



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Federal Railroad  
Administration**

# Memorandum

Date: June 15, 1998

Reply to Att. of: MP&E 98-2

Subject: Event Recorder Periodic Inspection

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

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

It has been brought to our attention that there is very little inspection activity regarding event recorder periodic maintenance and inspection practices by the railroads, particularly the requirement in 49 CFR 229.25 (e)(5).

**49 Code of Federal Regulation 229.25 (e)(5) states:**

*§229.25 (e) The event recorder, if installed, shall be inspected, maintained, and tested in accordance with the instructions of the manufacturer, supplier, or owner thereof and in accordance with the following criteria:*

*§229.25 (e)(5) A railroad's event recorder periodic maintenance shall be considered effective if ninety percent (90%) of the recorders inbound in any given month for periodic inspection are still fully functional; maintenance practices and test intervals shall be adjusted as necessary to yield effective periodic maintenance.*

Please advise inspectors to monitor the periodic inspection, maintenance practices and test intervals when performing routine inspections at locomotive facilities.

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