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EW-5315

File Number: SEFCC

Subject: Replacement of End Door Hinges on Multilevel Cars

To: All Subscribers

Introduction

Greenbrier has requested industry assistance in replacing end door hinges on certain multilevel cars. AAR is issuing this Early Warning (EW) in order to expedite this effort. This EW is in addition to existing Maintenance Advisory MA-0167, which covers the same series of cars and calls for replacement of hinges when found cracked or broken, or when the opportunity readily presents itself. This EW is more aggressive in that all cars listed must have all hinges replaced regardless of the condition or convenience. Cars listed in this EW have been removed from MA-0167.

In accordance with AAR Interchange Rule 125, this Early Warning is assigned Severity Code: 06 – AAR Defined:

- Stop empty car; replace all 16 end door hinges; return car to service; report Activity Code MH
- At multilevel unloading facility destination, inspect for cracked or broken end door hinges:
 - If any cracked or broken hinges are found, door shall not be opened until hinges are replaced. Replace all hinges; return car to service; report Activity Code MH
 - If no hinges are found cracked or broken, car may be unloaded before repairs are made. Subsequent to unloading:
 - Replace all hinges; return car to service; report Activity Code MH, or
 - Contact the rack owner; send the car to a repair shop; report activity code ME.
- For any car listed on this EW, and for which the facility in possession of the car does not have the capability to replace hinges, contact the rack owner, send the car to a repair shop, and report activity code ME.
- If car must be home shopped for repair, contact rack owner for disposition. Apply decal per Interchange Rule 80.

Equipment

This EW will eventually apply to most of the 1,275 auto racks included in MA-0167, other than those repaired under the MA. About five percent of the total will initially be removed from the MA and added to this EW. As the end door hinges are replaced, more cars will be added in 5% increments. This will be continued until all end door hinges are replaced.

The following table includes the car initials and numbers included in this EW. For doors/racks that must be sent for repair, disposition must be requested through the Damaged and Defective Car Tracking system, based on the rack contact column below.

Rack Contact	Car Mark	Car No.		No. Cars	Rack Mark
		From	To		
CSXT	CTTX	694464	694663	200	C

BNSF	CTTX	694964	695065	102	BNSF
KCS	CTTX	695066	695215	150	KCS
BNSF	CTTX	695366	695415	50	UCRY
CN	TTGX	694374	694463	90	GTW
BNSF	TTGX	694764	694963	200	BNSF
KCS	TTGX	695216	695365	150	KCS
CSX	TTGX	695416	695615	200	B
FEC	TTGX	695616	695665	50	G
CP	SOO	519000	519082	83	SOO

Inspection of Hinges

Each corner of the car has four hinges supporting the end doors as shown in the larger photo below. The hinge base that is mounted to the car contains a bent bracket constructed with 5/16" material. This section of the hinge is susceptible to cracks or breaks. Refer to the two smaller photos below, both of which show a broken hinge base. All end door hinges must be inspected for cracks or breaks when at multilevel unloading facilities (before opening the doors for unloading):



Each corner of the car has four hinges supporting the end doors



Broken Hinge at Top of Door



Broken Hinge at Bottom of Door

Repair Procedures Summary:

- Doors shall be closed or remain closed during the replacement of hinges.
- Hinges shall be replaced in this order on any given corner of the car: Broken hinges first, cracked hinges second, non-cracked hinges last.
- All repairs shall include replacement of all 16 hinges on the rack with GMO part number A10005845.
- OEM repair kits will be supplied by Greenbrier. Contact Mr. Roger Burgess at Greenbrier for the kits by email at roger.burgess@gbx.com or by phone at 817-760-5373.
- Complete instructions are included in the attached document titled: “GBRX Autorack Door Hinge Replacement June 2017 Revision.pdf”

Reporting

Use the following Activity Codes according to action taken.

MH	Car repaired and returned to service
ME	Car moving to repair shop

Sincerely,

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