

PERSONAL SAFETY

As a railroad employee have you ever asked yourself these questions?

- “Who is responsible for my safety or that of my coworkers?”
- “Why does the General Code of Operating Rules begin with the rules listed below, and what is their importance to me personally?”

1.1 Safety

Safety is the most important element in performing duties. Obeying the rules is essential to job safety and continued employment.

1.1.1 Maintaining a Safe Course

In case of doubt or uncertainty, take the safe course.

1.1.2 Alert and Attentive

Employees must be careful to prevent injuring themselves or others. They must be alert and attentive when performing their duties and plan their work to avoid injury.

1.1.3 Accidents, Injuries, and Defects

Report by the first means of communication any accidents; personal injuries; defects in tracks, bridges, or signals; or any unusual condition that may affect the safe and efficient operation of the railroad. Where required, furnish a written report promptly after reporting the incident.

1.1.4 Condition of Equipment and Tools

Employees must check the condition of equipment and tools they use to perform their duties. Employees must not use defective equipment or tools until they are safe to use. Employees must report any defects to the proper authority.

A thorough discussion between management/employee and employee/employee involving the questions and rules stated above could help each to better understand their personal responsibilities where safety is concerned.

During these discussions, each employee is encouraged to seek an answer to the age-old question that many ponder when discussing safety: “What’s in it for me?”