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Wednesday, July 06, 2011

C-11462

Circular Letter

Subject: Implementation of Revisions to Rule 14, ATTACHMENT OF SECUREMENT, Section 1, Part 2 of the AAR OPEN TOP LOADING RULES MANUAL (OTLR)

To: MEMBERS AND PRIVATE CAR OWNERS

File Number: LR 1.14.12

The AAR's Open Top Loading Rules Committee (OTLRC) has approved the revision of Rule 14, "ATTACHMENT OF SECUREMENT", Section 1, Open Top Loading Rules Manual, (OTLR).

An Open Top Loading Rules Committee proposal was submitted to revise rules regarding welding of securement to prohibit the welding of securement to nailable steel floors and to add reference of conformance to the requirements the American Welding Society (AWS) D15.1, Railroad Welding Specification for Cars and Locomotives. The purpose of the proposal is to further elaborate that the weld is not to exceed the strength of the car structure, which would make the car structure the weak link. The car component should never be the weak link.

After careful review and consideration of the information presented, the Committee agreed that the following verbiage additions should be made to Rule 14.13, Welding of Securement:

Insert the following into Rule 14.13:

14.13.1 The quality of the welding performed is the responsibility of the organization and their contractors and they shall perform whatever tests are necessary to meet the requirements of American Welding Society (AWS) D15.1, Railroad Welding Specification for Cars and Locomotives.

14.13.2 Requirements contained herein constitute acceptable industrial practices. They are not intended as a substitute for engineering judgment with respect to the suitability of application of listed joints to a welded structure.

14.13.3 Welding of any load anchors and/or securement items must be performed by a welder certified in accordance with applicable AAR Specifications or with AWS D15.1.

14.13.4 Any load anchor and/or securement item welded to approved railcar structure must be prequalified base metal and/or filler metal per AWS D15.1. All prequalified base metals and filler metals are listed in AWS D15.1, Clause 8. Any unlisted base or filler metals shall be qualified by test as described in AWS D15.1, Clause 10.

14.13.7 Welding to nailable steel flooring is prohibited.

(Renumber consecutively the other 7 parts of this rule as required.)

This change is effective immediately and will be included in the next edition of the AAR's OTLR Manual, Section 1, Part 2 of the General Rules. In the interim, please insert the attached revised Rule 14.13, Section 1 into your Open Top Loading Rules manual and be governed accordingly. For ease of updating your manual, page 33, the reverse side of the first revised page is included as well. 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 William G. Larson, Manager-Open Top Loading Rules and Damage Prevention, TTCL, P.O. Box 11130, 55500 DOT Road, Pueblo CO 81001. Or email to william_larson@aar.com.

ON BEHALF OF THE OPEN TOP LOADING RULES COMMITTEE

Sincerely,
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Attachments

[section1part2.pp33-34.20110630.pdf](#)