

Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards

Part 229

Railroad Locomotive Safety Standards

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Authority: Authority: 49 U.S.C. 20102-03, 20133, 20137-38, 20143, 20701-03, 21301-02, 21304; 49 CFR 1.49(c),(m).

Source: 45 FR 21109, Mar. 31, 1980, unless otherwise noted.

- Subpart B Inspections and Tests (Sections 229.21 - 229.33)

229.27

Annual tests

(a) Each locomotive shall be subjected to the tests and inspections included in paragraphs (b) and (c) of this section, and each non-MU locomotive shall also be subjected to the tests and inspections included in paragraph (a) of this section, at intervals that do not exceed 368 calendar days:

(1) The filtering devices or dirt collectors located in the main reservoir supply line to the air brake system shall be cleaned, repaired, or replaced.

(2) Brake cylinder relay valve portions, main reservoir safety valves, brake pipe vent valve portions, feed and reducing valve portions in the air brake system (including related dirt collectors and filters) shall be cleaned, repaired, and tested.

(3) The date and place of the cleaning, repairing, and testing shall be recorded on Form FRA F 6180-49A and the person performing the work and that person's supervisor shall sign the form. A record of the parts of the air brake system that are cleaned, repaired, and tested shall be kept in the carrier's files or in the cab of the locomotive.

(4) At its option, a carrier may fragment the work required by this paragraph. In that event, a separate air record shall be maintained under a transparent cover in the cab. The air record shall include the locomotive number, a list of the air brake components, and the date and place of the last inspection and test of each component. The signature of the person performing the work and the signature of that person's supervisor shall be included for each component. A duplicate record shall be maintained in the carrier's files.

(b) The load meter shall be tested. Each device used by the engineer to aid in the control or braking of the train or locomotive that provides an indication of air pressure electronically shall be tested by comparison with a test gauge or self-test designed for this purpose. An error of greater than five percent or three pounds per square inch shall be corrected. The date and place of the test shall be recorded on Form FRA F 6180-49A, and the person conducting the test and that person's supervisor shall sign the form.

(c) Each steam generator that is not isolated as prescribed in §229.23(b), shall be subjected to a hydrostatic pressure at least 25 percent above the working pressure and the visual return water-flow indicator shall be removed and inspected.

[66 FR 4104, January 17, 2001]

231.31

Drawbars for freight cars; standard height.

(a) Except on cars specified in paragraph (b) of this section -

(1) On standard gage (56 ½ -inch gage) railroads, the maximum height of drawbars for freight cars (measured perpendicularly from the level of the tops of the rails to the centers of the drawbars) shall be 34 ½ inches, and the minimum height of drawbars for freight cars on such standard gage railroads (measured in the same manner) shall be 31 ½ inches.

(2) On 36-inch gage railroads, the maximum height of drawbars for freight cars (measured perpendicularly from the level of the tops of the rails to the centers of the drawbars) shall be 26 inches, and the minimum height of drawbars for freight cars on such 36-inch gage railroads (measured in the same manner) shall be 23 inches.

(3) On 24-inch gage railroads, the maximum height of drawbars for freight cars (measured perpendicularly from the level of the tops of the rails to the centers of the drawbars) shall be 17 ½ inches, and the minimum height of drawbars for freight cars on 24-inch gage railroads (measured in the same manner) shall be 14 ½ inches.

4) On railroads operating on track with a gage other than those contained in paragraphs (a)(1) through (a)(3) of this section, the maximum and minimum height of drawbars for freight cars operating on those railroads shall be established upon written approval of FRA.

(b) This section shall not apply to a railroad all of whose track is less than 24 inches in gage.

Source: [66 FR 4104, January 17, 2001]