

Positive Train Control

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Positive Train Control

- Why PTC
- Where is PTC Required
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Why PTC ?

- The Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 was signed into law on October 16, 2008, mandating widespread PTC implementation, and specific PTC functionality.
- Through significant effort and assistance of the RSAC PTC working group, FRA published the NPRM on July 21, 2009, consisting primarily of Part 236 new Subpart I addressing the mandate for PTC.
- The final rule was published on January 15, 2010, and became effective on March 16, 2010.

Why PTC ?

Primary topics of the rule include:

- Required PTC core functionality
- Required levels of safety
- Line segments requiring PTC – including potential exceptions
- Procedural requirements for approval, content and timelines
- System certification, use, and unequipped operations
- Manuals and training criteria.

Where is PTC required?

- On Class I “main lines” (> 5 mgt) over which any PIH hazardous material is transported
- On Class I, II, or III lines used for regularly scheduled intercity or commuter passenger service
- Exclusions from PTC are possible for certain lines with FRA approval

PTC actions to date

- Railroads required to install Positive Train Control(PTC) had to file a Positive Train Control Implementation Plan(PTCIP) by April 15, 2010.
- FRA received 41 PTCIPs from railroads.
- Five railroads met the exceptions in Section 236.1019 and are not required to install PTC.

FRA and PTC

- FRA's PTC Branch and Headquarters Staff worked closely with several railroads to insure submissions contained all pertinent information for approval.
- Railroads were required by Section 236.1006(b)(2) to file a report outlining it's PTC progress for the preceding year. All reports have been received by FRA.

Major hurdles

- Railroads are working together to solve the issue of interoperability.
- FRA has been supporting the railroads in correspondence with the FCC regarding radio spectrum availability and procurement for PTC operations.

PTC Ongoing Issues

- Radio spectrum availability for PTC
- Railroad interoperability of PTC systems
- PIH rerouting/ baseline year
- Possible full implementation date extension by Congress



QUESTIONS?

