



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

**Railroad Safety Advisory Committee
Task Statement:
Conductor Certification**

Task No.: 08-07

Date initially presented to the RSAC: December 10, 2008

Purpose:

To develop regulations for certification of railroad conductors, as required by the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 (Act), and to consider any appropriate related amendments to existing regulations.

Description:

- Review safety data bearing on opportunities for reducing risk associated with the duties performed by freight and passenger conductors.
- Assist FRA in developing regulations responsive to the legislative mandate.
- Consider any revisions to 49 CFR Part 240 appropriate to conform and update the certification programs for locomotive engineers and conductors.

Issues requiring specific report:

- What requirements for training and experience are appropriate?
- What classifications of conductors should be recognized?
- To what extent do existing requirements and procedures for certification of locomotive engineers provide a model for conductor certification?
- To what extent should unsafe conduct occurring while a locomotive engineer affect certification status as a conductor, and visa versa?
- Starting with the locomotive engineer certification model, what opportunities are available for simplifying appeals from decertification decisions of the railroads?

Source:

49 U.S.C. § 20163, as enacted by section 402 of Division A, Public Law No. 110-432.

Refer to/establish following working group: Conductor Certification Working Group

Target Dates:

- Report recommendations for proposed or interim final rule (as determined by FRA in consultation with the Office of the Secretary of Transportation and the Office of Management and Budget) by October 16, 2009.

Disposition: Accepted

Date: December 10, 2008