



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

**Railroad Safety Advisory Committee  
Task Statement:  
Implementation of Positive Train Control Systems**

**Task No.:** 08-04

**Date initially presented to the RSAC:** December 10, 2008

**Purpose:**

To provide advice regarding development of implementing regulations for Positive Train Control (PTC) systems and their deployment under the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (Act).

**Description:**

- Review the mandates and objectives of the Act related to deployment of PTC systems.
- Help to describe the specific functional attributes of systems meeting the statutory purposes in light of available technology.
- Review impacts on small entities and ascertain how best to address them in harmony with the statutory requirements.
- Help to describe the details that should be included in the implementation plans that railroads must file within 18 months of enactment of the Act.
- Offer recommendations on the specific content of implementing regulations.

**Issues requiring specific report:**

- Functionalities of PTC systems.
- Description of essential elements bearing on interoperability and requirements for consultation with other railroads in joint operations.
- Operation of non-equipped trains.

**Source:**

Section 20157, title 49, United States Code, as enacted by section 104, Division A, Public Law No. 110-432.

**Refer to/establish following working group:** PTC Working Group

**Target Dates:**

Convene initial meeting not later than January 2009.  
Report recommendations not later than April 24, 2009.

**Disposition:** Accepted

**Date:** December 10, 2008