



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

# Memorandum

Date: June 15, 1998

Reply to Att. of: MP&E 98-28

Subject: Handling of Special Car Inspections

From: Edward R. English  
Director, Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance

To: Regional Administrators, Deputy Regional Administrators,  
Motive Power & Equipment Specialists and Inspectors

In an effort to improve our handling of "special car inspections", the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has implemented the following procedures.

The FRA requests that car builders adhere to the following conditions:

- C Car builders that desire to have the FRA review their equipment for compliance with safety appliance standards are to submit their safety appliance arrangement drawings, prints, etc. to the FRA Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance for review, at least 60 days prior to construction;
- C FRA will review the documents submitted and advise the builder as the status;
- C The builder should then notify the Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance at least 30 days in advance of when the freight car will be ready for inspection;
- C The Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance will notify the appropriate regional office as to the place and date the inspection is to be conducted;
- C The Office of Safety Assurance and Compliance will provide the car builder, in writing, the results of the special car inspection.

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