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October 20, 1986

SUBJECT: Quality Assurance Program Implementation, Group B-1

QA-13
(c-7144)

TO: Members and Private Car Owners

Gentlemen:

The Mechanical Division of the Association of American Railroads herein provides additional details concerning the continuing implementation of the Quality Assurance Program. As you will recall, the implementation of the program was originally announced in circular letter C-7081 dated September 10, 1985.

In that applications from Group A-1 and A-2 companies have been received and progressed, contractors (as defined in M-1003) of components in Group B-1 only are herein invited to advise the Director-Technical Committees in writing of their intent to make application for Quality Assurance Certification under the provisions of Specification M-1003 by November 30, 1986. Group B-1 components include: new truck side frames, new truck bolsters, new couplers, new yokes, new knuckles, new truck springs and new draft sills.

Upon receipt of a letter of intent, an application form and additional information concerning the certification process will be provided to each potential applicant. Contractors filing formal applications accompanied by payment of the initial \$500.00 fee by January 31, 1987 will be assured common group status; that is, certification will be awarded to qualifying contractors in that group simultaneously, provided all necessary information is furnished by the applicant in a timely fashion.

Schedules for Groups B-2, C and D will be developed as the program progresses and circular letter notice will be given well in advance of application deadline dates.

Your support and cooperation will be sincerely appreciated.

Sincerely,



L. A. Peterson