



# Railroad Safety Advisory Committee

---



## Engineering Task Force Update

to

## The 50<sup>th</sup> Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Meeting

October 31, 2013  
Washington, DC

---



# Outline

---

1. Review ETF Regulatory Implementation Plan
  2. Update on Current Tasks
  3. Synopsis of Recent Developments
  4. Next Steps
-



# Revised Passenger Equipment Rulemaking Implementation Plan



## **NPRM 1:**

- Incorporate alternative crashworthiness standards for Tier I
- Define Tier III and establish crashworthiness requirements
- Align Tier II maximum allowable speed with new VTI rule (160mph)
- Codify remaining previous Tier III consensus items (non-structural)
- Define requirements for Tier III Braking Systems

## **NPRM 2:**

- Tier III 229 Incorporation & Inspection, Testing, and Maintenance Requirements *[task group]*
- ~~- Tier III VTI~~
- Adopt crashworthiness alternatives for single car/locomotive
- Establish Tier III safety appliance requirements
- Clarification of Tier I Safety Appliance Requirements for passenger equipment *[new]*
- Revise 238.111 to incorporate new rules

# Status of Current Tasks

---

- 1<sup>st</sup> NPRM ruletext approved by ETF/PSWG and RSAC
    - *ETF open items and comments resolved for inclusion, as appropriate;*
    - *Awaiting final approved draft for Regulatory Review and publishing;*
  - NPRM 2 Discussions:
    - *Tier III 229/ITM TG continues to develop recommendations;*
    - *FRA is developing a plan to develop/clarify safety appliance requirements;*
    - *Commenced discussions on single car/locomotive alternative crashworthiness;*
  - Task Group Updates:
    - ***Tier III Brake Systems*** – recommendations incorporated (NPRM 1) - **CLOSED**
    - ***Vehicle Track Interaction (VTI)*** – disbanded;
    - ***Engineering Structures & Integrity (ESI)*** – developing “compliance manual”;
    - ***Tier III Cab Glazing*** – recommendations incorporated (NPRM 1) - **CLOSED**
    - ***Tier III 229 / Inspection, Testing, & Maintenance (ITM)*** – in progress;
-

# Recent Developments

Last Meeting: **September 11-12, 2013**

Next Meeting: **January 2014**

## Tier III 229/ITM Task Group:

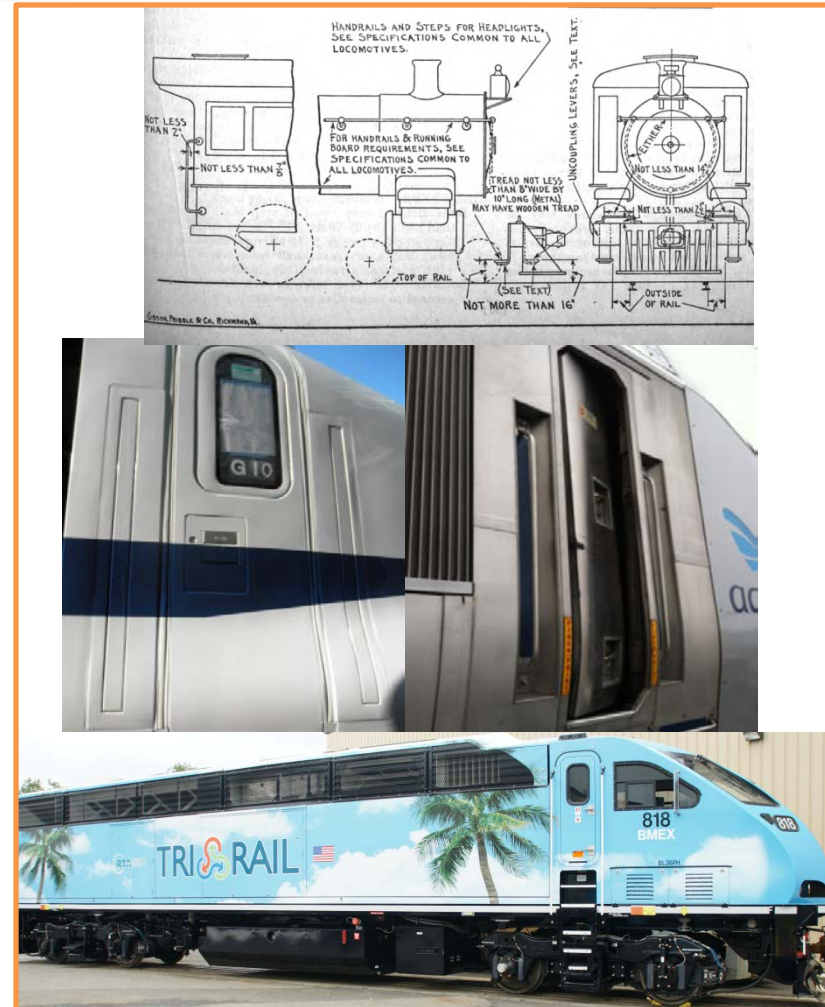
- Two sub-groups created for 229 implementation;
- ITM dialogue to begin once 229 efforts conclude;

## Safety Appliances:

- Industry provided Tier II lessons learned and considerations for Tier III;
- FRA proposed ETF examine the need to clarify current Tier I passenger requirements;

## Single Car/Locomotive Alt. Crashworthiness:

- Working to develop procedures to address hybrid designs outside of the current classifications;



# Next Steps

---

- Continue 229/ITM and ESI Task Group work
- Develop recommendations for safety appliances
- Develop procedures for single car/locomotive alternative crashworthiness compliance
- Establish an equivalent section and methodology to 238-Subpart G for Tier III
- Revise 238.111, as needed

**Questions?**

---