

**To:** Distribution List

**Subject:** February 2024 AAR Circular Letter Summary

The February 2024 summary includes the (16) 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-14306 Feb. 1, 2024	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revision to AAR MSRP Section J, Specification for Quality Assurance M-1003.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> Notice of a new edition of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP) Section J, Specification for Quality Assurance M-1003. The previous printing was issued January 2022.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> AAR Accredited Quality Assurance Auditors will begin utilizing the revision upon release. However, auditors will not document a nonconformance finding under the new requirements until August 2024, allotting six months for M-1003 certified facility's Quality Assurance Programs to be revised accordingly.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> All freight car activity codes</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Possible</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> If you are an AAR M-1003 certified company, be sure to purchase a copy of the new edition and update your QAP by August 1, 2024. The newly revised 2024 Quality Assurance Program Evaluation (QAPE) is attached to this Circular Letter.</p>

<p>C-14308 Feb. 5, 2024 <b>Mandatory</b></p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Effective Immediately: Revision to Office Manual, Rules 103 and 107, Rack Only Incidents.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> After publishing the January 2024 Office Manual, it was brought to AAR’s attention that the new guidance for “rack only incidents” unintentionally prohibited the billing of destroyed racks.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Effective date of the corrected version is January 1, 2024.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Autoracks</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Download the attached pages to this circular for inclusion into your copy of the Office Manual. Insert the pages into your hard-copy publications as appropriate.</p>
<p>CPC-1419 Feb. 12, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Recommended Railroad Operating Practices for Transportation of Hazardous Materials.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The AAR's Hazmat Committee reviewed OT-55-R Section I A. and determined that an edit was required to resolve a discrepancy between the definition of a key train, listed in the USHMI SECTION VII, (2), (C), and this document. The edit will be as follows: 20 carloads or intermodal portable loads of any combination of hazardous materials, or;</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> This circular reflects the final action on this matter.</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> N/A</p>
<p>CPC-1420 Feb. 12, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Proposed Changes to MSRP Section C-III, Specification for Tank Cars (M-1002), Chapter 1, Appendices B, E, R, V, and W.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> he Tank Car Committee (TCC) has Implementation of Proposed Changes to MSRP Section C-III, Specification for Tank Cars (M-1002), Chapter 1, Appendices B, E, R, V, and W.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Revisions are hereby implemented and in effect as of the publication date of this circular.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Tank</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> Yes</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> If Section C-III is a required publication for your facility, be sure to download the attachments and update your copy.</p>
<p>C-14303 Jan. 29, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> CANCELLED</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This Circular is being canceled and S-9401.V1.1 is being removed from the MSRP due to a technical error.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Remove S-9401.V1.1 from your copy 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> N/A</p>

<p>C-14310 Feb. 20, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management, Standard S-9410.V1.0.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> S-9410.V1.0 describes the messages used for subscribing to event and status updates for a foreign asset from that roads Event and Status Service. The Interoperable Event and Status service supports the following: Interoperable Subscribe Event, Interoperable Subscribe Status, and Interoperable Get Status.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Standard S-9410.V1.0 was adopted in 2024 and is attached to this circular in PDF format. S-9410.V1.0 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management. Insert the Circular in your copy of the MSRP if this is a required publication for your location.</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> N/A</p>
<p>C-14311 Feb. 20, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management, Standard S-9411.V1.0</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> S-9411.V1.0 describes SMIA-2 architecture, principles and common requirements SMIA-2 provides end-to-end identity assurance by extending the existing ISMP protocol. The scope of SMIA-2 is interoperable systems management messaging; that is, back office to back office system management request between partner roads.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Standard S-9411.V1.0 was adopted in 2024 and is attached to this circular in PDF format. S-9411.V1.0 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management. Insert the Circular in your copy of the MSRP if this is a required publication for your location.</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> N/A</p>

<p>C-14312 Feb. 20, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management, Standard S-9412.V1.0.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> S-9412.V1.0 describes the requirements for obtaining certificates, issuing Authentication Tokens, and issuing Access Tokens. This document applies to SMIA-2 and other interoperable back-office services.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Standard S-9412.V1.0 was Adopted in 2024 and is attached to this circular in PDF format. S-9412.V1.0 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management. Insert the Ccircular in your copy of the MSRP if this is a required publication for your location.</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> N/A</p>
<p>C-14313 Feb. 20, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management, Standard S-9414.V1.0.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> S-9414.V1.0 describes the Service Registry which is used to provide the EMP address for a domestic or foreign service based on a well-known 'service name'. The Service Registry is not used to obtain the EMP address for an asset (e.g., a locomotive). This document describes the process and messages used for obtaining the EMP address for a foreign service.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Standard S-9414.V1.0 was Adopted in 2024 and is attached to this circular in PDF format. S-9414.V1.0 will be incorporated into the next issue of the MSRP Section K-V Electronics Environmental Requirements and Systems Management. Insert the Ccircular in your copy of the MSRP if this is a required publication for your location.</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> N/A</p>
<p>C-14317 Feb. 29, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment, Standard S-475, Hand Brakes, Editorial Corrections to Dimensions.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions to Section E, Brakes and Brake Equipment, S-475, Hand Brakes. Revisions are corrections to the dimensions of the table in 1.3.9.1 and Figure 4.1.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The revised standard S-475, attached, is now implemented and effective immediately. This standard will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section E.</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> If Section E is a required publication for your facility, be sure to download the attached revised S-475 and update your copy.</p>

<p>C-14318 Feb. 29, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revisions to MSRP E Brakes and Brake Equipment, S-4032, Trainline Arrangement for Cars With E/F-Type Couplers and Draft System Buff Travel Of 6 To 10 Inches.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions to Section E Brakes and Brake Equipment, with the addition of new S-4032, Trainline Arrangement for Cars With E/F-Type Couplers and Draft System Buff Travel Of 6 To 10 Inches.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The new standard S-4032, attached, is now implemented and effective immediately. This standard will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section E.</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> If Section E is a required publication for your facility, be sure to download the attached revised S-4032 and update your copy.</p>
<p>C-14319 Feb. 29, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section E Brakes and Brake Equipment, New Standard S-4031, Trainline Arrangement for Cars With E-Type Couplers and With Draft System Buff Travel Of 6 To 10 Inches.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions to Section E Brakes and Brake Equipment, with the addition of new Standard S-4031 Trainline Arrangement for Cars with E-Type Couplers and Draft System Buff Travel of 6 to 10 inches.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> The new standard S-4031, attached, is now implemented and effective immediately. This standard will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section E.</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> If Section E is a required publication for your facility, be sure to download the attached revised S-4031 and update your copy.</p>

Changes Pending 30-Day (Generally) Comment Period from Date of Circular		
<p>C-14307 Feb. 2, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section C, Car Construction Fundamentals and Details: Proposed new Standard "S-2057 Draft Arrangements, 24 5/8-in. Pocket" and retirement of existing standards S-239, S-243, and S-245.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The purpose of this circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section C, Car Construction Fundamentals and Details. Attached is proposed new Standard S-2057 Draft Arrangements, 24 5/8-in. Pocket. The AAR Equipment Engineering Committee's (EEC) intent is to consolidate the following 24 5/8-in. pocket standards into one. These three existing standards would be retired upon implementation of S-2057: S-239, S-243, and S-245.</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 Equipment Engineering Committee.</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> Submit comments or questions to Jon Hannafious, Director of Technical Standards at MxV Rail via email at eec@aar.com. Be sure to include the Circular Number in the subject line of your email.</p>
<p>C-14315 Feb. 28, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section B Freight Car Draft Components, Specification M-921H, Unit Condition Indicator, Standard EOC and COC Cushioning Devices, addition of requirements for all hydraulic cushioning devices.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section B Freight Car Draft Components, Specification M-921H, Unit Condition Indicator, Standard EOC and COC Cushioning Devices. Additional requirements for all hydraulic end-of-car (EOC) and center-of-car (COC) devices are being added relative to Marking, Identification Tags, Stamping, and Bar Code Labeling, and port configuration.</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 Equipment Engineering Committee.</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> If the proposed version of M-921H is implemented, overlapping content existing in Specifications M-921A, M-921B, M-921C, M-921D, M-921E, and M-921F (relative to Marking, Identification Tags, Stamping, and Bar Code Labeling) would be deleted from those specifications.</p>

<p>C-14316 Feb. 22, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section C, Car Construction Fundamentals and Details, Standard S-2056, Clearance Plate Diagrams for Interchange Service: Update to Plate K and addition of Plate P.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> This circular letter is to solicit comments for revisions proposed to Section C, Car Construction Fundamentals and Details, Standard S-2056, Clearance Plate Diagrams for Interchange Service. The AAR Clearance Task Force and the Equipment Engineering Committee have agreed to this update relative to clearances for 20' 3" autoracks.</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 Equipment Engineering Committee.</p>	<p><b>Car Type:</b> Autorack</p> <p><b>Car Owner:</b> No</p> <p><b>Repair Shop:</b> No</p> <p><b>Comments:</b> Note that changes to Plate H are also pending. Please refer to circular C-14195 dated August 7, 2023, for a description of those changes.</p> <p>Updates have been included to the Plate H, K, and P values in the Plate Summary Table listed in paragraph 16.0.</p>
<p><b>General Information for the Industry</b></p>		
<p>C-14309 Feb. 5, 2024</p>	<p><b>Subject:</b> Registration is Open for NARMO 2024.</p> <p><b>Summary:</b> The 38th North American Rail Mechanical Operations (NARMO) Seminar will be held May 6-9, 2024 in Nashville, TN.</p> <p><b>Implementation Date:</b> Registrations can be made by clicking on the link found in this circular.</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> Location: Sheraton Grand Nashville Downtown 623 Union St. Nashville, TN 37219.</p>