

# HAZARDOUS MATERIALS GUIDANCE

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<b>Revision:</b> 2	<b>49 CFR Sections Affected:</b> 174.85
<b>Key Words:</b> Locomotive dead-in-tow and using cabooses as riding platforms	
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## Summary:

This Hazardous Materials Guidance explains the Federal Railroad Administration's interpretation of the terms locomotive "dead-in-tow" and "occupied caboose."

## Discussion:

A locomotive remains a locomotive regardless of operational status (whether it is running or not). The term "dead-in-tow" does not create an exception to the definition of engine or to the in-train placement regulations. A locomotive "dead-in-tow", which is not part of the handling consist, must not be nearer than the second position from a placarded tank car or rail car in Placard Group 1, 2 or 3, as defined in 49 CFR § 174.85.

The purpose of a caboose is for occupation by non-passenger rail employees who are usually members of the train crew. An "occupied caboose" is a rail car in use to transport non-passenger railroad personnel. The term "occupied caboose" does not apply to a non-passenger using the end platform and steps of a placarded rail car to control the movement of a train, and also does not apply to the use of a railroad caboose as a riding platform.