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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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C-12114

Circular Letter

Subject:Implementation of Revisions to Figure 43-R, Section 2, AAR OPEN TOP LOADING RULES MANUAL, LOGS OR INGOTS, ALUMINUM, 16 FT LONG AND OVER—CENTER A-FRAME FLATCARS, WITH CABLE TIE-DOWNS

To:MEMBERS AND PRIVATE CAR OWNERS **File Number:LR 3.GEN.54**

The AAR's Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved editorial revisions to Figure 43-R, Section 2 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules.

ALCOA approached the OTLRC and requested these changes be made to Figure 43-R, Section 2.

1. Title Change from:

LOGS, ALUMINUM, 6 IN. TO 12 IN. O.D., 16 FT LONG AND OVER—CENTER A-FRAME FLATCARS, WITH CABLE TIE-DOWNS

To:

LOGS OR INGOTS, ALUMINUM, 16 FT LONG AND OVER—CENTER A-FRAME FLATCARS, WITH CABLE TIE-DOWNS

2. The addition of Sketch 2 "Bridging Method"

Changes to Notes and Additional Requirements:

4. All logs in the same package must be of the same diameter and must be 6 in. to 18 in. OD.
5. All packages in the same pile or layer must be of the same width.

New Notes and Additional Requirements:

8. Loads must be evenly distributed on the car and void, if any, kept to a minimum.
9. The packages of logs in second row (top) that bridge over bottom void must overlap piles in bottom layer by at least 50%. (e.g., a package 16 ft long can only bridge a void in the bottom row 8 ft long or less).
10. When a pile is lower than the bottom chain slot in the center partition, all log packages or ingots must be secured by two encircling high tension steel bands 2 in. × .044 or approved Type 1A Grade 7 non-metallic strapping. Banding must encircle piles on both sides of center partition. When items are more than 16 ft long, add one band for each additional 4 ft or less of package length.
11. All cables must be used.
12. Any load exceeding the width of the car deck must have a dimensional clearance from originating carrier prior to moving railcar.
13. Bearing pieces must extend from side sill to center sill.
14. Load weight distribution must be in accordance with AAR General Rule 3.4, indicating the percentage of deck length utilized versus correspondent permissible percentage of load limit for that length; see table below.

Allowable load limit on reduced deck length utilized
Percentage of deck length utilized 100 75 50 25
Percentage of load limit permitted 100 75 50 25

The implementation of these changes to Figure 43-R, 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 43-R 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. 43-r.20140129.pdf