



RAIL

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RSAC Part 220 Electronic Devices UPDATE

67th Meeting

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee

National Association of Home Builders

1201 15th Street NW; Washington, DC 20005

October 9, 2024



U.S. Department of Transportation
Federal Railroad Administration

Task No.: 2022-02

- ☐ Date start: December 8, 2021
- ☐ To date, two Working Group (WG) meetings have been held.
 - April 16, 2024
 - August 20, 2024



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What are some of the discussions?

1. Smartwatches
2. Body Cameras
3. Electronic Switch List (Live)
4. Lining Movements (Live)
5. PHMSA Rule Compliance
6. Turn on all personal electronic devices
7. Medical Devices (Bluetooth)
8. Rule revisions needed since 2009?



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One item of interest:

220.309 Permitted uses; exceptions to other restrictions.

Notwithstanding any other limitations in this subpart, a railroad operating employee may use the following, if that use does not interfere with any employee's performance of safety-related duties—

- (a) The digital storage and display function of an electronic device **to refer** to a railroad rule, special instruction, timetable, **or other directive**, if such use is authorized under a railroad operating rule or instruction.***

Note: This is the only provision that permits an RCO or Locomotive Engineer to use a device while at the controls.

Next Meeting: TBA

- **Labor will present recommendations for consideration.**
- **Review current rules concerning the use of electronic devices.**
- **Evaluate and clarify the application of “other directives” in operational contexts.**



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