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ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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Circular Letter

Subject: Implementation of New Figure 124-B PIPE, STEEL, 26 IN. OD OR LESS, MAXIMUM 48 FT MIXED DIAMETERS, SECURED WITH NON-METALLIC STRAPPING—52-FT GONDOLAS and New Figure 124-C PIPE, STEEL, 26 IN. MAXIMUM DIAMETER, UNIFORM OR MIXED LENGTHS AND DIAMETERS, S

To: MEMBERS AND PRIVATE CAR OWNERS **File Number: LR 4.1.72**

The AAR's Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved new Figure 124-B and Figure 124-C, Section 2 of the AAR Open Top Loading Rules. These new Figures; 124-B and 124-C are for coated and uncoated pipe in gondola cars.

The shipping of pipe in gondola cars, where the load extends above the top cord of the car as illustrated in several figures in Section 2 as in Figures 124 and 123, became a serious concern to the railroads. This subject was introduced to the OTLRC in 2006 after numerous instances where the pipe above the top cord moved over the end of the car causing set outs and load adjustments. In several instances the pipe contacted the adjacent railcar some being tank cars. It became apparent that the published figures were not performing as intended in preventing the above mentioned events.

After extensive RAC and AAR impact testing and trial shipments, these two figures were submitted to the OTLRC for evaluation resulting in the approval and implementation of new Figure 124-B and Figure 124-C to be included in Section 2 of the OTLRM.

The implementation of Figure 124-B and Figure 124-C is 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 124-B and Figure 124-C 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
section2part2.figs 124-b and 124-c.20140129.pdf