

# RAIL

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## Roadway Worker Protection (RWP/RMM)

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# RWP/RMM RSAC Working Group

# RWP/RMM RSAC Working Group History

## Working Group History

- RSAC Roadway Worker Protection Working Group (RWP WG) created and RWP RSAC Task No. 2022-01 approved by the full RSAC Committee on xx/xx/2022
- The RWP WG Kick-off meeting held on January 26, 2023
  - 17 Items were identified to the Work Group
- The 2<sup>nd</sup> RWP WG held on May 11, 2023 via MS TEAMS
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> RWP WG meeting held in person in Washington D.C. on September 7, 2023



# Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RWPWG Meeting

## 17 Action Items Broken Into 3 Categories

- Consensus Achieved
  - 3 items
- Consensus not Achieved (No consensus will be achieved)
  - 10 items
- Actions On-going
  - 4 items

# Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RWPWG Meeting-Consensus Achieved, Cont'd

## Three Items with a Consensus Achieved

1. Add a training requirement to ensure all roadway workers understand the procedures for working around roadway maintenance machines.
2. Safety Advisory 2022-01 Use of Portable Derails in low-light conditions.
3. Update language in 214.317 to read: 317(a) Each employer subject to the provisions of this part shall provide on-track safety for roadway workers by adopting a program that contains specific rules for protecting roadway workers that comply with the provisions of this subpart.

# Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RWPWG Meeting-Consensus Not Achieved, Cont'd

## Ten Items with a Consensus Not Reached

1. Evaluate formalizing the process of train approach warning (TAW) and discuss how new technology/procedures may be able to improve TAW.
2. Add requirement for on-track roadway maintenance machine (RMM) operators to be trained and qualified on the operating rules and relevant physical characteristics of the territory since they operate on the railroad or be piloted by a qualified person.
3. Discuss requirement for announcing track occupancy on the road/yard channel regardless of the form of on-track safety.
4. Expand on what demonstrated proficiency means in the roadway maintenance machine arena. Discuss best practices to ensure demonstrated proficiency captures the necessary elements of operating each machine.
5. Consider provisions for specialized maintenance of way equipment.

# Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RWPWG Meeting-Consensus Not Achieved, Cont'd

## Ten Items with a Consensus Not Reached (Cont'd)

6. Address separate work groups as a general requirement and not only behind trains.
7. Clarify training requirements under 214.343(b).
8. Methods to travel through and work on rail crossing at grade should be addressed.
9. Discuss ways to clarify/simplify the Roadway Worker Definition.
10. Discuss ways to specifically cover wrecking crews under a separate section.

# Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RWPWG Meeting-Actions On-Going, Cont'd

## Four Items with actions on-going

1. Revise the definition of Watchman/lookout to make it consistent with the regulatory requirement (Subpart A)
  - FRA Action Item
    - FRA has submitted revised definition to the working group for review prior to the next meeting.
2. Evaluate safety features on On-Track Roadway Maintenance Machines (RMM) under 214 Subpart D (installation of operator presence controls, collision avoidance technology, hi-rail limit control systems and/or back up cameras on newly built on-track roadway maintenance machines).
  - AAR/Industry Action Item
    - AAR will provide presentation at next meeting on systems currently being tested on the railroads with how systems work, results, and reliability.



# Summary of the 3<sup>rd</sup> RWPWG Meeting-Actions On-Going, Cont'd

## Four Items with actions on-going (Cont'd)

3. Discuss ways to allow routine hi-rail inspections on non-controlled track under § 214.317 in conjunction with 301(c). While 301(c) was originally intended for movements only (tramming), track inspection from inside the confines of equipment can be safely accomplished under this same provision.
  - BMWED Action Item
    - Review previously proposed regulatory text and offer comments at next meeting.
4. Simplify adjacent track protection so all roadway workers can better understand the requirements.
  - Small Task Group Action Item
    - Meet prior to next Working Group meeting to discuss and provide proposed regulatory text simplifying adjacent track protection.

# Next RWP/RMM RSAC Working Group Meeting

## **Next RWP/RMM Working Group Meeting**

- Will be conducted via MS Teams.
- Date is yet to be determined but will be sometime in early November.
- Vote on the 3 Consensus Items.
- Follow up on the 4 action items.

A dark blue background featuring silhouettes of approximately ten people sitting around a long table in a meeting room. The room has large windows in the background, and the overall atmosphere is professional and collaborative.

# QUESTIONS?



U.S. Department of Transportation  
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