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**ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN
RAILROADS**

August 26, 2004

**CIRCULAR LETTER
(c-9907)**

**Subject: Advanced Technology Safety Initiative: Equipment Health Management
System**

TO MEMBERS AND PRIVATE CAR OWNERS

File Number: EHMS

As advertised in the July 16th Circular Letter soliciting industry comments (proposed new Office Manual Rule 94) and as discussed at the August 11th Town Meeting in Rosemont, IL we are pleased to offer the following details on the planned Equipment Health Management System (EHMS).

Railinc has been commissioned by the AAR Advanced Technology Safety Initiative (ATSI) Task Force to develop the Equipment Health Management System (EHMS). This system will facilitate the communication of alerts produced by InteRRIS® based on data from wayside detectors as well as provide a means to report equipment repairs and collect data on equipment repair history.

The initial implementation of the system, targeted for October 2004, will send alerts based on data provided from InteRRIS®. InteRRIS® is a TTCI initiative which monitors an industry-wide network of Wheel Impact Load Detectors (WILD) and provides secure internet access to online reports and historical impact load data. Using InteRRIS® data, EHMS will afford carriers and private car owners the following functionality:

- 1) Daily email reports of alert events to the UMLER® Mark Owner (or other designated party) via the InteRRIS® system to assist in equipment maintenance planning
- 2) A web-based system to allow Car Owners, Mark Owners and Carriers to designate the Maintenance Responsible party who should receive daily InteRRIS® emails (where this differs from the UMLER® Mark Owner)
- 3) Secure web-based access to the InteRRIS® system (www.InteRRIS.com) for WILD data
- 4) Immediate notification of alert events using Maintenance Advisories (MA) via the AAR Early

Warning System (EW)

5) A web-based system for reporting repair events, including simultaneous reporting of Single Car Air Brake Tests

Daily InteRRIS® reports

Each morning, an email will be generated by the InteRRIS® system containing a list of equipment registered to that UMLER® Mark Owner for any car that has received a WILD reading. One email will be generated for each of the four (4) ATSI severity categories:

- 1) Window Open (65-79 kips)
- 2) Opportunistic (80-89 kips)
- 3) AAR Condemnable (90-139 kips)
- 4) Final Alert (140 kips and above)

These emails will be sent to the UMLER® Mark Owner or designated Maintenance Responsible Party. In the event that no WILD events have occurred that day, the email report will so indicate.

Contact Information

In order to facilitate correct delivery of the daily email, Car Owners, UMLER® Mark Owners and carriers are requested to complete and return the attached form before *September 24, 2004*. An electronic version of the form is available at www.railinc.com.

Maintenance Responsible Party

Car Owners, UMLER® Mark Owners and Carriers may identify the Maintenance Responsible party (where different from the UMLER® Mark Owner) using the ehms.railinc.com website after October 1, 2004. Parties interested in loading this data beforehand may arrange for bulk upload of data by contacting Railinc Customer Service by email at CSC@Railinc.com or by phone at 919-651-5400

EHMS EW/MA Alerts

When the InteRRIS® system detects a wheel within one of the four (4) ATSI WILD severity categories outlined above on an equipment unit, the system will communicate that fact utilizing the EW/MA system.

Unique MA header numbers are being created to identify the detector type which created the report (WILD), the ATSI Severity Category, and the wheel and axle affected. A codified numbering scheme is being employed using the existing 4 position convention for numbering

MA headers:

Position 1

0=regular MA types

1=WILD

2 through 4 Other future detector types

5 through 9 Regular EW types

Position 2

1=Window Open (60-79 kips)

2=Opportunistic (80-89 kips)

3=AAR Condemnable (90-139 kips)

4=Final Alert (140 kips and above)

Position 3

Wheel position left versus right (odd=left, even=right)

Position 4

Axle Position in conjunction with wheel

For Positions 3 and 4, the following convention is used:

Position 3 (Left Wheel)

Position 3 (Right Wheel)

1	Add 0 to pos 4 to get axle #	2	Add 0 to pos 4 to get axle #
3	Add 10 to pos 4 to get axle #	4	Add 10 to pos 4 to get axle #
5	Add 20 to pos 4 to get axle #	6	Add 20 to pos 4 to get axle #
7	Add 30 to pos 4 to get axle #	8	Add 30 to pos 4 to get axle #

9 Add 40 to pos 4 to get axle # 0 Add 40 to pos 4 to get axle #

Examples:

1318 WILD, AAR Condemnable, left wheel, axle 8

1443 WILD, Final Alert, right wheel, axle 13

AAR Severity Code 06 (AAR Defined) will be used for this series of EW/MA messages.

The current plan is to create the headers over the next several weeks and then automatically add them to the Maintenance Advisory System. Usually, all MA subscribers are notified by email each time a new MA header is created. Since there will be 400 headers created, Railinc will suppress this notification, and send only one (1) email advising that the headers are being added.

As equipment is added to an MA, EW/MA subscribers will automatically receive notification. If a wheel changes from one ATSI WILD severity category to a higher one, the equipment will be removed from the existing MA and added to the higher MA. Only the clearing of an MA, either by reporting a car repair to ehms.railinc.com or by manually clearing the MA via the EW systems will remove the MA for the reported wheel and axle.

ehms.railinc.com security

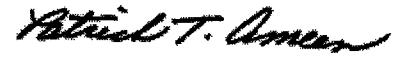
Users will be able to identify Maintenance Responsible parties (where different from the UMLER® Owner Mark) and report car repair events using the ehms.railinc.com website. This system will employ a sophisticated security module to protect company information and to ensure that only authorized parties are able to view or change data.

Access to the system will be managed via a designated company administrator. When the first user for a company attempts to establish a User ID in the system, the system will require identification of a company administrator. Requests for access by other company members will then be directed to this company administrator for approval. The company administrator will have the ability to designate access to all or some of the equipment that it controls or designate third party companies to act on their behalf.

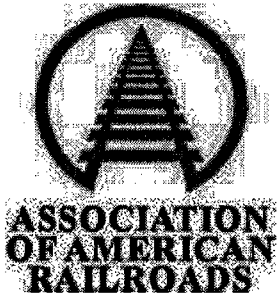
Detailed user manuals and instructions will be delivered to all interested parties prior to the implementation of the system. Questions should be directed to Railinc Customer Service by email at CSC@Railinc.com or by phone at 800-544-7245.

EHMS Form.pdf

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Patrick T. Ameen". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent loop at the end of the last name.

Patrick T. Ameen



Advanced Technology Safety Initiative

Equipment Health Management System

InteRRIS® Contact Information

Please complete this form and fax to 919-651-5410 before
September 24, 2004

An electronic version of this form is available at www.railinc.com

Company Full Name

Customer Identification Number (DB Number) if known

4 position MARK for the Company

Stencilled equipment mark

Is this company is the owner of this mark? Yes No

Equipment Series

Full name of person to receive InteRRIS reports

Position

Phone Number

Fax

Cell Phone

Pager

Email Address

Mailing Address

Mailing Address2

City

State/Province

Zip/Postal Code

Full name of backup contact

Backup Phone Number

Backup Email Address

Stencilled equipment mark

Is this company is the owner of this mark? Yes No

Equipment Series

Full name of person to receive InteRRIS reports

Position

Phone Number

Fax

Cell Phone

Pager

Email Address

Mailing Address

Mailing Address2

City

State/Province

Zip/Postal Code

Full name of backup contact

Backup Phone Number

Backup Email Address

Full name of party filling in this form

Submitter's Phone Number

Submitter's Email Address

Date

If you have any questions, please contact Railinc Customer Service at 800-544-7245 or email CSC@railinc.com



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