



**ASSOCIATION
OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS**

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April 11, 1994

CIRCULAR LETTER

(c-8168)

SUBJECT: New Quality Assurance Program Implementation Schedule:
Facilities Approved for Rebuild/Modification per Field
Manual Rule 88, Multi-Level Satellite Shops Approved per
Rule 88, Appendix B and Shops Performing M-970
Certifications/Recertifications

TO MEMBERS AND PRIVATE OWNERS

Gentlemen:

File: QA-13-G-2

The Mechanical Division of the Association of American Railroads herein provides additional details concerning the continuing implementation of the Quality Assurance Program. As you may recall, the implementation of the program was originally announced in Circular Letter c-7081 dated September 10, 1985 and further explained in Circular Letter c-7149 dated November 10, 1986.

As authorized by the Mechanical Management Committee, contractors (defined in M-1003) of components in Group G-2 are herein invited to notify the Director-Freight Car Construction & Components in writing of intent to make application by June 30, 1994 for Quality Assurance Certification under the provisions of Specification M-1003. Group G-2 covers those facilities authorized under Field Manual Rule 88 for rebuild/modification of freight cars, multi-level satellite shops approved to Rule 88, Appendix B, and shops performing M-970 certifications/recertifications.

Upon receipt by AAR of a letter of intent, an application form and additional information concerning the certification process will be provided to each potential applicant. Facilities subsequently filing formal applications by August 31, 1994 will be assured common group status; that is certification will be awarded to qualifying facilities in that group simultaneously, provided all necessary information is furnished by the applicant in a timely fashion.


Dependent on the progress of requisite site audits, the schedule for completion of certification requirements for Group G-2 will be published well in advance of finalization of the common group listing.

Members and Private Car Owners
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Questions regarding application requirements or procedures should be directed to Mr. R. J. Fontaine at 202/639-2145.

Your support and cooperation in the industry's commitment to improvements in the safety and quality of rail transport is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,


Leavitt A. Peterson