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News

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News Digest

Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) Revises Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness Regulations. The Federal Railroad Administration today announced a Final Rule (FR) amending its existing Passenger Train Emergency Preparedness regulations. The revisions make explicit that existing requirements for initial and periodic training, operational efficiency tests and inspections of certain railroad personnel apply not only to on-board crewmembers and control center personnel, but also to the railroad's emergency response communications center personnel, who communicate or coordinate with first responders during an emergency situation involving a passenger train. The final rule also clarifies that railroads must develop procedures that specifically address the safety of passengers with disabilities during actual and simulated emergency situations and also limits the need for FRA to formally approve certain purely administrative changes to approved emergency preparedness plans. The final rule can be viewed here. Contact: Kevin Thompson (202) 493-6024.

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