

To: Distribution List

Subject: January 2024 AAR Circular Letter Summary

The January 2024 summary includes the (11) 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-14295 Jan. 3, 2024	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section H-II, Roller Bearing Manual, Standard S-723, Vented Backing Rings, to Not Allow Vented Backing Rings to be Returned to Service.</p> <p>Summary: This circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions, effective January 3, 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>Implementation Date: These changes are now fully implemented and effective January 3, 2024.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: If Section H-II is a required publication for your location, be sure to download the revised S-723 and update your manual.</p>

<p>C-14296 Jan. 4, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: Office Manual Rule 107 Cost Factor – 2023.</p> <p>Summary: The Office Manual Rule 107 Cost Factor for 2023, to be used in 2024, is 277, a 37.81% increase from 2022. This calculation was approved by the AAR Car Repair Billing Committee in December 2023.</p> <p>Implementation Date: The new Office Manual Rule 107 Cost Factor of 277 was published in the Office Manual and became effective January 1, 2024.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: Yes</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: This calculation is based on the Umler Original Cost Index from October 1, 2022, to September 30, 2023.</p>
<p>C-14297 Jan. 5, 2024 Mandatory</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation Effective Immediately: Corrections to the January 2024 Office Manual & Price Matrix.</p> <p>Summary: After publishing the January 2024 Office Manual & Price Matrix, AAR was notified that Office Manual Rule 53 included two retired job codes involving fiberglass running boards and that Job Codes 5880 & 5884 were missing WMC 41 in the Price Matrix.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Effective date of the corrected version is January 1, 2024.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Possibly</p> <p>Comments: Attached to this circular are the two pages from the Office Manual & Price Matrix. Insert the pages into your hard-copy publications as appropriate.</p>
<p>C-14298 Jan. 5, 2024 Mandatory</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation Effective Immediately: Corrections to January 2024 Field Manual Rules 37 and 59.</p> <p>Summary: this circular letter is to notify the industry that there were two items found in the January 1, 2024 Field Manual that require attention. The revisions are identified within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: This circular is identified as mandatory in accordance with Field Manual Rule 1.5.b(11) and the attached pages 335, 335.1, 335.2, 336, 515 and 516 must be maintained until the next revision of the Field Manual.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: MxV Rail will distribute the updated electronic edition of the January 2024 AAR Field Manual.</p>
<p>C-14299 Jan. 9, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to Figure 14-B: Steel Plate or Slab on Flatcars or Bulkhead Flatcars – 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 Section 2 OTLR manual for figure 14-B.</p> <p>Implementation Date: The implementation is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR manual. If Section 2 is a required publication for your facility, be sure to download this circulars attachment for figure 14-B in your copy of Section 2.</p>	<p>Car Type: Gondola</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-14302 Jan. 29, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section C, Car Construction Fundamentals and Details, Standard S-213, Side Door and Door Frames, Boxcar - Plug Type, Revision to the water test fixture requirements.</p> <p>Summary: This circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions to Section C, Car Construction Fundamentals and Details, Standard S-213, Side Door and Door Frames, Boxcar - Plug Type. Paragraph 6.2.1 Water Test Fixture has been updated to require maintaining a minimum water pressure throughout the duration of the water spray test.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Standard S-213, attached, is now implemented and effective immediately. This modification will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section C.</p>	<p>Car Type: Box Cars</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Possible</p> <p>Comments: If Section C is a required publication for your location, be sure to download the revised S-213 and update your manual.</p>
<p>C-14303 Jan. 29, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management, Standard S-9401.V1.1.</p> <p>Summary: S-9401.V1.1 sets forth the requirements for the various environments into which railway electronics components may be placed in operation. Equipment provided under these requirements must meet all performance requirements in the environment for which it is intended.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Standard S-9401.V1.1 was Adopted in 2003 and Last Revised in 2024 and is attached to this circular in PDF format.</p>	<p>Car Type: Railroads</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: S-9401.V1.1 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management.</p>
<p>C-14305 Jan. 29, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: AAR Manual of Standard and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-IV Office Architecture and Railroad Electronics Messaging, Standard S-9363.V1.1.</p> <p>Summary: Standard S-9363.V1.1 was Adopted in 2012 and Last Revised in 2024 and is attached to this circular in PDF format.</p> <p>Implementation Date: If Section K-IV is a required publication for your location, be sure to update it with the current version of S-9363.V1.1.</p>	<p>Car Type: Railroads</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: S-9363.V1.1 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP Section K-IV Office Architecture and Railroad Electronics Messaging.</p>

Changes Pending 30-Day (Generally) Comment Period from Date of Circular		
<p>C-14301 Jan. 22, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Proposal to Modify Car Repair Billing Data Exchange Run Dates.</p> <p>Summary: The Car Repair Billing Committee meeting, the committee advanced a proposal to modify the Car Repair Billing Data Exchange Run Dates as detailed within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Comments should be sent to the undersigned at billp@aar.org within 30 days of this letter for consideration. All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Car Repair Billing Committee and the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of January 31, 2025.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: Potentially</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</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 CRB Data Exchange.</p>
<p>C-14304 Jan. 29, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: DRAFT S-9373.V1.0 WSRS Requirements, in support of AAR's MSRP - Section K-IV, Office Architecture and Railroad Electronics Messaging.</p> <p>Summary: The purpose of this document is to describe how Wayside Status Messages should be exchanged between different railroad's WSRS applications and other ITCM components. The following requirements describe the format of subscription packages that will be used to specify different types of relays (direct relay, owner relay forwarding, owner relay broadcasting and monitoring).</p> <p>Implementation Date: In order to provide time for review and comments, this document will have a 15-day comment period. The time will begin 1/29/2024.</p>	<p>Car Type: Railroads</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: The Positive Train Control Interoperability Committee (PTCIC) of the Association of American Railroads (AAR) is publishing DRAFT S-9373.V1.0 WSRS Requirements for review and comment.</p>
General Information for the Industry		
<p>C-14300 Jan. 11, 2024</p>	<p>Subject: Spring 2024 AAR Technical Committee Meetings.</p> <p>Summary: AAR meetings that have been planned for the first half of 2024 and are listed within this circular. AAR Meeting Announcements can also be found online on the MxV Rail web site.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Interested parties should contact the listed person if questions arise.</p>	<p>Car Type: Industry Information</p> <p>Car Owner: Possibly</p> <p>Repair Shop: Possibly</p> <p>Comments: N/A</p>