

# AAR CIRCULAR LETTER SUMMARY – APRIL 2017

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AAR circular letters provide information of general applicability to the railroad industry, including proposed and final rules, revisions, standards and recommended practices, and calls for comments. These summaries provide the main points of circular letters issued in the prior month, as well as important implementation deadlines.

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## IMPLEMENTATION CIRCULARS

### **C-12865**

#### **Implementation of Revised MSRP Section H, Part II, Roller Bearing Manual, 2017**

**Issued: May 2, 2017**

**Effective: May 2, 2017**

The revised MSRP Section H, Part II is now available in both printed and download versions. All previously implemented standards and specifications are included in this print of Section H, Part II. Please update your library and be governed accordingly. The manual can be purchased online at [www.aarpublications.com](http://www.aarpublications.com)

**C-12875**

**Implementation of Revision to MSRP Section G-II, Wheel and Axle Manual, S-659, RP-631, and RP-633, Wheel Mounting Press and AAR-2A Contour and Acceptance Gauges**

**Issued: May 24, 2017**

**Effective: May 24, 2017**

The revised S-659, RP-631, and RP-633 are now implemented and effective immediately. These modifications will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section G-II. In the interim, please insert the circular attachments into your copy of MSRP Section G-II and be governed accordingly.

**C-12876**

**Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section S-II, TRUCK DETAILS AND CASTING CODES, Standard S-392, Truck – Design Drawings, Update to Code Sheets and Drawings**

**Issued: May 24, 2017**

**Effective: May 24, 2017**

Standard S-392 is now implemented and effective immediately. These modifications will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section S-II. In the interim, please insert the circular attachments into your copy of MSRP Section S-II and be governed accordingly.

**C-12877**

**Implementation of Revisions to MSRP Section S, CASTING DETAILS, Specifications M-201, M-210, and M-211, regarding MSRP compliance (supplemental) checklists**

**Issued: May 24, 2017**

**Effective: May 24, 2017**

Specifications M-201, M-210, and M-211 are now implemented and effective immediately. The revised specifications are attached to the circular and will be incorporated in the next issue of the Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section S. Please update your library and be governed accordingly.

**C-12879**

**Notice of Implementation on Proposed Change to Rule 7. Doorway Protection, Circular No. 42, General Rules Covering Loading or Carload Shipments of Commodities in Closed Cars (DP&FC)**

**Issued: May 25, 2017**

**Effective: June 2017**

The AAR's Damage Prevention & Freight Claim Committee (DP&FC) has approved changes to Rule 7. Doorway Protection, Circular No. 42-K, General Rules Covering Loading or Carload Shipments of Commodities in Closed Cars. Circular 42-L is attached to the circular and supersedes Circular 42-K.

**C-12880**

**Implementation of Proposed Change to Rule B-1, General Rules, Circular No. 43-F, Rules Governing the Loading, Blocking, and Bracing of Freight in Closed Trailers and Containers for TOFC/COFC Service (DP&FC)**

**Issued: May 25, 2017**

**Effective: June 2017**

The AAR's Damage Prevention & Freight Claim Committee (DP&FC) has approved changes to Rule B-1, General Rules, Circular No. 43, Rules Governing the Loading, Blocking, and Bracing of Freight in Closed Trailers and Containers for TOFC/COFC Service. Circular 43-G is attached to the circular.

**C-12881**

**Implementation of Revisions to Figure Coil Figures 29-I, 29-J, 29-K— Section 2 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 27, 2017**

**Effective: May 27, 2017**

The implementation of this revision to Section 2 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figures 29-I, 29-J and 29-K into your copy Section 2 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12882**

**Implementation of Revisions to Figure 40-A REBAR—BULKHEAD FLATCARS— Section 2 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this revision to Section 2 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 40-A into your copy Section 2 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12883**

**Implementation of Revisions to Figure 55-A, WRECKED CAR BODIES—LOADED ON MODIFIED FLATCARS – Section 3 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this revision to Section 3 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 55-A into your copy Section 5 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12884**

**Implementation of revision to General Rule 29 - Section 1 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this change is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, Please insert the circular attachment for this change into your copy Section 1 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12885**

**Implementation of New Figure 115, MATS , BOLTED HARDWOOD, 8 FT LONG OR OVER – CENTER A-FRAME FLATCARS, WITH CABLE TIE-DOWNS – Section 5 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this new figure to Section 5 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 115 into your copy Section 5 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12886**

**Implementation of New Figure 114, MATS, TILT-UP HARDWOOD, 8 FT LONG OR OVER CENTER A-FRAME FLATCARS, WITH CABLE TIE-DOWNS – Section 5 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this new figure to Section 5 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 114 into your copy Section 5 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12887**

**Implementation of revision to General Rule 36.4.4 to Remove All References to Torpedoes - Section 1 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this change is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for this change into your copy Section 1 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12888**

**Implementation of revision to General Rule 15.3 - Section 1 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this change is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for this change into your copy Section 1 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12889**

**Implementation of revision to General Rule 3.1 - Section 1 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this change is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for this change into your copy Section 1 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12890**

**Implementation of Revisions to Figure 154-B, TUBING, STEEL, SQUARES, RECTANGLES, HOLLOW STRUCTURAL, AND ROUNDS, OVER 12 FT LONG, PACKAGED—BULKHEAD FLATCARS, WITH CUSHIONING DEVICES – Section 2 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this revision to Section 2 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 154-B into your copy Section 5 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12891**

**Implementation of Revisions to Fig. 128-A PIPE, STEEL, BARE, COATED, 6 5/8 IN - 14 IN O.D., 43 FT LONG AND OVER— Section 2 (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this revision to Section 2 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 128-A into your copy Section 2 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12892**

**Implementation of Revisions to Figure 112-A, ENGINEERED-WOOD PRODUCTS – Section 5 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this revision to Section 5 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 112-A into your copy Section 5 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**C-12893**

**Implementation of Revisions to Figure 24-A, POLES OR ROUND STOCK, UNTREATED OR TREATED—SINGLE LOADS ON FLATCARS – Section 5 AAR Open Top Loading Rules Manual (OTLR)**

**Issued: May 26, 2017**

**Effective: May 26, 2017**

The implementation of this revision to Section 5 is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 24-A into your copy Section 5 and be governed accordingly. 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.

**SOLICITATION OF COMMENTS CIRCULARS**

**CPC-1326**

**Solicitation of Comments on Proposed Revision to MSRP Section C Part III, M-1002, Specifications for Tank Cars, Appendix A and Appendix M**

**Issued: May 5, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

The Tank Car Committee (TCC) is requesting comments on revisions to Appendix A and Appendix M of the AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP), Section C, Part III, Specifications for Tank Cars (M-1002). These revisions address requirements for surge suppression devices, the chemistry of carbon steel tank car material and the deletion of a duplicate paragraph. The proposed changes and required Exhibit PC-1 form are included in the circular.

**C- 12866**

**Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, New Rule 23, Articulator Connectors**

**Issued: May 8, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

At the April 2017 meeting of the Arbitration and Rules Committee a proposal (advanced by the CSTCC to add new Rule 23 Articulator Connectors) was reviewed and approved. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular.

**C- 12867**

**Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rule 66.A.2**

**Issued: May 8, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

At the April 2017 meeting of the Arbitration and Rules Committee a proposal (advanced by the Equipment Engineering Committee to revise Field Manual Rule 66.A.2) was reviewed and approved. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular.

**C- 12868**

**Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rule 75 Job Code 4455**

**Issued: May 8, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

At the April 2017 meeting of the Arbitration and Rules Committee a proposal (advanced by the Car Repair Billing Committee to revise Rule 75 Job Code 4455) was reviewed and approved. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular.

**C- 12869**

**Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual Rule 63, Automatic Equipment Identification (AEI)**

**Issued: May 8, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

At the April 2017 meeting of the Arbitration and Rules Committee a proposal (advanced by the Equipment Health Management Committee and the AEI Committee to revise Rule 63) was reviewed and approved. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular.

**C- 12870**

**Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Office Manual Rule 50 and Field Manual Rules 46, 47, 48, 50, 67 and 75**

**Issued: May 9, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

At the April 2017 meeting of the Arbitration and Rules Committee a proposal (advanced by the Car Repair Billing Committee to revise Office Manual, Rule 50 and Field Manual Rules 46, 47, 48, 50, 67 and 75) was reviewed and approved. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular.

**C- 12871**

**Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rule 3, and New EHMS Alert for LORF-NCF**

**Issued: May 10, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

At the April 2017 meeting of the Arbitration and Rules Committee a proposal (advanced by the Brake Systems Committee to revise Field Manual, Rule 3 for Line of Road Failure-No Cause Found [LORF-NCF]) was reviewed and approved. These revisions will replace the existing MA-146 for LORF-NCF and include a new EHMS Alert. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular.

**C- 12872**

**Solicitation of comments - Proposed addition of MSRP Section F. New Standard S-6103 - Wheel Profile Detector**

**Issued: May 11, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

The Equipment Health Monitoring Committee has proposed the establishment of “S-6103 Wheel Profile Detector,” to provide for wayside detection methods. A draft of the proposed standard is attached to this circular.

**C- 12874**

**Solicitation of Comments, Revisions to Field Manual, Rules 4, 83 and Appendix A**

**Issued: May 19, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

At the April 2017 meeting of the Arbitration and Rules Committee, a proposal (advanced by the BSC to revise Rule 4, Rule 83 and Appendix A), was reviewed and approved. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular.

**C- 12878**

**Solicitation of Comments for Revisions to MSRP Section E, BRAKES AND BRAKE EQUIPMENT, Standards S-419 and S-4008, Slack Adjusters – Mechanical Double Acting, Slack Adjuster Protection**

**Issued: May 24, 2017**

**Effective: 30 days for comments**

These revisions address requirements that aim to better protect the slack adjuster during other activities, such as painting or sand-blasting. The proposal is included in an attachment to the circular..

NOTICE CIRCULARS

**CPC-1327**

**Operating Instructions for Midland A-720, A-721 and A-724 Valves**

**Issued: May 15, 2017**

**Effective: N/A**

Proper closure instructions are essential for the prevention of unintended release of commodity. “Midland Manufacturing Service Bulletin 20170317-01” gives instruction for the recommended proper operation of certain rising stem valve models. The service bulletin is attached to the circular. Organizations should review this information and develop closure instructions for their use.

**C-12873**

**Registration is now open for 2018 AAR Quality Assurance Auditor and Industry Conference.**

**Issued: May 24, 2017**

**Effective: N/A**

The 30th Annual AAR Quality Assurance Auditor and Industry Conference will be held the week of January 22, 2018 in Fort Worth, Texas. A summary of the full schedule is included in the circular.



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