



Transport Canada Directs CP to Ensure Proper Air Brake Testing of Freight Trains

CP Rail had recently instructed its Rail Car Mechanics in Moose Jaw Sask to cease conducting an SBU Emergency test on the last car on trains originating out of Moose Jaw Sask. This test is designed to ensure when an emergency brake application is initiated from the controlling locomotive, for instance, that the emergency brakes will apply on the last piece of equipment on that train.

Local 101R contended that in order to comply with the *Railway Freight and Passenger Train Brake Inspection and Safety Rules*, not only must a TIBS test be conducted to verify communication of the emergency feature between the Information Display Unit (IDU) and the tail end Sense and Braking Unit (SBU) but more importantly, that the ***emergency application of the air brakes on the last car on the train must be verified prior to the train departing.***

<http://www.tc.gc.ca/eng/railsafety/rules-tco0184-139.htm#section14>

Local 101R contacted Transport Canada with their concerns which resulted in Transport Canada issuing a Letter of Non-Compliance of the *Railway Freight and Passenger Train Brake Inspection and Safety Rules* to CP Rail on September 3, 2015.

Transport Canada's letter confirms the Local's interpretation that in order to ensure proper compliance with the Rule 14.1 of the *Railway Freight and Passenger Train Brake Inspection and Safety Rules*, all railcar mechanics must ensure that a TIBS test includes a visual confirmation of the emergency brake application on the last car on the train, prior to the freight train departure.

The company now has 14 days to advise Transport Canada as to the corrective action they will institute to ensure future compliance with this important safety Rule.

The Local wishes to thank our members in Moose Jaw who brought this to our attention and once again making the safe operation of trains and the safety of the public a priority.

In solidarity,

Nelson Gagne, Local 101R President

Brian Stevens, National Rail Director

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