: Railroads</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: If Section K is a required publication for your location, be sure to update your manual with this revised Standard S-9058.V1.0.</p>

<p>C-13738 Jan. 26, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Revisions to Field and Office Manuals, Rule 125, Early Warning – Delayed until June 28, 2021.</p> <p>Summary: Circular C-13711, issued November 24, 2020, announced the delay of the rewrite of Field and Office Manuals Rule 125 and the Early Warning System to April 1, 2021.</p> <p>Implementation Date: In second quarter 2021, the changes to the Field and Office Manuals will be implemented via circular, effective June 28, 2021.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: Yes</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Additional industry feedback was received prompting the delay of the implementation of these revisions to June 28, 2021. No further delays are anticipated.</p>
<p>Changes Pending 30-Day Comment Period from Date of Circular</p>		
<p>C-13732 Jan. 5, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments on the Retirement and Archiving of MSRP Section M, Standard – S-5512 Locomotive Event Recorder Download Standard.</p> <p>Summary: This Circular is to notify the industry of and to solicit comments on the proposed retirement and archival of MSRP Section M, Standard S-5512.</p> <p>Implementation Date: The railroad community is asked to provide any feedback, if needed. Following the 30-day comment period it is the intention of the Locomotive Committee to remove S-5512 from MSRP, Section M.</p>	<p>Car Type: Locomotives</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: Questions should be directed to Mike Fore, Director-Technical Services.</p>
<p>C-13733 Jan. 12, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: DRAFT S-9451A.V2.0 - ITCSM WIU Asset-Specific Requirements for Interoperable Train Control is available for review and comment. In support of AAR's MSRP, Section K-V, Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management.</p> <p>Summary: The Positive Train Control Interoperability Committee (PTCIC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT Standard S-9451A.V2.0 - ITCSM WIU Asset-Specific Requirements for Interoperable Train Control is available for review and comment.</p> <p>Implementation Date: In order to provide time for review and comment, this document will have a 15-day comment period. The time begins with the date posted of 1/12/2021.</p>	<p>Car Type: Railroads</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: he DRAFT document, Comment Form and web link are noted within this circular.</p>

<p>C-13734 Jan. 12, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: DRAFT S-9452A.V2.0 - ITCSM WIU Asset-Specific Data Dictionary for Interoperable Train Control is available for review and comment. In support of AAR's MSRP, Section K-V, Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management.</p> <p>Summary: The Positive Train Control Interoperability Committee (PTCIC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT Standard S-9452A.V2.0 - ITCSM WIU Asset-Specific Data Dictionary for Interoperable Train Control is available for review and comment.</p> <p>Implementation Date: In order to provide time for review and comment, this document will have a 15-day comment period. The time begins with the date posted of 1/12/2021.</p>	<p>Car Type: Railroads</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: he DRAFT document, Comment Form and web link are noted within this circular.</p>
<p>C-13739 Jan. 28, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Precision Navigation Module Interface Control Document (ICD) is available for review and comment. In support of AAR's MSRP, Section K-II, Locomotive Electronics and Train Consist System Architecture.</p> <p>Summary: The Railway Electronics Standards Committee (RESC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT Standard S-9103.V1.0 - Precision Navigation Module Interface Control Document (ICD) for review and comment.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Comments regarding the DRAFT may be submitted by using the Comment Form found on the SharePoint site and emailing the completed form to submitcomment@aar.org. The DRAFT document and Comment Form can be found at the link noted in this circular.</p>	<p>Car Type: Locomotives</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: This document specifies an industry-standard ICD that defines high precision navigation messages for PNM's on locomotives. This standard applies to all new PNM devices ordered after January 1, 2021.</p>

<p>C-13740 Jan. 28, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Interoperable MOTES System Architecture-A System for Monitoring Freight Industry Rolling Stock is available for review & comment. In support of AAR's MSRP, Section K-I, Railway Electronics Systems Architecture & Concepts of Operations</p> <p>Summary: The Railway Electronics Standards Committee (RESC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT Specification M-9020.V1.0 - Interoperable MOTES System Architecture - A System for Monitoring Freight Industry Rolling Stock for review and comment.</p> <p>Implementation Date: In order to provide time for review and comment, this document will have a 30-day comment period. The time will begin with the date posted above.</p>	<p>Car Type: Railroads</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: Refer to this circular for the form and link to provide comments.</p>
<p>General Information for the Industry</p>		
<p>C-13737 Jan. 19, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: AAR M-1003 Quality Assurance Audit Requirements During the COVID-19 Pandemic.</p> <p>Summary: The AAR is providing this notice to the industry as questions have arisen regarding obtaining and maintaining AAR M-1003 Certifications during the COVID-19 pandemic. This announcement supplements AAR Circular Letter C-13545 "Restart of AAR Inspections and Audits".</p> <p>Implementation Date: Guidelines for conducting the M-1003 audits are noted within this circular for North America as well as foreign locations.</p>	<p>Car Type: Entire Industry</p> <p>Car Owner: Yes</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Refer to this circular for AAR's suggestions and guidance recommendations.</p>
<p>C-13741 Jan. 29, 2021</p>	<p>Subject: Spring 2021 AAR Technical Committee Meetings.</p> <p>Summary: With respect to the Covid-19 AAR has determined that for the first half of 2021, it is appropriate to arrange teleconferences or webinars in lieu of holding face-to-face meetings. Included in this circular is a list of those committees now planning with this approach in mind.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Industry Information.</p>	<p>Car Type: Industry Information</p> <p>Car Owner: Possible</p> <p>Repair Shop: Possible</p> <p>Comments: Review the noted AAR Committee meeting dates to determine if your representation is necessary. Contact the staff person listed if you have an item you wish to have considered by a specific committee.</p>