

A.R.E.S. Safety Around Trains and Rails

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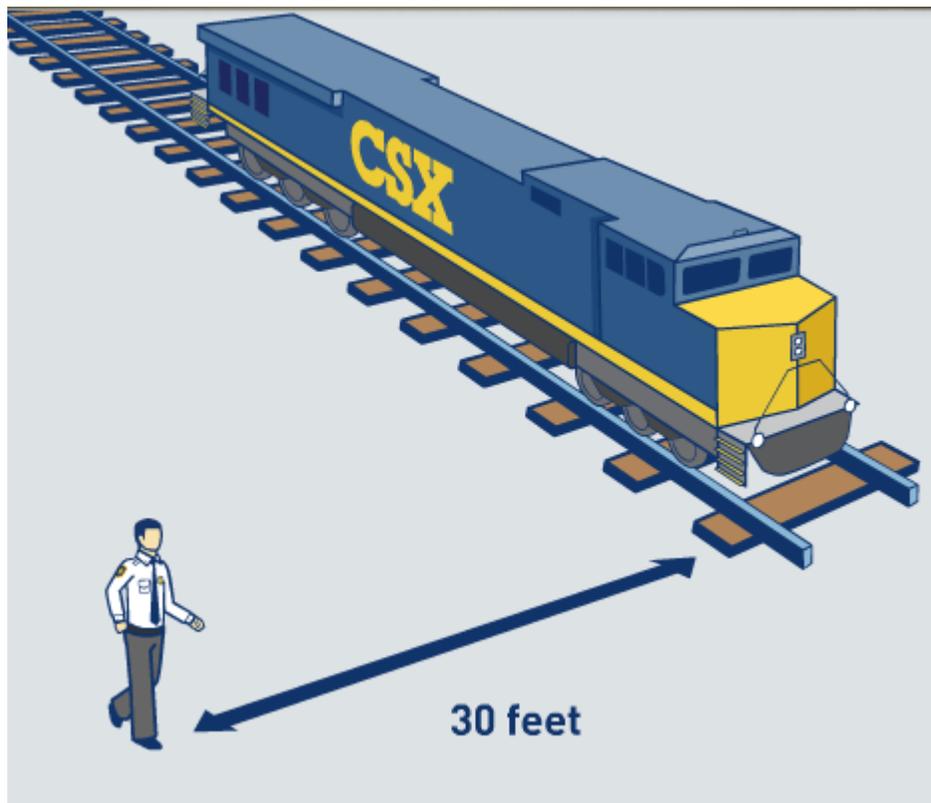
Call sign: KE6FF

As regular citizens, we are constantly surrounded by transportation vehicles of various types. As A.R.E.S. / R.A.C.E.S members deployed out, we encounter numerous vehicle types in emergency and disaster situations. This training file is intended to make our folks a bit more aware of some of the dangers present around some of the vehicles that could be encountered.

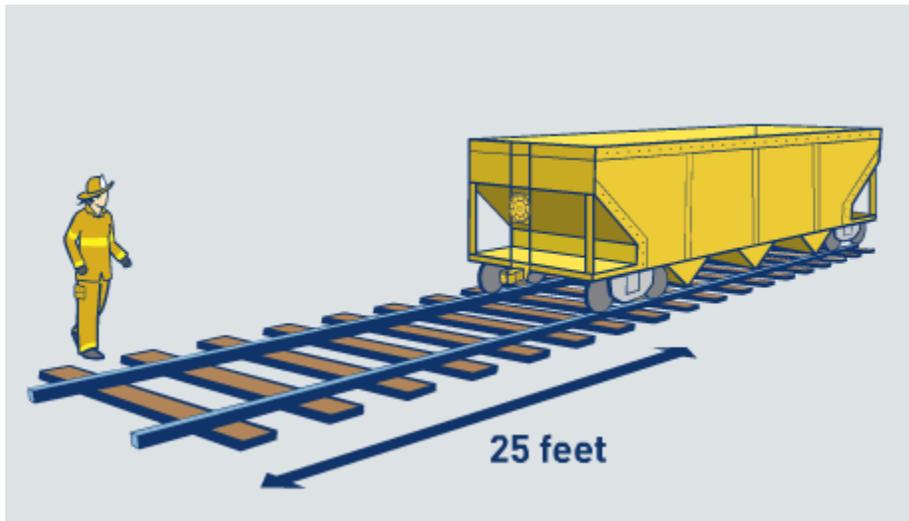
Trains can travel at all times of the day and night and often make little noise as they approach. Never walk between the rails.

The area around the tracks can be very uneven, and rocks or other debris can be a tripping hazard. Watch your step and never step or stand on the rails.

Keep a safe distance of at least 30 feet from passing equipment.



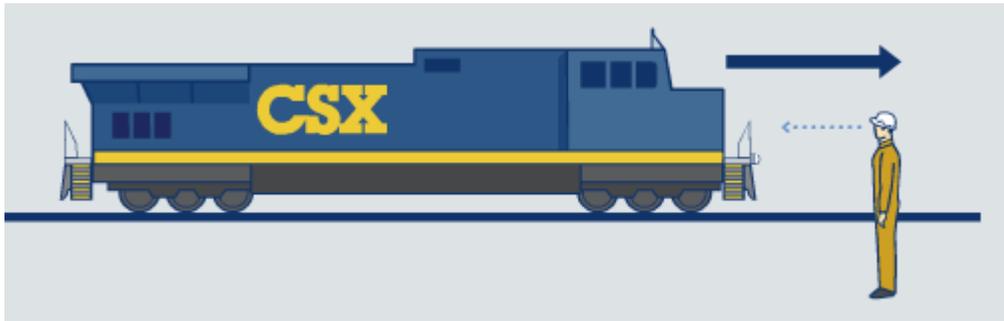
When you must cross the tracks, make sure you leave at least 25 feet between you and any standing railcar.



Even in an area with little train traffic, consider the rails to be active at all times. Look in both directions before stepping across or getting close to the tracks, and never place anything on the tracks unless it is absolutely critical to the task.



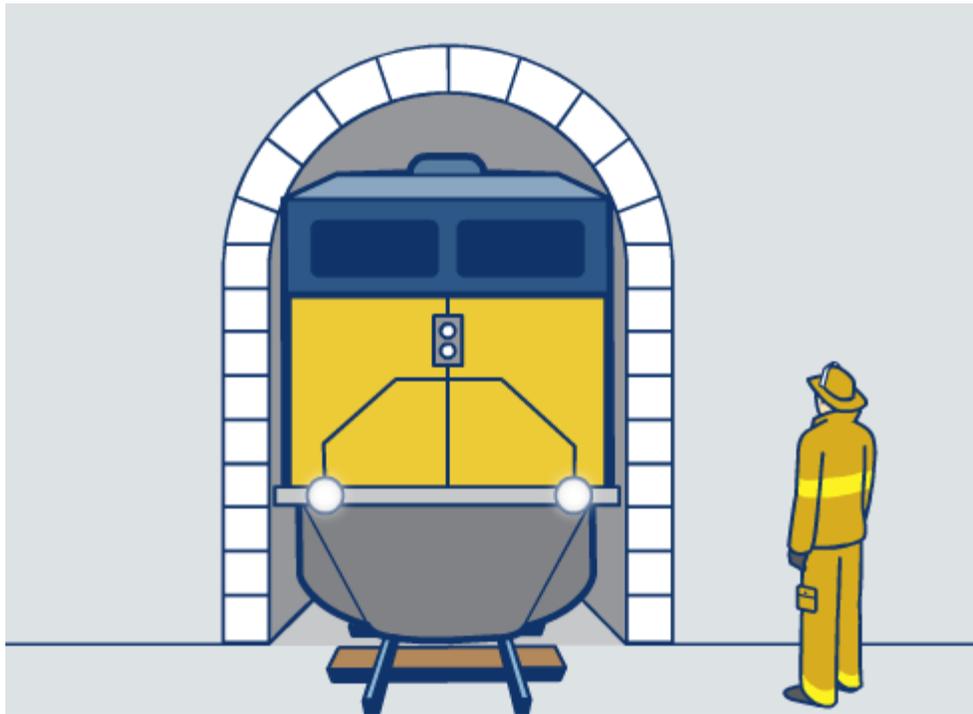
Always face the oncoming direction of train travel, and understand that a train can move at any time. So, never crawl through, under, or cross over a standing train without assurance the train has been secured.



Never climb onto a railroad bridge without assurance from a railroad representative that train traffic is stopped.



Never enter a railroad tunnel without assurance from a railroad representative that train traffic is stopped.



Your safety at any rail yard or crossing depends on your ability to understand how the equipment works and the dangers it poses, along with having the appropriate protective gear.

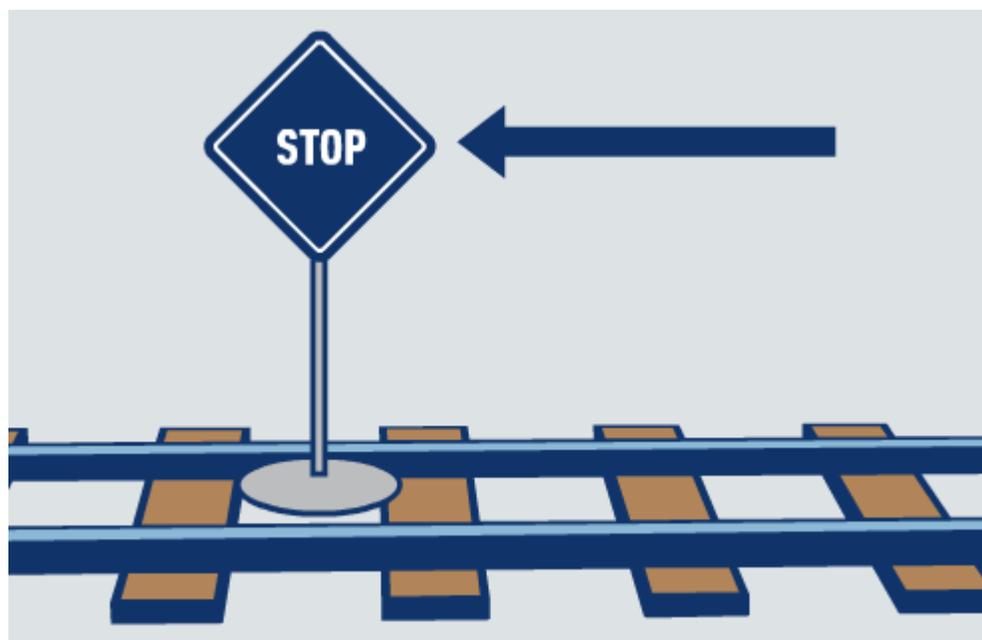


When responding to an incident on the rails, the minimum required equipment consists of head and eye protection and appropriate protective footwear at all times.

Be aware of electrical hazards in or around locomotives, and make sure the hand brake is set and the wheels are chocked before working on or around any railcar.



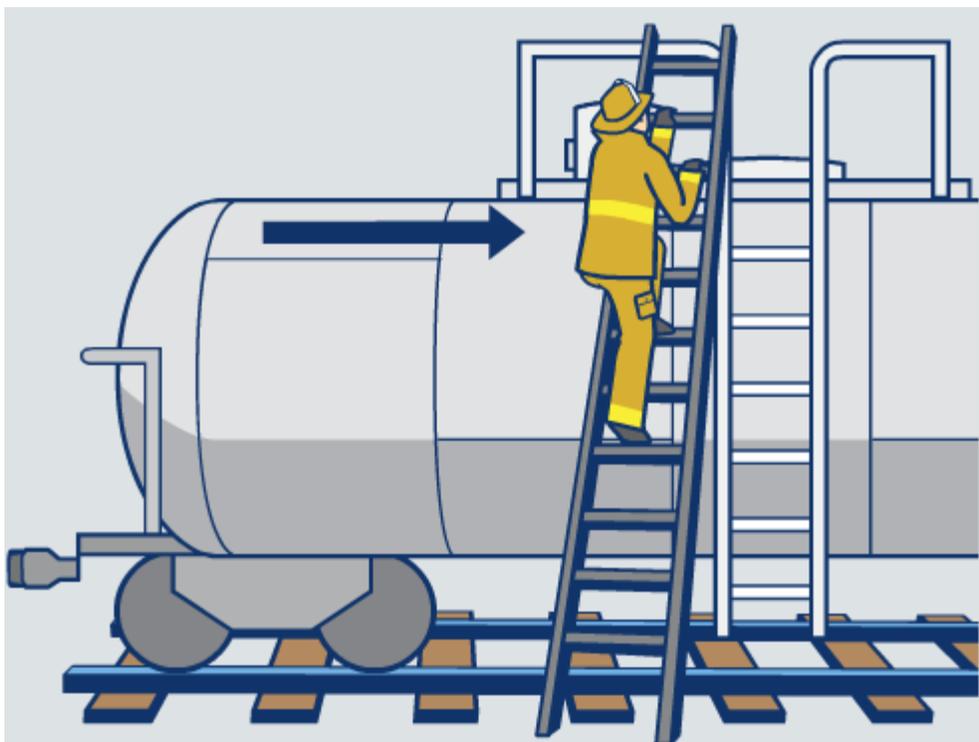
Make sure blue flags – which act as stop signs on the rails – are in place and switches are locked before climbing on equipment in a rail yard.



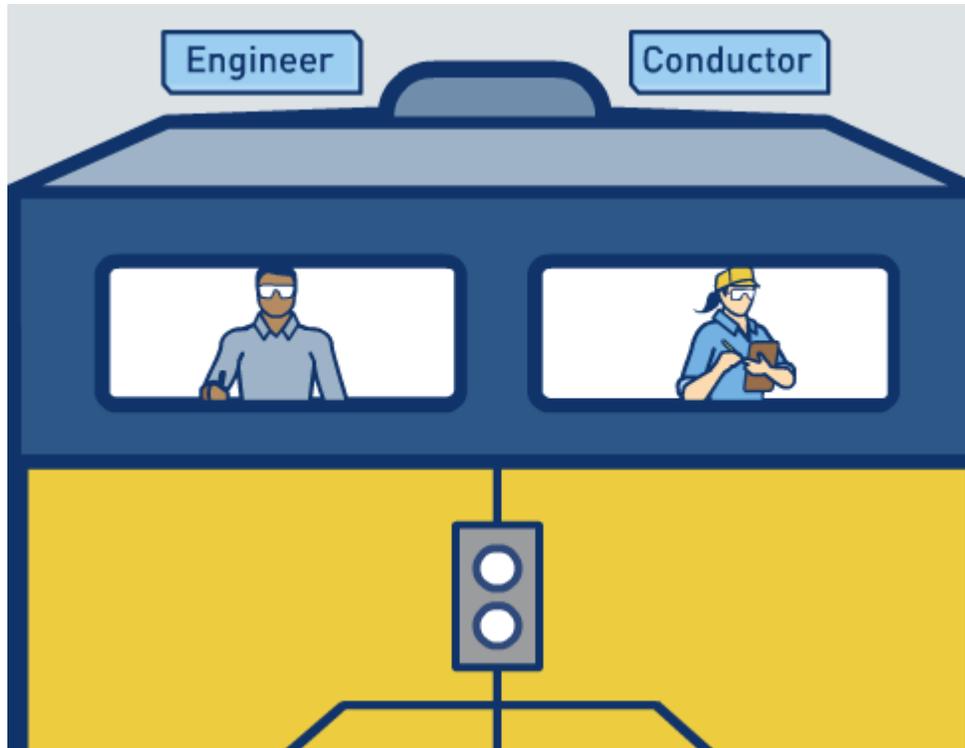
If you must open a boxcar or container door, know the direction the door is intended to open before attempting to move it. And, guard against the door coming off and the cargo falling out so no one is injured.



When climbing onto railcars, use safety handles and platforms. Never stand on, step over, or cross the center sill or coupler and never jump off a railcar. Remember to use your own ladder to access the top of any railcar, especially if wearing protective equipment.

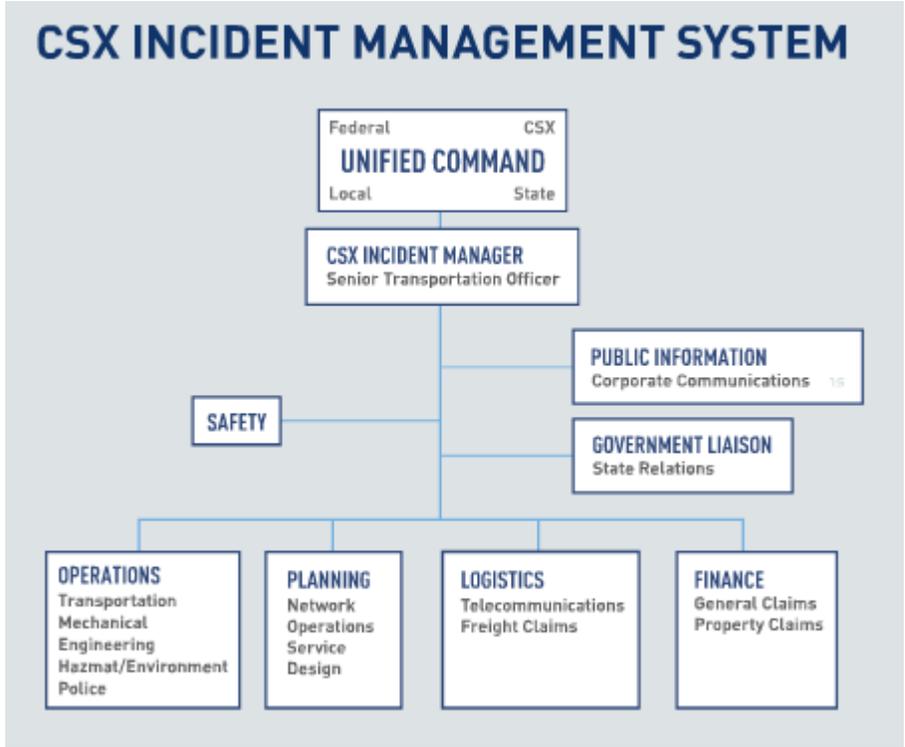


Your knowledge of railroad personnel can also help you in an emergency. Most trains operate with a crew of two key people: an engineer and a conductor. The engineer controls all train movements, and the conductor manages the train switching procedures and is responsible for maintaining the shipping papers for the train.



The Transportation Department manages the movement of railcars and trains, and transportation managers, called trainmasters, respond to and assist in managing rail incidents.

A rail incident brings together trained professionals from a variety of disciplines and organizations. CSX recommends a Unified Command Structure, where the CSX Senior Transportation Officer assumes the role of CSX Incident Manager and works within your Unified Command Structure. (SEE BELOW)



The train conductor maintains the CSX train documents, or Consist, which detail the contents of each railcar in the train.

Your ability to plan ahead by becoming familiar with the rails in your area, assessing the situation, detecting any hazardous materials and contacting the right railroad personnel will help mitigate risk and speed the response to an incident. The better you know the rail facilities in your area, the better prepared you will be in case of an emergency.

Each crossing poses different risks and challenges in the case of emergencies, so locate the crossings in your jurisdiction.

You can identify each crossing in your area by contacting the U.S. Department of Transportation.

CSX
 TO REPORT STALLED VEHICLE BLOCKING
 CROSSING OR OTHER EMERGENCY
 CALL 1-800-232-0144



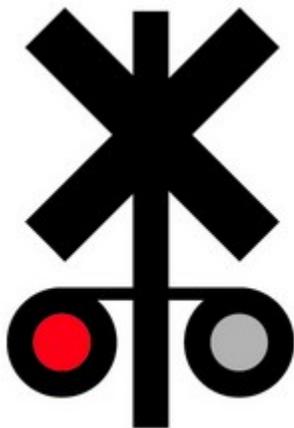
For more information on pre-planning
for rail emergencies, contact us at

TELLCSX@CSX.COM
or call **1-877-TELL-CSX**

To help determine the presence of hazardous
material at an incident, call the number below.

**CSX PUBLIC SAFETY
COORDINATION CENTER**
at **1-800-232-0144**

<http://www.csxsafe.com/>



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Trains are very important for transporting people and cargo around the United States.

Always obey all safety rules around trains. Be smart. Be safe!!! 73