

UPDATE to the RSAC Committee
September 21, 2006

Remote Control Locomotive Operator Training



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Introduction

- A presentation that provided highlights from the Congressional Report regarding Remote Control Locomotive Operations was made to this committee on May 18, 2006.

Introduction

Highlights included:

- Accident/Incident Rates
- Human Factor Causes
- RCL Main Track Operations
- Operating RCO's Riding Cars
- Remote Camera X'ing Protection
- RCL Signal System Integrity
- Requirements related CFR49 Part 240 & 232
- Training for New Hires

- At FRA's invitation FRA, Railroad Technical Training Managers and Rail Labor met on July 29, 2006 to discuss Remote Control Training with emphasis on new hire training that was occurring today as related to provisions under CFR49 Part 240.

Issue

- FRA ask railroads to administer 100 hours OJT to RCL Operators. The OJT phase of these programs represents about 90 percent of the total training received.
- Railroad's did not believe this to be a reasonable standard noting that OJT time is not a guarantee of adequate training.

Action Items

- Group reached consensus on the following action items:
 1. Complete a Job Task Analysis of major tasks & Subtasks. (RR's are seeking input from labor)
 2. Identify Essential Safety Steps to perform the tasks.
 3. Identify Conditions for the learning transfer.
 4. What are the Standards for measuring learning.
 5. How you document the learning transfer occurred.
 6. How will you independently validate the process is implemented as intended? (it's seems preferable the training department is involved because they are somewhat removed from operations.)

Next Meeting

October 1 & 2, 2006 in Kansas City.