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# TIH Cars: AAR Revises Implementation Date

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) announced on November 19th that its Technical Service Working Committee has adopted a new implementation date for the AAR rule regarding cars for Toxic by Inhalation (TIH) service. The AAR implementation has changed from January 1, 2008 to April 1, 2008. The AAR indicated that their action was taken at the request of Federal Administrator Joseph Boardman.

The AAR had earlier established new requirements for tank cars carrying TIH materials. Their initial requirement dealt with chlorine and ammonia, and a subsequent rule introduced the requirements

for all TIH materials. The implementation date is the date after which cars ordered for new construction must conform to the new AAR requirements.

As noted in earlier On track! articles, the FRA is engaged in a rule-making for tank cars in TIH service. Their notice of proposed rule-making (NPRM) is expected to appear in Q1 2008. The NPRM will deal with enhanced puncture resistance of the tank shell and heads. The FRA has indicated that it is doubtful if the AAR TIH design will meet the requirements of the NPRM.