



U.S. Department
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad
Administration**

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee Task Statement: Railroad Communications

Task No.: 96-3

Date presented to the RSAC: April 1-2, 1996.

Purpose:

To promote the safe movement of trains, safe conduct of railroad switching operations, and prompt response to certain emergency situations.

Description:

Recommend revisions to the Radio Standards and Procedures (49 CFR Part 220), including such additions and deletions as may be warranted by appropriate data and analysis, and specifically including consideration of requirements for availability of functional and (where appropriate) redundant communications capability. Consider communications capability required to support emergency preparedness functions, including emergency preparedness plans for rail passenger service.

Source:

Comments of rail labor organizations and railroads summarized in the Report to Congress entitled *Railroad Communications and Train Control* (July 1994).

Issues requiring specific report:

(i) All matters related to revision of the existing standards, including data required for regulatory analysis; (ii) communications needs in support of train operations; (iii) communications needs in support of switching operations; (iv) role of communications capability in emergency preparedness, including passenger service.

Refer to/establish following working group:

Railroad Communications Working Group (new)

Target dates:

6/96 (TBD)	Initial meeting; report milestones for development of Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM).
9/1/96	Submit draft NPRM for review by RSAC.

Disposition: Accepted Declined

Date: _____