

Subpart C—General Handling and Loading Requirements

§ 174.55 General requirements.

(a) Each package containing a hazardous material being transported by rail in a freight container or transport vehicle must be loaded so that it cannot fall or slide and must be safeguarded in such a manner that other freight cannot fall onto or slide into it under conditions normally incident to transportation. When this protection cannot be provided by using other freight, it must be provided by blocking and bracing. For examples of blocking and bracing in freight containers and transport vehicles, see Bureau of Explosives Pamphlet Nos. 6 and 6C.

(b) Each package containing a hazardous material bearing package orientation markings prescribed in § 172.312 of this subchapter must be loaded within a transport vehicle or freight container to remain in the correct position indicated by those markings during transportation.

(c) The doors of a freight container or transport vehicle may not be used to secure a load that includes a package containing a hazardous material unless the doors meet the design strength requirements of Specification M-930 (for freight containers) and M-931 (for trailers) in the AAR's Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices and the load is also within the limits of the design strength requirements for the doors.

[Amdt. 174-83, 61 FR 28677, June 5, 1996]

§ 174.57 Cleaning cars.

All hazardous material which has leaked from a package in any rail car or on other railroad property must be carefully removed.

§ 174.59 Marking and placarding of rail cars.

No person may transport a rail car carrying hazardous materials unless it is marked and placarded as required by this subchapter. Placards and car certificates lost in transit must be replaced at the next inspection point, and those not required must be removed at the next terminal where the train is classified. For Canadian ship-

ments, required placards lost in transit, must be replaced either by those required by part 172 of this subchapter or by those authorized under § 171.12a.

[Amdt. 174-26, 41 FR 16092, Apr. 15, 1976, as amended by Amdt. 174-48, 50 FR 41521, Oct. 11, 1985]

§ 174.61 Transport vehicles and freight containers on flat cars.

(a) A transport vehicle, freight container, or package containing a hazardous material must be designed and loaded so that it will not become damaged to an extent that would affect its integrity under conditions normally incident to transportation. Each unit must be secured on a flatcar so that it cannot permanently change position during transit. Packages of hazardous materials contained therein must be loaded and braced as provided by §§ 174.101, 174.112, 174.115 and 174.55. Placards must be applied when prescribed by part 172 of this subchapter and part 174.

(b) Except as specified in § 173.21, a truck body, trailer, or freight container equipped with heating or refrigerating equipment which has fuel or any article classed as a hazardous material may be loaded and transported on a flat car as part of a joint rail highway movement. The heating or refrigerating equipment is considered to be a part of the truck body or trailer and is not subject to any other requirements of this subchapter. The truck body, trailer, or freight container must be secured on the flatcar so that it cannot change position during transit.

[Amdt. 174-26, 41 FR 16092, Apr. 15, 1976, as amended by Amdt. 174-26A, 41 FR 40685, Sept. 20, 1976; Amdt. 174-38, 45 FR 32698, May 19, 1980; Amdt. 174-39, 45 FR 81572, Dec. 11, 1980; Amdt. 174-59, 51 FR 5974, Feb. 18, 1986; Amdt. 174-68, 57 FR 45464, Oct. 1, 1992; Amdt. 174-79, 59 FR 64744, Dec. 15, 1994]

§ 174.63 Portable tanks, IM portable tanks, IBCs, cargo tanks, and multi-unit tank car tanks.

(a) A carrier may not transport a bulk packaging (e.g., portable tank, IM portable tank, IBC, cargo tank, or multi-unit tank car tank) containing a hazardous material in container-on-flatcar (COFC) or trailer-on-flatcar (TOFC) service except as authorized by

this section or unless approved for transportation by the Associate Administrator for Safety, FRA.

(b) A bulk packaging containing a hazardous material (including IM 101 and IM 102 when appropriate according to dimensions and weight distribution) may be transported inside a fully closed transport vehicle or fully closed freight container provided it is properly secured with a restraint system that will prevent it from changing position, sliding into other packages, or contacting the side or end walls (including doors) under conditions normally incident to transportation.

(c) When not transported in conformance with and subject to paragraph (b) of this section, a bulk packaging may be transported in COFC service or TOFC service subject to the following conditions as applicable:

(1) The bulk packaging contains a material packaged in accordance with § 173.240, 173.241, 173.242, or 173.243 of this subchapter;

(2) The tank and flatcar conform to requirements in AAR 600 of the AAR Specifications for Tank Cars, Specification M-1002, entitled "Specifications for Acceptability of Tank Containers";

(3) For TOFC service, the trailer chassis conforms to requirements in paragraphs 3, 4, 5, and 6 of AAR Specification M-943 "Container Chassis For TOFC Service" of the AAR specification for "Specially Equipped Freight Car and Intermodal Equipment";

(4) For COFC service, the container support and securement systems conform to requirements in Specification M-952 "Intermodal Container Support and Securement Systems for Freight Cars", of the AAR specification for "Specially Equipped Freight Car and Intermodal Equipment";

(5) If transported in a well car—

(i) The tank is not in a double-stacked configuration (i.e., no freight container or portable tank is placed above or below the tank); and

(ii) The tank is transported in the well with its outlet valve facing outward towards the end of the well and away from any adjacent tank or container; and

(6) All securement fittings shall be fully engaged and in the locked posi-

tion, provided; however, if the tank is transported in a well car, it must be loaded into a well appropriate for the length of the container and any void filling device present must be secured in its designed appropriate position.

(d) An approval in effect on February 28, 1991 for the transportation of portable tanks or IM portable tanks in TOFC or COFC service expires on the date stated in the approval letter or June 15, 1995, whichever is later.

(e) A carrier may not transport a cargo tank or multi-unit tank car tank containing a hazardous material in TOFC or COFC service unless approved for such service by the Associate Administrator for Safety, FRA. However, in the event of an accident or incident, no such approval is necessary for the transportation of a cargo tank containing a hazardous material in TOFC service under the following condition(s):

(1) There is an emergency need for the cargo tank in order to mitigate the consequences of an incident; and

(2) Movement of the cargo tank is limited to transportation necessary for emergency purposes.

[Amdt. 174-79, 59 FR 64744, Dec. 15, 1994, as amended by 66 FR 45383, Aug. 28, 2001]

§ 174.67 Tank car unloading.

(a) In unloading tank cars, the following rules must be observed (see subpart F of this part for gases):

(1) Unloading operations must be performed only by reliable persons properly instructed in unloading hazardous materials and made responsible for careful compliance with this part.

(2) Brakes must be set and wheels blocked on all cars being unloaded.

(3) Caution signs must be so placed on the track or cars to give necessary warning to persons approaching the cars from the open end of a siding and must be left up until after the cars are unloaded and disconnected from the discharge connection. The signs must be of metal or other comparable material, at least 30 cm (12 inches) high by 38 cm (15 inches) wide in size, and bear the words, "STOP—Tank Car Connected", or "STOP—Men at Work", the word "STOP" being in letters at least 10 cm (3.9 inches) high and the other words in letters at least 5 cm (2 inches)