

To: Distribution List

Subject: April 2023 AAR Circular Letter Summary

The April 2023 summary includes the (17) 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-14118 Apr. 4, 2023	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section S, Casting Details, Specification M-201, Castings Steel, Regarding Changes to Section 4.0.</p> <p>Summary: This circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions to Section S, Casting Details, Specification M-201, Castings Steel.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Specification M-201 is now implemented and effective immediately. This modification will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section S.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: If this is a required publication for your location, be sure to download the revised copy of Specification M-201 and update your copy of MSRP Section S.</p>

<p>C-14119 Apr. 7, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: New Specification to MSRP, Section M, Locomotives and Locomotive Interchange Equipment: Specification M-915 – Quality Assurance Requirements for Locomotives and Locomotive Components.</p> <p>Summary: Specification M-915 was developed by the Locomotive Committee (LC) at the request of and in cooperation with the Quality Assurance Committee's (QAC) Audit Quality Task Force (AQTF). The intent is to clarify the harmonization of Section M requirements with the locomotive activity codes found in MSRP Section J, Specification M-1003, Appendix A.</p> <p>Implementation Date: M-915 is appended to this circular and now implemented and effective immediately. The new M-915 standard will be incorporated into the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section M.</p>	<p>Car Type: Locomotives</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: In the interim, insert the attachment to this circular into your copy of MSRP Section M.</p>
<p>C-14120 Apr. 11, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section S, Casting Details, Specification M-212, Couplers and Yokes, Secondhand—Classification and Reconditioning Procedure, regarding EF coupler butt reconditioning, hardness testing, and a new lug gage.</p> <p>Summary: The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions to Section S, Casting Details, Specification M-212, Couplers and Yokes, Secondhand—Classification and Reconditioning Procedure.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Specification M-212 is now implemented and effective immediately. This modification will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section S.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Couplers and Yokes</p> <p>Comments: If Section S is a required publication for your facility be sure to download the revised M-212 and update your manual.</p>
<p>C-14121 Apr. 11, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section S, Casting Details, Specification M-214, Side Frames and Bolsters Used and Reconditioned – Classification and Repair Procedure, regarding updates to marking and OEM Manuals.</p> <p>Summary: The purpose of this circular letter is to notify the industry of revisions to Section S, CASTING DETAILS, Specification M-214, Side Frames and Bolsters Used and Reconditioned – Classification and Repair Procedure.</p> <p>Implementation Date: Specification M-214 is now implemented and effective immediately. This modification will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section S.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Couplers and Yokes</p> <p>Comments: If Section S is a required publication for your facility be sure to download the revised M-214 and update your manual.</p>

<p>C-14122 Apr. 17, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments for Retirement of MSRP Section C, Car Construction Fundamentals and Details, Standard S-203, Coupler, Height Adjustment.</p> <p>Summary: This circular letter is to solicit comments regarding retirement of Section C, Standard S-203, Coupler, Height Adjustment. S-203 provides direction on how to adjust coupler height. CSTCC and EEC reviewed S-203 and agree that these instructions are better suited to the AAR Field Manual. All relevant paragraphs of S-203 are now present in the AAR Field Manual or in Standard S-2044.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments, relevant to the proposed retirement of S-203, received within 30 days of the issuance of this circular will be considered by the CSTCC (and the EEC as needed).</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: No</p> <p>Comments: Submit comments or questions to Daniel Gutscher, CSTCC Manager, at MxV Rail via email at cstcc@aar.com.</p>
<p>C-14125 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rule 15.</p> <p>Summary: Job Code 2102 was not implemented in January 2023 due to the lack of a time standard. The time standard is planned to be completed prior to July 1, 2023; therefore, Job Code 2102 is proposed for inclusion in the July 1, 2023 update to the Field Manual.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>
<p>C-14126 Apr. 26, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rule 36.E.11.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal by the WABL Committee to revise Rule 36 was reviewed and approved. The entire text of the revision is contained within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>

<p>C-14127 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rule 37.A.1.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal by the WABL Committee to revise Rule 37 was reviewed and approved. The entire text of the revision is contained within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>
<p>C-14128 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rules 37 and 46.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal by the WABL Committee to revise Rules 37 and 46 was reviewed and approved. The entire text of the revision is contained within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>
<p>C-14129 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rules 17, 18 and 59.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal by the Equipment Engineering Committee (EEC) to revise Rules 17, 18 and 59 was reviewed and approved. The entire text of the revision is contained within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>
<p>C-14130 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field and Office Manuals, Appendix A, Definitions.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal as advanced by the Car Repair Billing Committee to revise Appendix A definitions of Repair Event and Standard Point Location Code, was reviewed and approved. The entire text of the revision is contained within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>

<p>C-14131 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Appendix B.C.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal by the Specially Equipped Freight Car Committee (SEFCC) to revise Appendix B.C, Certification Requirements, was reviewed and approved. The entire text of the revision is contained within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>
<p>C-14132 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Office Manual, Rule 89, Equipment Alerts.</p> <p>Summary: The proposal includes the removal of the "Procedures for Issuing Equipment Alerts" as this is an outdated process. If there is a concern with a specific set of cars the AAR should be notified per Rule 125 Equipment Advisory. The AAR and the appropriate Technical Committee will review to determine if an Equipment Advisory is required. The entire text of Office Manual Rule 89, Procedures for Issuing Equipment Alerts, will be replaced by "(See AAR Field Manual)" as identified within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>
<p>C-14133 Apr. 25, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Office Manual, Rule 88.C.3.c, Minimum Mechanical Requirements Chart.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal by the Equipment Engineering Committee (EEC) to revise Office Manual Rule 88.C.3.c(1)(i) to require braking ration to be checked on all modifications was reviewed and approved. The entire text of the revision is contained within this circular.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: Comments should be sent within 30 days of this letter for consideration.</p>

Changes Pending 30-Day (Generally) Comment Period from Date of Circular		
<p>CPC-1407 Apr. 10, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments on Proposed Revisions to MSRP Section C-III, Specification for Tank Cars (M-1002), Appendix B.</p> <p>Summary: The revisions pertain to the following AAR Tank Car Committee Requirements: Proposed changes to facility certification requirements for activity codes A19, B78, C4A or C4M.</p> <p>A tank car facility with activity code A19, B78, C4A or C4M may have operations at more than one geographical location if; Located within a 10-mile radius of the station stencil address.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Operating under a single station stencil • Using the same quality assurance program with a single production inspection and test plan for that activity. • Managed under a common organizational structure. • An auditor can observe all minimum demonstrations for that activity during a single audit. <p>Implementation Date: AAR requires the attached Exhibit PC-1 ver. 5.0 form to be filled out and submitted via e-mail to Kenneth Dorsey, Executive Director of Tank Car Safety, at kdorsey@aar.org by April 25, 2023. The AAR TCC will except comments submitted on the Exhibit PC-1 ver. 5.0. The form must be completed with all information to ensure the comment(s) can be considered.</p>	<p>Car Type: Tank</p> <p>Car Owner: Possible</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments:</p>
<p>C-14124 Apr. 24, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rules 1, 3 and 4, 4-Pressure Requirements.</p> <p>Summary: A proposal by the Brake Systems Committee (BSC) to revise Field Manual Rules 1, 3 and 4 to increase the rate of application of 4-pressure access plates and receivers, and to address inventory issues with 4-pressure test devices, was reviewed and approved.</p> <p>Implementation Date: All comments received will be reviewed and considered by the Arbitration and Rules Committee, with a targeted implementation date of July 1, 2023.</p>	<p>Car Type: Freight</p> <p>Car Owner: Yes</p> <p>Repair Shop: Yes</p> <p>Comments: See the entire text of the revision is identified below.</p>

General Information for the Industry		
<p>C-14123 Apr. 21, 2023</p>	<p>Subject: Save the Date - Announcing the 2024 AAR's 36th Quality Assurance Auditor and Industry Conference.</p> <p>Summary: The Association of American Railroads (AAR) Quality Assurance Committee (QAC) is pleased to announce the following: The 36th Annual AAR Quality Assurance Auditor & Industry Conference, February 27th - 29th, 2024 Phoenix, Arizona.</p> <p>Implementation Date: AAR is looking forward to seeing everyone in Phoenix, AZ in February 2024! Additional information regarding registration will be provided later.</p>	<p>Car Type: Industry Information</p> <p>Car Owner: No</p> <p>Repair Shop: Possibly</p> <p>Comments: Mark your calendars accordingly.</p>