

49 U.S.C.A. § 20142

United States Code Annotated [Currentness](#)  
 Title 49. Transportation ([Refs & Annos](#))  
 Subtitle V. Rail Programs  
 Part A. Safety  
[↗](#) [Chapter 201](#). General ([Refs & Annos](#))  
[↗](#) [Subchapter II](#). Particular Aspects of Safety

→ § 20142. Track safety

**(a) Review of existing regulations.**--Not later than March 3, 1993, the Secretary of Transportation shall begin a review of Department of Transportation regulations related to track safety standards. The review at least shall include an evaluation of--

- (1) procedures associated with maintaining and installing continuous welded rail and its attendant structure, including cold weather installation procedures;
- (2) the need for revisions to regulations on track excepted from track safety standards; and
- (3) employee safety.

**(b) Revision of regulations.**--Not later than September 1, 1995, the Secretary shall prescribe regulations and issue orders to revise track safety standards, considering safety information presented during the review under subsection (a) of this section and the report of the Comptroller General submitted under subsection (c) of this section.

**(c) Comptroller General's study and report.**--The Comptroller General shall study the effectiveness of the Secretary's enforcement of track safety standards, with particular attention to recent relevant railroad accident experience and information. Not later than September 3, 1993, the Comptroller General shall submit a report to Congress and the Secretary on the results of the study, with recommendations for improving enforcement of those standards.

**(d) Identification of internal rail defects.**--In carrying out subsections (a) and (b), the Secretary shall consider whether or not to prescribe regulations and issue orders concerning--

- (1) inspection procedures to identify internal rail defects, before they reach imminent failure size, in rail that has significant shelling; and
- (2) any specific actions that should be taken when a rail surface condition, such as shelling, prevents the identification of internal defects.

CREDIT(S)

(Added [Pub.L. 103-272, § 1\(e\)](#), July 5, 1994, 108 Stat. 879, and amended [Pub.L. 103-440, Title II, § 208](#), Nov. 2, 1994, 108 Stat. 4621.)

HISTORICAL AND STATUTORY NOTES

49 U.S.C.A. § 20142

Revision Notes and Legislative Reports

**1994 Acts.**

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 20142(a) . . . . . 45:431(s)(1)(1st sentence), (2). Oct. 16, 1970, Pub.L. 91-458, 84 Stat. 971, § 202(s); added Sept. 3, 1992, Pub.L. 102-365, § 8, 106 Stat. 976.  
 20142(b) . . . . . 45:431(s)(1)(last sentence).  
 20142(c) . . . . . 45:431(s)(3).  
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In subsection (c), the word "information" is substituted for "data" for consistency in the revised title. [House Report No. 103-180](#).

House Report No. 103-692, see 1994 U.S. Code Cong. and Adm. News, p. 3670.

Amendments


1994 Amendments. Subsec. (a)(1). [Pub.L. 103-440, § 208\(2\)](#), inserted ", including cold weather installation procedures" after "attendant structure".

Subsec. (b). [Pub.L. 103-440, § 208\(1\)](#), substituted "September 1, 1995" for "September 3, 1994".

Subsec. (d). [Pub.L. 103-440, § 208\(3\)](#), added subsec. (d).

Administrative Law

American Digest System

Maintenance, repair, and operation; roadbed, track, bridges, and tunnels, see Railroads  87 et seq., 237.

49 U.S.C.A. § 20142

Encyclopedias

49 U.S.C.A. § 20142, 49 USCA § 20142

Current through P.L. 108-198 (End) approved 12-19-03

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