



U.S. Department of  
Transportation

Federal Railroad  
Administration

**Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Task Statement:  
Securement Requirements**

**Task No. 13-03**

**Date initially presented to the RSAC:** August 29, 2013

**Purpose:** To ensure appropriate processes and procedures are in place to ensure that any unattended trains and vehicles on mainline track or mainline sidings outside of a yard or terminal are properly secured against unintended movement, and as appropriate, such securement is properly confirmed and verified.

**Background:** On July 6, 2013, a catastrophic accident involving the derailment of an unattended freight train in Lac-Mégantic, Quebec, Canada, demonstrated the terrible consequences that can result when a train transporting hazardous materials becomes unsecured and derails.

**Description:**

- Review the standards for the securement of unattended equipment [49 CFR §232.103(n)], and the regulatory guidance for this section published in *Technical Bulletin MP&E 10-01, Enforcement Guidance Regarding Securement of Equipment with Title 49 Code of Federal Regulations Section 232.103(n)*.
- Review the requirements of FRA Emergency Order No. 28, Notice No. 1—*Emergency Order Establishing Additional Requirements for Attendance and Securement of Certain Freight Trains and Vehicles on Mainline Track or Mainline Siding Outside of a Yard or Terminal*.
- Review recommendations contained in Federal Railroad Administration Safety Advisory 2013-06—*Lac-Mégantic Railroad Accident Discussion and DOT Safety Recommendations*.
- Identify any other issues relevant to FRA's regulatory treatment of securement of equipment to prevent unintended movement.

**Issues requiring specific report:**

- If appropriate, develop recommendations containing specific regulatory language to update or modify the securement of unattended equipment standards contained in 49 CFR §232.103(n) and Emergency Order 28 that are necessary to enhance railroad safety. This should include appropriate processes for determining securement sufficiency and circumstances necessitating attendance or added securement processes or procedures.
- If appropriate, develop specific recommendations that may be suitable to be published as guidance in an update to Technical Bulletin MP&E 10-01 regarding the securement of equipment to prevent unintended movement or other guidance document.
- In considering the development of regulatory language or appropriate guidance materials, specifically evaluate the risks of leaving unattended, trains or vehicles identified by the group responsible for task no. 13-02 as requiring special handling and/or operational controls.
- If appropriate, take up relevant portions of 49 CFR Part 215.

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

**Target Dates:** Report recommendations to the Committee by April 1, 2014.

**Disposition:** Accepted

**Accepted Date:** August 29, 2013