

**To:** Distribution List

**Subject:** September, 2023 AAR Circular Letter Summary

The September 2023 summary includes the (23) 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](mailto:tom.delafosse@salcoproducts.com).

Circular No.	Subject and Summary	Impact Statement
<b>Implemented Changes, Effective the Date of Circular</b>		
C-14206 Sept. 5, 2023	<p><b>Subject:</b> Informational Circular, Car Repair Facility Labor Rate – Effective October 1, 2023.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Car Repair Facility Labor Rate, effective October 1, 2023 is \$188.55, a decrease of \$5.69 (or 2.9%) from the labor rate estimated on July 1, 2023.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The replacement of 2022 estimates with actual wage data were the primary driver of the decrease.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> AAR Freight Car Labor Rate</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> This will be reflected in the October 1, 2023 release of the AAR Office Manual.</p>

<p>C-14208 Sept. 8, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP). Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management, Standard S-9419.V1.0.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> S-9419.V1.0 describes the security aspects of PSA-2 as they relate to back office applications.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Standard S-9419.V1.0 was Adopted in 2023 and is attached to this circular in PDF format. S-9419.V1.0 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> If Section K-V is a required publication for your location, insert the Circular in your copy of the MSRP Section K-V</p>
<p>C-14210 Sept. 8, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-IV Office Architecture and Railroad Electronics Messaging, S-9372.V3.0.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> S-9372.V3.0 defines the messages passed between a PTC Back Office and an Energy Management (EM) system that operates on a PTC-equipped locomotive.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Standard S-9372.V3.0 was Adopted in 2014 and Last Revised in 2023 and is attached to this circular in PDF format. S-9372.V3.0 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP section K-IV Office Architecture and Railroad Electronics Messaging.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> If Section K-IV is a required publication for your location, insert the Circular in your copy of the MSRP Section K-V</p>
<p>C-14212 Sept. , 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Canadian Car Repair Facility Labor Rate – Effective October 1, 2023.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Canadian Car Repair Billing Labor Rate calculation for October 1, 2023 is \$234.99 CAD, a decrease of seven Canadian dollars and twenty-three cents from the calculation for July 1.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Wages were benchmarked from 2021 to 2022 wage statistics the replacement of 2022 estimates with actual wage data was the primary driver of the decrease.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> (CA) AAR Labor Rate</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The change will be reflected in the October 1, 2023 release of the Canadian Price Master.</p>

<p>C-14215 Sept. 20, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Approval and Pending Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section H-II, Roller Bearing Manual, S-723, Vented Backing Rings, to Not Allow Vented Backing Rings to be Returned to Service, effective January 1, 2024.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions (effective January 1, 2024) to MSRP Section H-II, Roller Bearing Manual, Standard S-723, to not allow vented backing rings to be returned to service.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The changes will appear in MSRP H-II, S-723 on the effective date of January 1, 2024.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Bearing and wheel Shops Only</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Bearing and wheel shops should plan accordingly</p>
<p>CPC-1410 Sept. 21, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Salco UHMWPE Lined Pressure Plates (superseded by CPC-1411).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The AAR TCC requires that tank car tanks equipped SALCO UHMWPE lined pressure plates not be offered loaded 90 days from the publication of this CPC. Empty cars would be prohibited 120 days from publication.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The removal is in response to NARs attributed to the component and potential NAR's.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Acid tank Cars</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Yes, acid car owners that have these design plates on their cars.</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Contact your Salco representative with questions.</p>
<p>CPC-1411 Sept. 26, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Salco UHMWPE Lined Pressure Plates Update.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The AAR TCC requires that tank car tanks equipped SALCO UHMWPE lined pressure plates not be offered loaded 90 calendar days from September 21, 2023. Residue cars would be prohibited 120 days from publication September 21, 2023.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The removal is in response to NARs attributed to the component. This CPC supersedes CPC-1410.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Acid tank Cars</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Yes, acid car owners that have these design plates on their cars.</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Contact your Salco representative with questions.</p>
<p>CPC-1412 Sept. 27, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Tank Car Facility Activity Codes B89 and RLJ.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> Facilities currently having the activity code B89 and/or RLJ may continue to perform work to safety systems and/or jacket repair under their current certification, until the 2024 facility audit is completed. Facilities wishing to add B89/RLJ per CPC-1405 shall complete and return the T-3 form, see attached to this CPC.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Questions related to the CPC shall be directed to Kenneth Dorsey, Executive Director of Tank Car Safety via email kdorsey@aar.org.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Tank</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes, for tank car shops</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Refer to the T-3 form for guidance.</p>

<p>CPC-1414 Sept. 29, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Recommended Railroad Operating Practices for Transportation of Hazardous Materials.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> AAR's Safety and Operations department is amending III. Yard Operating Practices B. By removing Hazard zone, A (Hazard zone B, C or D).</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> These are the only changes from OT-55-R Dated July 1, 2022. AAR Circular No. OT-55-R Dated October 1st , 2023 (attached to this circular) becomes effective October 1st , 2023 and supersedes all previous versions.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Tank</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Refer to this CPC for the OT-55 latest update.</p>
<p><b>Changes Pending 30-Day (Generally) Comment Period from Date of Circular</b></p>		
<p>C-14207 Sept. 7, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section G, Wheels, and Axles, S-631 and S-632, and MSRP Section G-II, Wheels, and Axles Manual, RP-631, RP-633, and RP-634, Alternate Combination Gauge.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for proposed revisions to MSRP Section G, Wheels, and Axles, and MSRP Section G-II, Wheels, and Axles Manual, with alternate gage usage as proposed in 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 WABL Committee.</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 revisions do not have costs associated with implementation.</p>
<p>C-14211 Sept. 15, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> DRAFT S-9363.V1.1 - Interoperable Train Control (ITC) Time and Location - Interface Control Document (ICD), in support of AAR's MSRP - Section K-IV, Office Architecture and Railroad Electronics Messaging.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Positive Train Control Interoperability Committee (PTCIC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT S-9363.V1.1 Interoperable Train Control (ITC) Time and Location - Interface Control Document (ICD) for review and comment.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> In order to provide time for review and comment, this document will have a 15-day comment period. The time will begin 9/15/2023.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> SharePoint access can be found at <a href="http://www.railinc.com">www.railinc.com</a>. Individuals and organizations who have a company ID may access the SharePoint site directly.</p>

<p>C-14213 Sept. 15, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> DRAFT S-9461.V1.0 - ITCSM Data Transfer, in support of AAR's MSRP - Section K-V, Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Positive Train Control Interoperability Committee (PTCIC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT S-9461.V1.0 ITCSM Data Transfer for review and comment.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> In order to provide time for review and comment, this document will have a 15-day comment period. The time will begin 9/15/2023.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> SharePoint access can be found at <a href="http://www.railinc.com">www.railinc.com</a>. Individuals and organizations who have a company ID may access the SharePoint site directly.</p>
<p>C-14214 Sept. 15, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> DRAFT S-9452B.V1.0 - OPA Data Dictionary, in support of AAR's MSRP - Section K-V, Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Positive Train Control Interoperability Committee (PTCIC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT S-9452B.V1.0 OPA Data Dictionary for review and comment.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> In order to provide time for review and comment, this document will have a 15-day comment period. The time will begin 9/15/2023.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> SharePoint access can be found at <a href="http://www.railinc.com">www.railinc.com</a>. Individuals and organizations who have a company ID may access the SharePoint site directly.</p>
<p>C-14217 Sept. 25, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments: Revisions to MSRP F, Sensors, S-6001, Bearing Temperature Performance.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Equipment Health Monitoring Committee (EHMC) is releasing this circular to solicit comments on the proposed addition to the subject section within AAR's Manual of Standards &amp; Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section F – Sensors.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The comment period will remain open for thirty (30) days from the date of the issuance of this circular. All written comments received will be considered by EHMC prior to final action on the proposed additions.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Interested parties should review these changes for possible impact on your operations.</p>

<p>C-14218 Sept. 27, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for revisions to MSRP E Brakes and Brake Equipment, M-602, Gaskets, Air Hose, Updates, and additions.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section E, M-602 Gaskets, Air Hose. The changes incorporate modernization updates throughout the text and add specifications for alternate standard gaskets.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments relevant to the proposed revisions received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the BSC prior to further action.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Freight</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No, only gasket manufactures.</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Changes are highlighted with change bars in the attached draft of this circular to M-602.</p>
<p>C-14219 Sept. 27, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for revisions to MSRP E brakes and brake equipment, s-4031, trainline arrangement for cars with e/f-type couplers and draft system buff travel of 6 to 10 inches, end hose arrangement.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for a new proposed standard to Section E, S-4032 Trainline Arrangement for Cars with E/F-Type Couplers and Draft System Buff Travel of 6 to 10 inches, End Hose Arrangement.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments relevant to the proposed revisions received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the BSC prior to further action.</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> Changes are highlighted with change bars in the attached draft of this circular to S-4032.</p>
<p>C-14220 Sept. 27, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for revisions to MSRP E brakes and brake equipment, s-4031, trainline arrangement for cars with e-type couplers and with draft system buff travel of 6 to 10 inches, end hose arrangement.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for a new proposed standard to Section E, S-4031 Trainline Arrangement for Cars with E-Type Couplers and with Draft System Buff Travel of 6 to 10 inches, End Hose Arrangement.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments relevant to the proposed revisions received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the BSC prior to further action.</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> Changes are highlighted with change bars in the attached draft of this circular to S-4031.</p>

<p>C-14221 Sept. 27, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for revisions to MSRP E brakes and brake equipment, S-486, code of air brake system tests for freight equipment—single car test, explication of “soap.”</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section E, S-486 Code of Air Brake Systems Tests for Freight Equipment – Single Car Test. The changes add an Appendix to provide an explication of “soap” used throughout the text.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments relevant to the proposed revisions received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the BSC prior to further action.</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> Changes are highlighted with change bars in the attached draft of this circular to S-486.</p>
<p>C-14222 Sept. 27, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for revisions to MSRP E Brakes and Brake Equipment, S-4027, Automated Single Car Test Equipment, Conventional Brake Equipment—Design and Performance Requirements. Data validation enhancements.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> C-14116 was issued on 3/15/23 soliciting comments on changes to S-4027. No comments were received. This circular builds on those changes.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> All comments relevant to the proposed revisions received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the BSC prior to further action.</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> Changes are highlighted with change bars in the attached draft of this circular to S-4027.</p>
<p>C-14223 Sept. 29, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Draft S-9353 Appendix A V1.2 Data Element Specifications, in support of AAR's MSRP - Section K-IV, Office Architecture and Railroad Electronics Messaging.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Railroad Electronics Standards Committee (RESC) of the Association of the American Railroads (AAR) is publishing Draft S-9353 Appendix A V1.2 Data Element Specifications for review and comment.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> This document will have a 30-day comment period. The time will begin Sept. 29, 2023.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The update frequency of the AAR document and the content of the appendix is not the same, therefore, the information in the appendix is stored separately from the document.</p>

<p>CPC-1415 Sept. 29, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments on Proposed Revisions to MSRP Section C-III, Chapter 1 and Appendix V Specification for Tank Cars (M-1002).</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Tank Car Committee (TCC) is requesting comments on the proposed revisions identified by change bars in the margin within the attached to this CPC in Chapter 1 and Appendix V of AAR MSRP C-III, Specifications for Tank Cars (M-1002).</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> To facilitate the handling of industry comments, AAR requires the attached Exhibit PC-1 (ver. 6.0) form to be completely filled out and submitted via e-mail to Ken Dorsey, Executive Director of Tank Car Safety, at kdorsey@aar.org within 30 calendar days from the date of this CPC.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Tank</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> The Exhibit PC-1 ver. 6.0 form must be completed will all information for the submitted comment(s) to be considered. With permission from AAR staff, a spread sheet containing all of the information requested on the PC-1 form may be submitted as an alternative.</p>
<p><b>General Information for the Industry</b></p>		
<p>C-14205 Sept. 5, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> 2023 Remaining AAR M-1003 Quality Assurance Training Classes.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The Association of American Railroads (AAR) Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) has provided a list of only three opportunities remain in 2023 for AAR M-1003 Quality Assurance Training classes.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Questions should be directed to either Don Guillen or Mark Raskovic with the AAR Quality Assurance Committee at QA@aar.com.</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> Refer to this circular for dates and locations.</p>
<p>C-14216 Sept. 22, 2023</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Informational: Request for participation from providers of wheel impact load detector (WILD) technology.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular is being sent to advise interested organizations who are regularly established in the manufacture and/or installation of wheel impact load detector (WILD) technology systems for use in the North American freight rail industry of a taskforce formed by AAR's Equipment Health Monitoring Committee.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Organizations interested in membership on this taskforce, and who meet the above criteria, are requested to identify one or more (not to exceed three) representatives capable of contributing subject-matter/technical expertise in the subject area.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Railroads</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> This taskforce is planning to begin meeting regularly to develop or enhance industry validation standards for WILDs.</p>