



ASSOCIATION OF
AMERICAN RAILROADS

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Circular Letter

Subject: Expansion of the AAR Specification M-1003 Quality Assurance Program to include Facilities that Manufacture Nailable Steel Flooring and Box Car Doors

To: MEMBERS AND PRIVATE CAR OWNERS

File Number: QA-1.5-6/09

The Technical Services Working Committee has endorsed expansion of the industry's Quality Assurance Program to encompass manufacturers of nailable steel flooring and box car doors.

AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices Section C, Specification M-964, NAILABLE STEEL FLOOR FOR FREIGHT CARS, paragraph 14.5 states: "*Manufacturers of AAR approved nailable steel flooring must also be approved according to AAR specification M-1003.*"

AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices Section C, Specification S-212, SIDE DOOR BOXCAR – SLIDING TYPE, paragraph 4.0 states: "*The facility at which a door is manufactured shall be approved by the AAR as described in MSRP Section J Specification M-1003.*"

AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices Section C, Specification S-213, SIDE DOOR BOXCAR – PLUG TYPE, paragraph 4.0 states: "*The facility at which a door is manufactured shall be approved by the AAR as described in MSRP Section J Specification M-1003.*"

Manufacturers of Nailable Steel Flooring and Box Car Doors are hereby invited to send application for M-1003 Certification to:

QA Program Coordinator
TTCI
P.O. Box 11130
Pueblo, Colorado, 81001

The application can be found in AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices (MSRP) Section J, Specification M-1003 pages J-24 and J-25. Should you need to purchase a copy of MSRP Section J you may do so on-line at www.aarpublications.com or by contacting AAR Publications toll free at 877-999-8824.

Upon receipt of the application by the QA Program Coordinator, additional information concerning the certification process will be forwarded to each applicant. Facilities filing formal application by August 1, 2009 will be assured "common group" status, that is, certification will be simultaneously awarded to all qualifying facilities in that group, provided all necessary information is furnished by the applicant in a timely fashion. Dependent upon the progress of requisite site audits, the schedule for completion of certification requirements is targeted for October 1, 2009. As information, the implementation of AAR Specification M-1003 was originally announced in Circular Letter C-7081, dated September 10, 1985. Questions regarding application requirements or procedures should be directed to Joy Cooke at (719) 584-0715 or qa@aar.com.

Sincerely,

Safety and Operations
Association of American Railroads
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