

Rail Safety Improvement Act

It's more than just PTC

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RSIA Overview

- Enacted on October 16, 2008.
- Most ambitious rail safety legislation in decades.
- Dozens of mandates & initiatives.
- This presentation covers open items, sans PTC.

RSIA Overview

Panelists' General Comments



Passenger Hours of Service

FRA published a proposed rule in March:

- Multiple tour limits:
 - Type 1 assignments - 4 a.m. to 8 p.m. – maximum of 14 consecutive days before 2-day off duty period.
 - Type 2 assignments, any other time – maximum of 6 consecutive days before 24 hour off duty period.

Passenger Hours of Service

Fatigue analysis –

- Type 2 assignments must be analyzed with a validated model; fatigue must be mitigated or must show that fatigue mitigation is not possible.
- Type 2 assignments that fall below the fatigue threshold can be treated as a Type 1 shift.

Electronic Device Distraction

- RSIA § 405
 - Study & Final Rule (9/27/10) on safety impact of use of personal electronic devices by operating employees.
 - RSAC has a new working group to explore *non-regulatory* methods to achieve compliance with the new rule.

Railroad Safety Risk Reduction Program

- RSIA § 103: FRA must require railroads to develop (and submit for FRA approval) railroad safety risk reduction programs.
- ANPRM published 12/8/2010.
- NPRM expected 3/27/2012.

Railroad Safety Risk Reduction Program

- RSIA § 109: FRA must study whether it is in the public interest to withhold data collected for FRA-required safety risk reduction program from discovery or admission into evidence in lawsuits against rail carriers.
- Notice issued 5/9/2011, soliciting input from rail stakeholders. Comments due 7/8/2011.

Certification of Crafts / Classes

- RSIA § 402: FRA must:
 - Issue a report about whether certification of certain other crafts / classes of railroad employees is necessary to improve rail safety:
 - car repair and maintenance employees; onboard service workers; rail welders; dispatchers; and signal repair and maintenance employees.

Certification of Crafts / Classes

- RSIA § 402: Train Conductors
 - FRA must: Establish a program requiring certification of train conductors (4/16/2010 deadline).
 - NPRM issued 11/10/2010 on train conductor certification. Final rule expected in September 2011.

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Questions

