



Federal Railroad Administration

June 26, 2007

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee

Roadway Worker Protection Regulation
Working Group Report

Session Status

Since accepting the Task Statement on January 26, 2005, the Working Group held 12 multi-day sessions. The last meeting, three days in length, occurred February 27 through March 1, 2007. The group worked diligently and was able to reach consensus on 32 separate items; however, the group was unable to reach consensus on eight items.

Sec. 214.7

Definitions

- **New definitions**
 - Maximum authorized speed
 - On-track safety manual
- **Revisions**
 - Effective securing device
 - Watchman/lookout
- **Incorporate from Part 236**
 - Automatic interlocking
 - Controlled point
 - Manual interlocking

Sec. 214.309

On-Track Safety Manual

**Revision to address on-track safety manual
for lone workers and changes to the manual.**

Sec. 214.315

On-Track Safety Job Briefing

- **Requirement that information concerning adjacent tracks be included in on-track safety job briefings.**
- **Accessibility of the roadway worker in charge.**

Sec. 214.317

On-Track Safety General

- **Formalize procedures for roadway workers to cross tracks.**
- **Procedures for on-track weed spray and snow blowing operations on non-controlled track.**

Sec. 214.321

Exclusive Track Occupancy

New paragraph to address the use of work crew numbers.

Sec. 214.323

Foul Time

Clarification of foul time provision whereby roadway worker in charge or train dispatcher may not permit movements into such working limits.

Sec. 214.324

Verbal Protection

New section called “verbal Protection” for abbreviated working limits within manual interlocking and controlled points.

Sec. 214.327

Inaccessible Track

New paragraphs to formalize the following instruments to make non-controlled track inaccessible: occupied locomotive as a point of inaccessibility; block register territory; and yard limit bulletins.

Sec. 214.335

Adjacent Track On-Track Safety

Complete revision of paragraph (c) concerning on-track safety for track adjacent to occupied tracks. Key elements are the elimination of “large-scale” and the addition of a new requirement for on-track safety for tracks adjacent to occupied tracks for specific work activities.

Sec. 214.337

Lone Worker

- **Allowance for the use of individual train detection at controlled points consisting only of signals.**
- **New paragraph limiting equipment/materials that can only be moved by hand by a lone worker.**

Sec. 214.339

Train Audible Warning

Complete revision of this section concerning audible warning by trains to address operational considerations.

Sec. 214.343

Contractor Training

New paragraph to ensure contractors receive requisite training/and or qualification before engaged by a railroad.

Sec. 214.345

Training, all Roadway Worker

Lead-in phrase requiring all training to be consistent with initial or recurrent training, as specified in Sec. 214.343 (b).

Sec. 214.347 through 355

Qualifications

Consistent requirements for various roadway worker qualifications and maximum 24-month span between qualifications (Sec. 214.347, 349, 351, 353, and 355).

Electronic Authority Display

In addition to the above, the group worked on a proposal for use of electronic display of authorities as a provision under exclusive track occupancy. The group developed lead-in rule text and agreed to some conceptual items. When circulated back to the group, two parties raised technical issues that could not be resolved in the time available.

Accordingly, FRA will offer a proposal on this item in the NPRM.

Questions and Discussion