

Passenger Safety Working Group
Report to Full RSAC September 21, 2006



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Passenger Safety Working Group

- PSWG met September 12-13, 2006 in Orlando, Florida.
- Emergency Preparedness update will be given by TF Leader Brenda Moscoso
- Track-Vehicle Interaction update will be given by TF Leader John Mardente.
- Next PSWG meeting will be April 17-18, 2007.

*Passenger Safety Working Group
Crashworthiness/Glazing Task Force*

- NPRM being prepared based on the approved RSAC recommendations.
- Areas covered include cab car collision posts, cab car corner posts, and quasi-static testing.
- References APTA SS-C&S-034-99 Rev. 1, Standard for the Design and Construction of Passenger Railroad Rolling Stock

*Passenger Safety Working Group
Crashworthiness/Glazing Task Force*

- Issues raised during Crash Energy Management design reinforce FRA belief that a dynamic standard should be an option.
- Comments on a dynamic standard will be solicited as part of the NPRM.

Passenger Safety Working Group General Mechanical Task Force

- Final Rule is nearing completion.
- Summary: FRA is amending its existing regulations in an effort to address various mechanical issues relevant to the manufacture, efficient utilization, and safe operation of passenger equipment and trains that have arisen since FRA's original issuance of the Passenger Equipment Safety Standards.

Passenger Safety Working Group General Mechanical Task Force

- The miscellaneous amendments concentrate on five areas:
- (1) clarifications related to piston travel indicators;
- (2) providing design and inspection criteria for new passenger equipment which does not allow inspection of brake application and release from outside the equipment;
- (3) permitting some latitude in the use of passenger equipment with redundant air compressors when a limited number of the compressors become inoperative;
- (4) permitting an alternative pneumatic pressure test for main reservoirs; and
- (5) adding provisions to ensure the proper securement of unattended equipment.

Passenger Safety Working Group General Mechanical Task Force

- FRA is also clarifying the existing regulatory requirements and is mandating an identification and inspection protocol related to the attachment of safety appliances on passenger equipment.
- Finally, FRA is amending the regulations to permit railroads the ability to apply out-of-service credit to certain periodic maintenance requirements related to passenger equipment.

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General Passenger Safety Task Force

- New Task Force authorized at the PSWG meeting September 12-13, 2006.
- Task Force leader Dan Knote compiled and presented data relative to proposed issues.
- Data revealed a steady and dramatic increase in numbers of FRA reportable passenger accidents/injuries in 2002 through 2005.
- Presentation included platform gap standards in use today on various properties.

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General Passenger Safety Task Force

- The Working Group granted permission for this Task Force to begin work on these issues with the following considerations:
 - Regulation not necessarily the outcome.
 - Working Group requested that the data be normalized for further use.
 - TF instructed to include host freight railroads.
 - Consider emphasis in System Safety Plan.
 - Flexibility needed to account for differences between properties.

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General Passenger Safety Task Force

- Two issues referred to the task force for their initial work:
- 1. Passenger Safety Boarding, Debarking (alighting) and On board
 - positions/securement of manual & automatic doors
 - crew communication
- 2. Passenger Safety in Stations
 - Gap
 - Walkways over live tracks, including second train.
- As discussions progress there are expectations that platform design will be considered.