Federal Railroad Administration, DOT § 220.305

(3) A mandatory directive shall be copied in writing by the receiving employee in the format prescribed in the railroad’s operating rules.

(4) After the mandatory directive has been received and copied, it shall be immediately repeated in its entirety. After verifying the accuracy of the repeated mandatory directive, the train dispatcher or operator shall then state the time and name of the employee designated by the railroad who is authorized to issue mandatory directives. An employee copying a mandatory directive shall then acknowledge by repeating the time and name of the employee so designated by the railroad.

(5)(i) For train crews, before a mandatory directive is acted upon, the conductor and engineer shall each have a written copy of the mandatory directive and make certain that the mandatory directive is read and understood by all members of the crew who are responsible for the operation of the train. Mandatory directives which have been fulfilled or canceled shall be marked with an “X” or in accordance with the railroad’s operating rules, and retained for the duration of the train crew’s work assignment.

(ii) For on-track equipment, before a mandatory directive is acted upon, the employee responsible for on-track safety shall have a written copy of the mandatory directive, and make certain that the mandatory directive is acknowledged by all employees who are responsible for executing that mandatory directive. The employee responsible for on-track safety shall retain a copy of the mandatory directive while it is in effect.

(6) A mandatory directive which has not been completed or which does not comply with the requirements of the railroad’s operating rules and this part, may not be acted upon and shall be treated as though not sent. Information contained in a mandatory directive may not be acted upon by persons other than those to whom the mandatory directive is addressed.

Subpart C—Electronic Devices

§ 220.301 Purpose and application.

(a) The purpose of this subpart is to reduce safety risks resulting from railroad operating employees being distracted by the inappropriate use of electronic devices, such as mobile telephones (cell phones or cellular phones) and laptop computers.

(b) The applicability of this subpart is governed by §§220.3; this subpart, however, does not affect the use of working wireless communications pursuant to subparts A and B of this part.

(c) The restrictions of this subpart C do not apply—

1. To the working radio; or

2. When a working radio failure occurs and an electronic device is used in accordance with railroad rules.

§ 220.302 Operating rules implementing the requirements of this subpart.

Each railroad shall adopt operating rules that implement the requirements of this subpart.

§ 220.303 General use of electronic devices.

A railroad operating employee shall not use an electronic device if that use would interfere with the employee’s or another railroad operating employee’s performance of safety-related duties. No individual in the cab of a controlling locomotive shall use an electronic device if that use would interfere with a railroad operating employee’s performance of safety-related duties.

§ 220.305 Use of personal electronic devices.

A railroad operating employee must have each personal electronic device turned off with any earpiece removed from the ear—

(a) When on a moving train;

(b) When any member of the crew is—

1. On the ground, or

2. Riding rolling equipment during a switching operation; or

(c) When any railroad employee is assisting in preparation of the train for movement.

Effective Date Note: At 75 FR 59602, Sept. 27, 2010, subpart C was added, effective March 28, 2011.