

Summary Report for Individual Task  
551-88H-2306  
Conduct Rail Loading Operations  
Status: Approved

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**Distribution Restriction:** Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

**Destruction Notice:** None

**Foreign Disclosure: FD5** - This product/publication has been reviewed by the product developers in coordination with the Transportation School, Fort Lee, VA 23801 foreign disclosure authority.

This product is releasable to students from all requesting foreign countries without restrictions.

**Condition:** Assigned as a cargo checker in an operational environment, during day or night, in normal weather conditions, given a completed risk assessment, an Operation Order/Operation Plan, wheeled and tracked vehicles, railcars, load plan, bracing, blocking, and tie-down equipment, Association of American Railroads (AAR) Interchange Rules, TM 55-2200-001-12, and TC 4-13.17. This task should not be trained in MOPP 4.

**Standard:** Conduct rail loading operations without injury to personnel or damage to equipment.

**Special Condition:** None

**Safety Risk:** Medium

**MOPP 4:** Never

**Task Statements**

**Cue:** You are assigned as a Cargo Checker tasked with conducting Rail Loading Operations.

**DANGER**

None

**WARNING**

None

**CAUTION**

None

**Remarks:** None

**Notes:** None

### Performance Steps

1. Ensure vehicles arriving at the ramp are compared with the sequence given on the load plan.
2. Ensure spanners are secured in place in order to bridge the distance between rail cars.
3. Ensure that all vehicles are loaded from the rearmost car and moved forward to their assigned places.
4. Ensure that guides are stationed on the ramp and each side of the rail car near the spanners.  
Note: Direct guides not to walk backwards on the railcars.
5. Monitor flatcar that the vehicles are being driven onto.  
Note: Load all vehicles from the rearmost car and move them forward to the assigned position.
6. Ensure that vehicles are positioned in their allocated spaces on the railcar in accordance with the load plan.
7. Ensure that hand brakes are set on wheeled vehicles and levers are wired and blocked.  
Note: The hand brake will not be set on tracked vehicles, but levers will be wired or locked in the disengaged position.
8. Ensure personnel disconnect trailers, if required, and lower the landing legs on semi-trailers and support wheels on small trailers.
9. Verify that procedures employed in securing vehicles are in compliance with AAR Interchange Rules.
10. Ensure that lashings are not tightened completely until all blocks and chocks are nailed in place.
11. Ensure that all loads on railcars are within clearance limits.

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

**Evaluation Guidance:** Score the Soldier GO if all performance steps are passed (P). Score the Soldier NO-GO if any performance step is failed (F). If the Soldier fails any step, show what was done wrong and how to do it correctly.

**Evaluation Preparation:** Ensure that all materials required to perform the task are available. Tell the Soldier that he/she will be evaluated on conducting rail loading operations.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. Ensured vehicles arriving at the ramp were compared with the sequence given on the load plan.			
2. Ensured spanners were secured in place in order to bridge the distance between rail cars.			
3. Ensured that all vehicles were loaded from the rearmost car and moved forward to their assigned places.			
4. Ensured that guides were stationed on the ramp and each side of the rail car near the spanners.			
5. Monitored flatcar that the vehicles were being driven onto.			
6. Ensured that vehicles were positioned in their allocated spaces on the railcar in accordance with the load plan.			
7. Ensured that hand brakes were set on wheeled vehicles and levers were wired and blocked.			
8. Ensured personnel disconnected trailers, if required, and lowered the landing legs on semi-trailers and support wheels on small trailers.			
9. Verified that procedures employed in securing vehicles were in compliance with AAR Interchange Rules.			
10. Ensured that lashings were not tightened completely until all blocks and chocks were nailed in place.			
11. Ensured that all loads on railcars were within clearance limits.			

**Supporting Reference(s):**

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	AAR INTERCHANGE RULES	Association of American Railroads Interchange Rules	Yes	No
	TC 4-13.17	Cargo Specialist's Handbook	Yes	No
	TM 55-2200-001-12	TRANSPORTABILITY GUIDANCE FOR APPLICATION OF BLOCKING, BRACING AND TIEDOWN MATERIALS FOR RAIL TRANSPORT (REPRINTED W/BASIC INCL C1-4)	Yes	No

**Environment:** Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to FM 3-34.5 Environmental Considerations and GTA 05-08-002 ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED RISK ASSESSMENT.

AR 200-1 delineates TRADOC responsibilities to integrate environmental requirements across DOTMLPF and ensures all training procedures, training manuals, and training doctrine includes sound environmental practices and considerations. The Army's environmental vision is to be a national leader in environmental and natural resource stewardship for present and future generations as an integral part of all Army missions. Environmental protection is never completed. Continuously be alert to ways to protect our environment and reduce waste.

Leaders must ensure that their unit has an active and strong environmental program. They must understand the laws and know what actions to take. Leaders bring focus, direction, and commitment to environmental protection. Commanding officers should ensure the following environmental programs are in place and are being maintained:

- Hazardous materials program.
- Hazardous waste program.
- Hazardous communications program.
- Pollution prevention and hazardous waste minimization recycling program.
- Spill prevention and response plan program.

**Safety:** In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with ATP 5-19, Risk Management. Leaders will complete the current Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet in accordance with the TRADOC Safety Officer during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and

water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Protection, FM 3-11.5, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Decontamination.

All Soldiers and leaders must maintain a proactive posture towards safety in day-to-day operations. The need for total commitment to safety should be evident to commanders, senior Soldiers, and their subordinates. The importance of safety is intensified for personnel conducting Rail Loading operations. Safety awareness is most effective at three levels: command, leader, and individual. Observe all Warnings and Cautions and remain aware of the following:

- Hearing protection requirements.
- Danger of moving vehicles.
- Danger of blocking, bracing, and tie-down material.

All operations will be performed to protect and preserve Army personnel and property against accidental loss. Procedures will provide for public safety incidental to Army operations and activities and safe and healthful workplaces, procedures, and equipment. Observe all safety and/or environment precautions regarding electricity, cable, and lines. Provide ventilation for exhaust fumes during equipment operation and use hearing protection when required IAW AR 385-10, the Clean Air Act (CAA) and the CAA amendments, and the OSHA Hazard Communication standard.

Accidents are an unacceptable impediment to Army missions, readiness, morale, and resources. Decision makers at every level will employ risk management approaches to effectively preclude unacceptable risk to the safety of personnel and property affiliated with this task.

- (a) Take personal responsibility.
- (b) Practice safe operations.
- (c) Recognize unsafe acts and conditions.
- (d) Take action to prevent accidents.
- (e) Report unsafe acts and conditions.
- (f) Work as a team.

**Prerequisite Individual Tasks :** None

**Supporting Individual Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
551-88H-1305	Identify Dangerous Cargo for Rail Transport	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved
551-88H-1302	Load Vehicles on Flatcar	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved

**Supported Individual Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
551-88H-4301	Review Rail Plan for Loading/Unloading Cargo	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved
551-88H-2305	Compute Blocking and Bracing Materials Required for Rail Movement	551 - Transportation (Individual)	Approved

**Supported Collective Tasks :**

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
55-1-5004	Direct Railway Transportation Operations	55 - Transportation (Collective)	Approved
55-2-4814	Conduct Rail Unload Operations	55 - Transportation (Collective)	Approved
55-2-4802	Conduct Rail Load Operations	55 - Transportation (Collective)	Approved

**ICTL Data :**

ICTL Title	Personnel Type	MOS Data
MOS 88N - Transportation Management Coordinator SL3	Enlisted	MOS: 88N, Skill Level: SL3
MOS 88N - Transportation Management Coordinator SL 4	Enlisted	MOS: 88N, Skill Level: SL4
MOS 88N - Transportation Management Coordinator SL 1	Enlisted	MOS: 88N, Skill Level: SL1

MOS 88N - Transportation Management Coordinator SL2	Enlisted	MOS: 88N, Skill Level: SL2
MOS 88H - CARGO SPECIALIST SL2	Enlisted	MOS: 88H, Skill Level: SL2, Duty Pos: ABW
MOS 88H - CARGO SPECIALIST SL3	Enlisted	MOS: 88H, Skill Level: SL3, Duty Pos: TBA
MOS 88H - CARGO SPECIALIST SL4	Enlisted	MOS: 88H, Skill Level: SL4, Duty Pos: TGI