

Memorandum

U.S. Department of Transportation

Federal Railroad Administration

Date: January 10, 2005

Reply to Attn of: G-05-25

Subject: Roadway Worker Protection Technical Bulletin

Revisions to on-track safety procedures and field manual

From: Edward W. Pritchard

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To: Regional Administrators

Deputy Regional Administrators

Track Supervisory Specialists

Signal and Train Control Supervisory Specialists

Operating Practices Supervisory Specialists

Railroads issue changes to on-track safety programs by the use of bulletins and notices. The changes can be in effect for a considerable period of time before being incorporated into the on track safety field manual. How does the railroad comply with § 214.309 which requires that all rules and operating procedures be maintained in one manual, and that each roadway worker in charge and lone worker have a copy?

All changes to on-track safety procedures and rules governing track occupancy must be made a part of the on-track safety field manual and readily available to roadway workers, as soon as they are effective. These changes may be temporarily incorporated into the field manual, perhaps through incorporation of bulletins and general orders, and made readily available to all roadway workers. The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) expects that any changes to the on-track safety program carried on bulletin or general orders would be permanently included in new printings of the field manual.

This bulletin is based on consultation with FRA's Office of Chief Counsel. Anyone desiring a formal legal interpretation on any issues discussed in this bulletin should contact that office.

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