



U.S. Department  
of Transportation

**Pipeline and Hazardous  
Materials Safety Administration**

400 Seventh Street, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

JUL 27 2006

Mr. Patrick F. Reilly  
919 Parkview Road  
Moscow, PA 18444

Ref. No. 06-0147

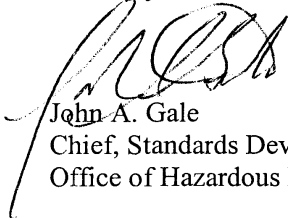
Dear Mr. Reilly:

This responds to your June 29, 2006 letter requesting clarification on § 171.7 Reference material, materials incorporated by reference into the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR 171-180). Specifically, you ask whether the "Association of American Railroads, AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section C-Part III, Specification for Tank Cars, Specification M-1002, December 2000 edition" referenced in § 171.7 is the most current version.

The AAR standard you reference was updated as of December 1, 2003. However, the updated standard has not been incorporated by reference into the HMR. Therefore, for purposes of the HMR, the 2000 edition referenced in § 171.7 must be used.

I hope this answers your inquiry.

Sincerely,



John A. Gale  
Chief, Standards Development  
Office of Hazardous Material Standards



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**PATRICK F. REILLY**

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6/29/06

Mr. Robert McGuire  
Associate Administrator  
Pipeline and Hazardous Materials Safety Administration  
U.S. Department of Transportation  
400 7th Street S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20509

Dear Mr. McGuire:

I have a question concerning the hazardous materials regulations and was directed to your office. I was informed you are the lead DOT agency for writing and maintaining the DOT regulations for the transportation of Hazardous Materials.

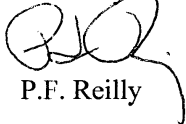
In review of 49 CFR 171.7, a regulation that incorporated by references several technical publications. One of those publications so noted in this sections is the Association of American Railroads, AAR Manual of Standards and Recommended Practices, Section C-Part III, Specifications for Tank Cars, Specification M-1002, December 2000 edition.

The Current edition of this publication was updated in 2003. Contained in the 2003 edition on page C-III-3, section 1.1.1, it states that this issue of the AAR Specification for Tank Cars dated October 1, 2003, supersedes the issue dated December 1, 2000.

Yesterday, Wednesday, June 28, 2006, I called the Federal Railroad Administration and spoke to Mr. Ray Casey who is a Hazardous Material Specialist. Mr. Casey informed me that this was an oversight in updating the current CFR. My question is. Is this correct, and can I assume that the current AAR Specifications for Tank Cars is referenced in the regulation and not an outdated version?

Thank you in advance for your assistance, looking forward to your response.

Sincerely



P.F. Reilly