

Additional TIH Materials - AAR Proposal

The AAR Tank Car Committee is considering a proposal to require improved packaging for TIH commodities in addition to chlorine and ammonia. The new rule, as proposed, would be effective January 1, 2008. One element under consideration would see commodities that are currently allowed by regulation to move in a 300 psi car be required to move in a 500 psi car. There is also consideration of a minimum shell thickness for such a car, a requirement for head shields, and additional top fittings protection.

As indicated in the last edition of On track!, the AAR rule for chlorine and ammonia cars is effective for cars ordered after January 1, 2008. Chlorine will change from the current 105J500W car to a 105J600W car. Similarly, ammonia will shift from a 112J340W car to a 112J500W car. The AAR rule includes head shields and enhanced top fittings protection for both commodities. The current cars used in these services will be removed from service by the end of 2018 (scheduled phase-outs will apply).