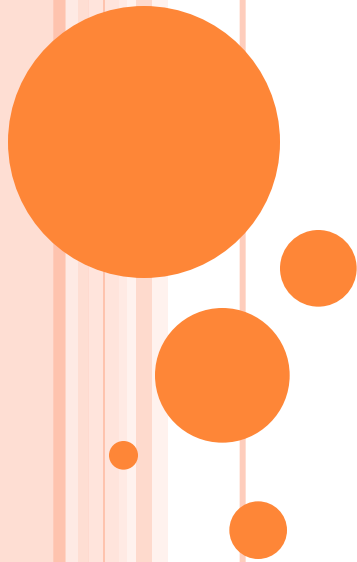


# **2008 RAIL SAFETY IMPROVEMENT ACT**

## **Section 401**

### **Minimum Training Standards and Plans**

#### **Working Group Progress Overview**



We have held three two-day working group meetings, in April, June, and August. We have two more scheduled in September and October, with another tentatively scheduled in November.

The working group is rather large; with somewhere between 60 and 70 people attending each meeting.

As expected, particularly with a working group of this size, we have a number of issues to work through, but believe we are making good progress.



At the first meeting, FRA presented a 19-page draft regulatory document to the working group.

The working group has critiqued FRA's presentation, and there have been many additions and subtractions. The working group's suggestions have included:

- Adding a section to accommodate development and filing of training programs by organizations such as the ASLRRA and the NRCMA; and
- Adding a section to accommodate other training organizations and learning institutions such as the National Academy of Railroad Sciences, the Railway Educational Bureau, etc.



**The current Table of Contents provides a snapshot on the progress of the rule to date.**

**Subpart A – General (Standard regulatory language)**

§ 2XX.1 Purpose and scope.

§ 2XX.3 Application and responsibility for compliance.

§ 2XX.5 Definitions.

§ 2XX.7 Waivers.

§ 2XX.9 Penalties and consequences for noncompliance.

§ 2XX.11 Information collection requirements.



## **Subpart B – Prerequisites to Implementation of Program**

§ 2XX.101 Instruction required for all safety-related railroad employees. (Under discussion by FRA team)

§ 2XX.103 Program Required .

§ 2XX.105 Training Program Submission, Review, and Approval Process

§ 2XX.107 Other FRA Approved Training Organizations or Learning Institutions

§ 2XX.109 Training components identified in program.

§ 2XX.111 Identification and designation of employees.

§ 2XX.113 Employee Qualification Requirements.



# Subpart C – Program Implementation and Oversight Requirements

§ 2XX.201 Records.

§ 2XX.203 Task proficiency oversight and calendar year monitoring.


§ 2XX.205 Annual review and summary.

§ 2XX.207 List of Contractors .

§ 2XX.209 Prohibitions (Under discussion by FRA team)



## Topics where we are close to reaching consensus include:

- The categories of employees to be covered by the regulation.  
*(We still have some language issues to resolve)*
  - A three-year refresher training interval for current safety-related railroad employees, unless otherwise provided for in another FRA safety regulation.
  - ASLRRA and NRCMA will develop, and submit for FRA approval, training programs for small railroads and contractors to use if they wish. This should lessen the burden for both the industry and for FRA.
  - Most or all railroads will modify the programs required by 217.9 to provide the oversight specified in the training regulation.
  - Contractors will maintain their own training records, unless a railroad delivers the safety training to the contractor's employees.
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## **Topics still under discussion include:**

- Criteria for grandfathering current safety-related railroad employees;
- Criteria for analysis of the oversight data;
- Methodology for the submission, review, and approval process;
- How to identify and designate employees covered by the regulation;
- The oversight program (we are in the early discussion stages); and
- The type of analysis that will be required to ensure the training programs cover all Federal Railroad Safety Laws, Regulations, and Orders.





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Questions  
And  
Comments?

