

Emergency Preparedness Task Force



Rail Safety Advisory Committee

September 21, 2006

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking



- Emergency Window Exits
- Rescue Access Windows
- Emergency Communications
- Emergency Roof Access
- Inspection and Repair of Emergency Systems

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking



- Status:
 - Published in the Federal Register on August 24, 2006
 - Docket # FRA-2006-25273
 - Comment period closes October 23, 2006
 - Task Force to assist with review of any comments



Emergency Lighting

APTA Emergency Lighting Standard



- Existing requirements
 - New equipment:
 - Average 1 fc. Measured at the floor or 25 in. above floor
 - 90 minutes
 - Existing equipment (at remanufacture):
 - Average 0.5 fc. Measured at the floor or 25 in. above floor
 - 60 minutes
 - Areas affected:
 - Door exits, vestibules, diaphragms, stairways, passageways, aisles, toilets, cabs, specialty areas

APTA Emergency Lighting Standard



- Substantive Additions Recommended
 - Minimum light levels for manual door releases
 - Initial and periodic system testing requirements
 - Battery maintenance requirements

APTA Emergency Lighting Standard



- Substantive Changes Recommended:
 - Existing equipment compliance by 2015 or when conveyed / transferred / leased
 - New equipment to include independent power source located within half-car length
- Under development:
 - Rule text incorporating standard into Part 238



New Issue

New Issue



- Consider revising Section 239.105 *Debriefing and critique* to clarify that train crewmembers should participate in the debrief and critique session held following a train emergency situation or a full-scale simulation



Other Items of Interest

“Rollover Rig”

Emergency Evacuation Simulator



Emergency Egress



- Volpe Center emergency evacuation simulations
 - To predict the amount of time needed to evacuate passenger rail cars
 - various circumstances
 - different environments
 - To develop a tool for evaluating and comparing alternative egress system configurations

Emergency Egress

MBTA, North Station, Boston, MA August 2005





Questions?



Backup Slides

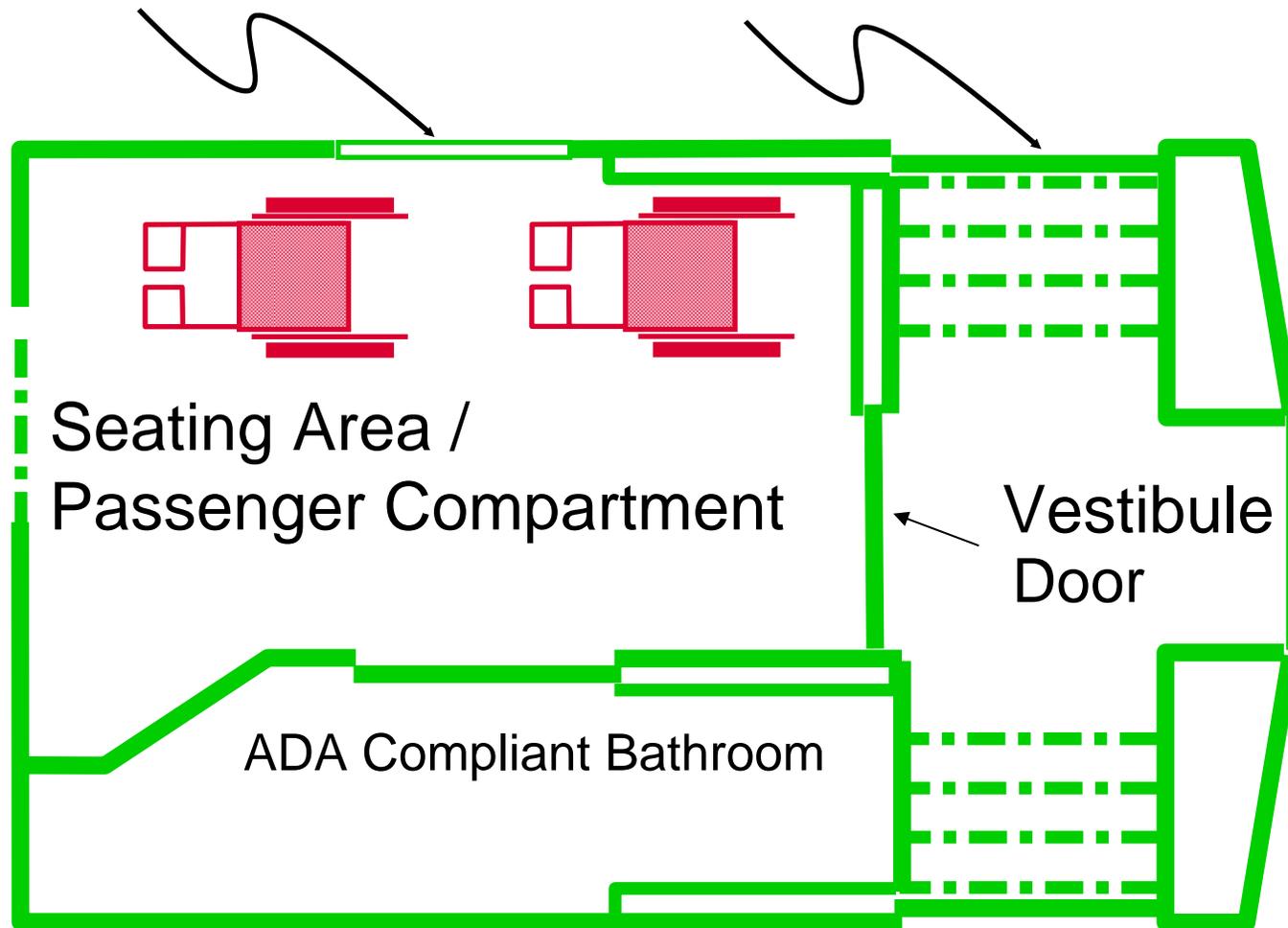
New Definitions



- Seating area means an area of a passenger car that normally contains passenger seating.
- Passenger compartment means an area of a passenger car that consists of a seating area and any vestibule that is connected to the seating area by an open passageway.

Rescue Access and Emergency
Egress Window

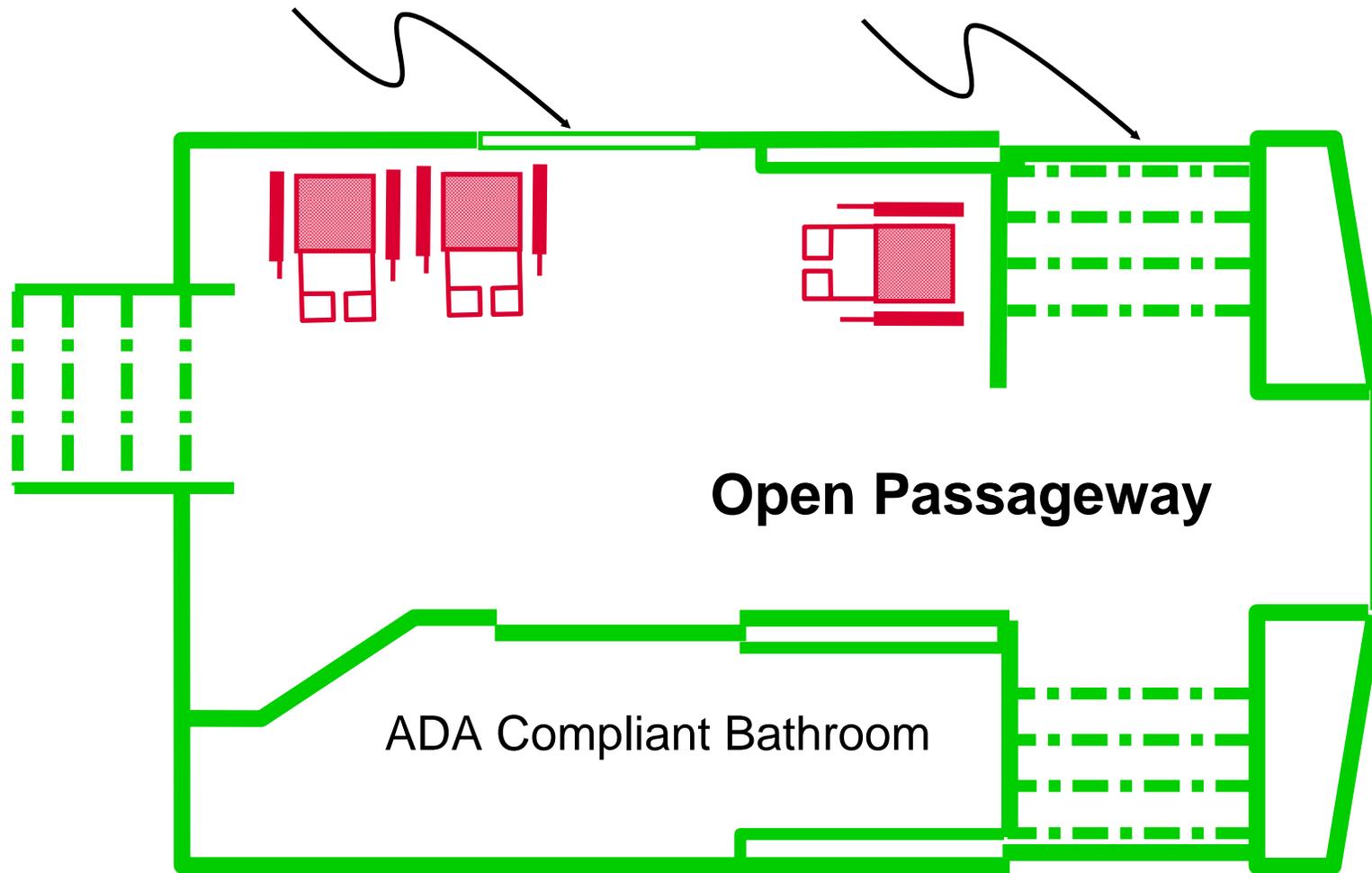
Pocket Door



Example of intermediate level in which the vestibule is NOT in the passenger compartment

Rescue Access and Emergency
Egress Window

Pocket Side Door



Example of intermediate level in which the vestibule is in the passenger compartment