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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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C-12113

Circular Letter

Subject: Implementation of Revisions to Figure 9-E, Section 2, AAR OPEN TOP LOADING RULES MANUAL, RAILS, 78 FT TO 80 FT LONG—BULKHEAD FLATCARS, 85 FT AND OVER, WITH FIXED STEEL SIDE STAKES

To: MEMBERS AND PRIVATE CAR OWNERS **File Number: LR 3.5.75**

The AAR's Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved editorial revisions to Figure 9-E, Section 2 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules.

The OTLRC approved these changes to Figure 9-E, Section 2.

1. Replacing the current figure drawing with the drawing provided by the Railway Association of Canada (RAC)
2. New Alternate Items B and C

Item	No. of Pcs.	Description
Alt B	7 each	Hardwood bearing pieces and separators may be substituted by West Coast
Alt C		type 4 × 4 Douglas Fir.

3. Replacing the Current Notes and Additional Requirements with the Notes and Additional Requirements provided by the Railway Association of Canada (RAC)

Notes and Additional Requirements

1. Maximum total amount of longitudinal void must not exceed 4 ft 8 in.
2. Shorter pieces minimum 60 feet long may be loaded in the middle of the load but cannot be in the bottom row or as an outside piece that can contact Item D, the side stakes. The number of short pieces cannot exceed 15% of the total number of pieces in the load.
3. Maximum lateral void must not exceed the base width of one rail in any layer.
4. Top layer may be reduced providing void is filled as shown in sketch 2. One spreader block is required for each separator to maintain the requirement of Note 3, spreader block should be equal to width of separator and no less than two inches in height and secured as per Rule 11.9 of the AAR open Top Loading General Rules Section 1. To maintain balanced load, rail on either side of block must be equal + - one piece.
5. Height of load must not exceed height of bulkheads or side stakes.
6. Do not weld, cut / burn holes, or modify car body without car owner's permission.

The implementation of these changes to Figure 9-E, Section 2 are effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual. In the interim, please insert the circular attachment for Figure 9-E in your copy Section 2 and be governed accordingly. Carriers are asked to ensure that copies of this circular letter are distributed to all concerned shippers and railroad personnel for their attention and guidance.

Questions should be directed to Mr. Mike Sandoval, Manager-AAR Loading Rules and Damage Prevention, TTCI, P.O. Box 11130, 55500 DOT Road, Pueblo CO 81001. Or email to mike_sandoval@aar.com.

ON BEHALF OF THE OPEN TOP LOADING RULES COMMITTEE

Sincerely,
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Attachments
section2part1.fig 9-e.20140130.pdf