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**Transportation
Security
Administration**

FREIGHT RAIL

COUNTERTERRORISM GUIDE



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INTRODUCTION

The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) encourages, and railroad companies promote, proactive efforts for effective employee security training. This guide is part of that effort. These initiatives are often driven by insights derived through analyses and security guidance on terrorist attacks, failed attempts and disrupted plots, as well as on significant security concerns reported by railroad employees. Training and awareness initiatives are augmented through industry initiatives such as the security messages and advisories produced and disseminated by the Railway Alert Network (RAN). Security plans are tested and stressed through security exercises.

TSA and the railroad industry have made substantial progress on priorities for analyses of terrorist-related threats and information sharing, both classified and unclassified. There are efforts devoted to evaluation of reports by railroad employees. TSA and the railroad industry have systems for reporting threats and significant security concerns that assure immediate awareness among security and law enforcement professionals with freight and passenger railroads in the U.S. and Canada, and that enable evaluation for trends, patterns, indicators and security awareness training value. The starting point is almost always a railroad employee observing something suspicious and reporting appropriately (See Something, Say Something™).

These collective efforts enable a proactive approach in security and critical infrastructure protection to:

- Reduce risk through preparedness.
- Implement an effective security posture based on prevailing threats.
- Maintain continuous awareness of threats and security-related incidents.
- Adjust alert level and protective measures as threats and incidents warrant.
- Respond in a coordinated manner to mitigate potential consequences should an incident impacting railroads occur.

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INTRO

TSA has produced this guide to assist railroad employees in maintaining an awareness of potential threats and signs of suspicious acts, as railroad and other transportation industry professionals play a critical role in the nation's counterterrorism efforts.

TSA encourages you to refer to this guide and your company's policy and procedures frequently. Know what to do if you observe suspicious activity.

Note that the recommendations in this guide concerning the reporting by railroad employees to their employers about threats and significant security concerns are not intended to alter or conflict with the requirement in 49 CFR §1580.105 that freight railroad carriers must report significant security concerns to DHS/TSA.

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WHAT IS TERRORISM?

The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) defines terrorism as a "premeditated threat or act of violence against noncombatant persons, property and environmental or economic targets to induce fear or to intimidate, coerce or affect a government, the civilian population, or any segment thereof, in furtherance of political, social, ideological or religious objectives."

Terrorists often use threats to create fear among the public, to try to convince citizens that their government is powerless to prevent terrorism and to get immediate publicity for their causes.

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WHAT IS TERRORISM? (CONT'D)

Most terrorist incidents involve small, compartmentalized extremists. Terrorist cells can blend into a community and remain dormant for extended periods of time. Local, state and federal law enforcement officials all work together to prevent or protect against potential attacks but face the difficult challenge of identifying these small cells.

A terrorist attack can take several forms, depending on the resources available to the cell, the nature of the political issue motivating the attack and the points of weakness of the terrorists' target.

YOUR INDUSTRY

The American freight rail industry is a major component of the nation's transportation sector. With a network of nearly 140,000 miles of track in operation, the freight rail industry efficiently moves approximately 40% of the nation's intercity freight. This network by its very nature is open, traversing everything from wilderness areas to dense urban centers.

The purpose of this guide is to provide you with a ready reference for maintaining your awareness both on and off the job. It is your awareness that will help detect key indicators of possible terrorist activities targeting your industry.

These indicators range from surveillance and dry runs (to test responses by railroad employees and first responders) to actual acts of tampering or sabotage. These indicators could be linked to railroad operations, equipment or infrastructure.

As the first line of defense, you play a key role in enhancing the security of freight rail by integrating security awareness into your daily routine and reporting what you observe.

TSA'S MISSION

TSA protects the nation's transportation systems to ensure freedom of movement for people and commerce.

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TARGETS

Terrorist groups have demonstrated the ability to plan and execute complex attacks simultaneously against multiple targets.

Terrorists have used assault teams equipped with small arms, vehicle-borne improvised explosive devices (VBIEDs) and suicide bombers against a variety of hard (protected) and soft (unprotected) targets.

In the freight rail environment, these targets could include the following:

- Hazardous materials cars
- Rail infrastructure, including but not limited to bridges, tunnels, switches and signal equipment
- Locations where the railroad operates close to critical infrastructure such as power plants, refineries, petroleum storage facilities, dams, or government or military facilities
- Places where the railroad operates close to facilities that host large crowds such as stadiums and arenas, shopping malls, schools, convention centers and large hotels



Terrorists are opportunistic. They exploit vulnerabilities, choosing the time, place and method of attack according to the weaknesses they observe or perceive.

REMEMBER: **IF IT DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT, IT PROBABLY ISN'T.**

Notify the proper authority per your company's operating rules or security plan.

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TACTICS

International terrorist organizations and homegrown violent extremists have demonstrated a variety of tactics in attacks perpetrated around the world and in the homeland. Some examples of these tactics:

- Active shooter (armed assault)
- Explosive devices
- Sabotage
- Suspicious packages
- Suspicious people and activities
- Insider threat
- Vehicle theft

For information about these tactics, flip to the “Types of Incidents” tab, page 11.

THREATS TO RAIL

While the terrorist threat to freight rail in the U.S. is low when compared to some other modes of transportation, past events here and around the world illustrate that terrorists have planned and attempted attacks on railroads.

Terrorists and homegrown violent extremists have proven that they will use a variety of methods to deliver their attacks, with rail as a target of opportunity, as seen in the 2004 Madrid, Spain, attack that claimed the lives of 191 people and injured 1,400.

In 2014, there were a number of terrorist attacks on both freight and passenger railroads in India and Pakistan. Notable events in 2014 include the following:

- An explosive device detonated on a track as a Pakistan Railways Bugti Express train was passing by in Mastung district, Balochistan province, Pakistan. At least 12 people were injured in the blast.

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7 THREATS

TACTICS

- Assaultants detonated an explosive device on tracks near Hensala village, Jharkhand state, India. A train was derailed as a result of the blast. Also, the conductor and an assistant were injured while being held hostage.
- An explosive device detonated on a track near Chhapra town, Bihar state, India. A New Delhi-Dibrugarh Rajdhani Express train was derailed in the blast, which killed at least four people and injured 13 others.
- An explosive device detonated on railroad tracks in Thul town, Sindh province, Pakistan. The explosion caused two coaches of the Khushhal Khan Khattak Express train to derail, killing at least five people and wounding at least 30 others.

The TSA Office of Intelligence and Analysis prepares assessments of threats to transportation each year. These assessments are provided to railroad security coordinators to assist them in their planning and security training.



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PRE-INCIDENT INDICATORS

The following pre-incident indicators can alert you and the authorities to a potential terrorist attack when properly reported. It is important to understand that the presence of one or two indicators does not presume terrorist activity, but the presence of several indicators should arouse suspicion and should be reported immediately to the proper authorities.

Eight Signs of Terrorism

1. Surveillance	5. Acquiring Supplies
2. Elicitation	6. Impersonation
3. Tests of Security	7. Rehearsal
4. Funding	8. Deployment

1. **Surveillance** of a potential target to determine:

- Its strengths and weaknesses
- How well it is protected
- What security measures are in place
- Emergency/law enforcement response patterns and times

Suspicious surveillance activity may include the following:

- Recording or monitoring activities
- Drawing diagrams, making notes or taking photographs
- Using vision enhancement equipment
- Acquiring blueprints/floor plans
- Showing interest in security and access points to facilities

2. **Elicitation:** Attempts to gain information about operations and security from people or organizations:

- By mail, email, phone and/or in person
- By gaining employment to monitor day-to-day activities

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INDICATORS

PRE-
INCIDENT
INDICA-
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3. Tests of Security: Testing security procedures and response times, for example:

- Leaving unattended bags or suspicious items in potential target areas to test how long it takes for people/security to respond
- Trespassing into restricted areas to test security
- Possible use of bomb threats or false alarms to test response and timing

4. Funding: Not only do terrorists need to raise money to fund their operations, they need to transfer and spend it in a way that does not draw attention. Typical crimes for funding may include but are not limited to the following:

- Drug and human trafficking
- Burglary/theft
- Selling of illegal merchandise
- Funneling money from charitable organizations and legitimate businesses

Signs to watch out for:

- An unusually large transaction paid for with cash or gift cards
- Donations to unknown charities

5. Acquiring Supplies: To carry out an attack, terrorists may acquire a variety of supplies legally or illegally. Examples of supplies:

- Weapons
- Transportation
- Communications systems
- Abnormal amounts of chemical precursors such as acids

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5. Acquiring Supplies (Cont'd)

Suspicious activities that should be reported include the following:

- Suspicious vehicles in strange or restricted areas
- Buying abnormal amounts of chemical precursors (acids)
- Storage of large quantities of fertilizer, unknown chemical liquids, or machinery or supplies that could be weaponized
- Fraudulent IDs, passports or credentials
- Stealing or attempts to acquire uniforms in nonconventional ways

6. Impersonation: Terrorists may impersonate law enforcement, mail carriers, utility workers or company employees to gain information. Other signs to look for:

- Individuals who do not belong or who look out of place
- Suspicious actions
- Suspicious conversations

7. Rehearsal: Terrorists will sometimes rehearse an impending attack to ensure their operations run smoothly. This may include the following:

- Putting their operatives into position
- Monitoring police or first responder radio channels
- Dry runs using simulated improvised explosive device (IED) components
- Measuring emergency response times of area police and firefighters

8. Deployment: The phase in which terrorists are:

- Arranging their assets
- Getting into position
- In the midst of an attack

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TYPES OF INCIDENTS

ACTIVE SHOOTER EVENTS

An active shooter is an individual who is engaged in killing or attempting to kill people in a confined and populated area. In most cases, active shooters use firearms and there is no pattern or method to their selection of victims.

- Victims are selected at random.
- The event is unpredictable and evolves quickly.
- Knowing what to do can save lives.

When an active shooter is in your vicinity, you must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with the situation. The following are instructions from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). You have three options:



RUN

- Have an escape route and a plan in mind.
- Leave your belongings behind.
- Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow.
- Help others escape if possible.
- Do not attempt to move the wounded.
- Prevent others from entering an area where the active shooter may be.
- Keep your hands visible.
- Call **911** when you are safe.



HIDE

- Hide in an area out of the shooter's view.
- Lock the door or block entry to your hiding place.
- Silence your cell phone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet.

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FIGHT

- Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger.
- Attempt to incapacitate the shooter.
- Act with as much physical aggression as possible.
- Improvise weapons or throw items at the shooter.
- Commit to your actions – your life depends on it.

The first officers to arrive on scene will not stop to help the injured. Expect rescue teams to follow the initial officers. These rescue teams will treat and remove the injured.

Once you have reached a safe location, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control and all witnesses have been identified and questioned. Do not leave the area until law enforcement authorities have instructed you to do so.

When law enforcement arrives:

- Remain calm and follow instructions.
- Drop any items in your hands (e.g., bags, jackets).
- Raise your hands and spread your fingers.
- Keep your hands visible at all times.
- Avoid quick movements toward the officers, such as holding on to them for safety.
- Avoid pointing, screaming or yelling.
- Do not ask questions when evacuating.

Source: DHS Active Shooter Event Quick Reference Guide

INFORMATION TO PROVIDE TO 911 OPERATIONS

- Location of the active shooter
- Number of shooters
- Physical description of the shooter(s)
- Number and type of weapons each shooter has
- Number of potential victims at the location

ACTIVE SHOOTER

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IEDS

TYPES OF
INCIDENTS

EXPLOSIVE DEVICES

There are many types of explosive devices, both improvised and commercially manufactured. Whether the device is improvised or stolen, your awareness is the first line of defense.

Improvised Explosive Devices (IEDs)

An IED attack is the use of a “homemade” bomb and/or destructive device to destroy, incapacitate, harass or distract. IEDs are used by criminals, vandals, terrorists, suicide bombers and insurgents.

- Be cautious of any item that makes you suspicious. If you suspect an item may be an explosive, look but don't touch, and notify the proper authorities.
- Do not activate radios or cell phones within 300 feet (five car lengths) of the device.
- If a suspect item is identified, evacuate to a minimum safe distance of 300 feet (five car lengths) unless the threat is clearly a large vehicle bomb (LVB), and then evacuate all people as far away as is practical.
- Follow your company's reporting and response procedures or notify **911** immediately.
- Keep in mind the components required for an IED and make note of any of those that are present upon initial observation (from a safe distance):
 - Power source (e.g., battery or similar device)
 - Detonator (e.g., blasting cap)
 - Trigger or switch
 - Main charge (e.g., TNT or triacetone triperoxide [TATP])
- Beware of items that appear out of place as compared to their normal or intended use (e.g., cell phones, circuit boards or antennas on railcars or on track structure).

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IEDs (Cont'd)

- IEDs can include commercial explosive components such as blasting caps, fuses, detonating cord or military munitions.
- Beware of items with components such as fuses, fireworks, match heads, black or smokeless powder, or other unusual materials or liquids.
- Be aware that items such as nails, bolts or ball bearings may be added to cause additional damage.



Example of an IED (pipe bomb)

Vehicle-Borne Improvised Explosive Devices (VBIEDs)

Vehicle bombs are a common terrorist method of attack. Prior to September 11, 2001, the two most destructive terrorist attacks carried out on U.S. soil involved large truck VBIEDs (World Trade Center and Oklahoma City). Attacks overseas have included the use of an accelerant (e.g., gasoline, propane) to increase the destructive effects of VBIEDs.

Some potential indicators of VBIEDs:

- Trucks (rental, delivery, utility), taxicabs or other vehicles parked in unusual locations such as on or close to the railroad right-of-way

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VBIEDS

TYPES OF
INCIDENTS

- Unfamiliar vehicles in unusual locations (e.g., delivery van away from the yard office or shop buildings)
- A driver who operates a vehicle in an erratic manner or attempts to abandon the vehicle and flee when approached
- A vehicle that appears to be overloaded (e.g., cargo body sitting low or leaning)
- Smoke or strong chemical or fuel odors emanating from a vehicle
- Attempts to gain access to restricted areas or to park closer than usual to buildings, bulk storage sites or infrastructure locations such as bridges or tunnels



Be wary of vehicles parked in unusual locations.

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BOMB THREAT DISTANCES

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THREAT DESCRIPTION		Explosives Capacity	Mandatory Evacuation Distance	Shelter-in-Place Zone	Preferred Evacuation Distance
	Pipe Bomb	5 lbs	70 ft	71-1,199 ft	+1,200 ft
	Suicide Vest	20 lbs	110 ft	111-1,699 ft	+1,700 ft
	Briefcase/Suitcase	50 lbs	150 ft	151-1,849 ft	+1,850 ft
	Car	500 lbs	320 ft	321-1,899 ft	+1,900 ft
	SUV/Van	1,000 lbs	400 ft	401-2,399 ft	+2,400 ft
	Small Delivery Truck	4,000 lbs	640 ft	641-3,799 ft	+3,800 ft
	Container/Water Truck	10,000 lbs	860 ft	861-5,099 ft	+5,100 ft
	Semi-Trailer	60,000 lbs	1,570 ft	1,571-9,299 ft	+9,300 ft



BOMB THREAT STAND-OFF CARD



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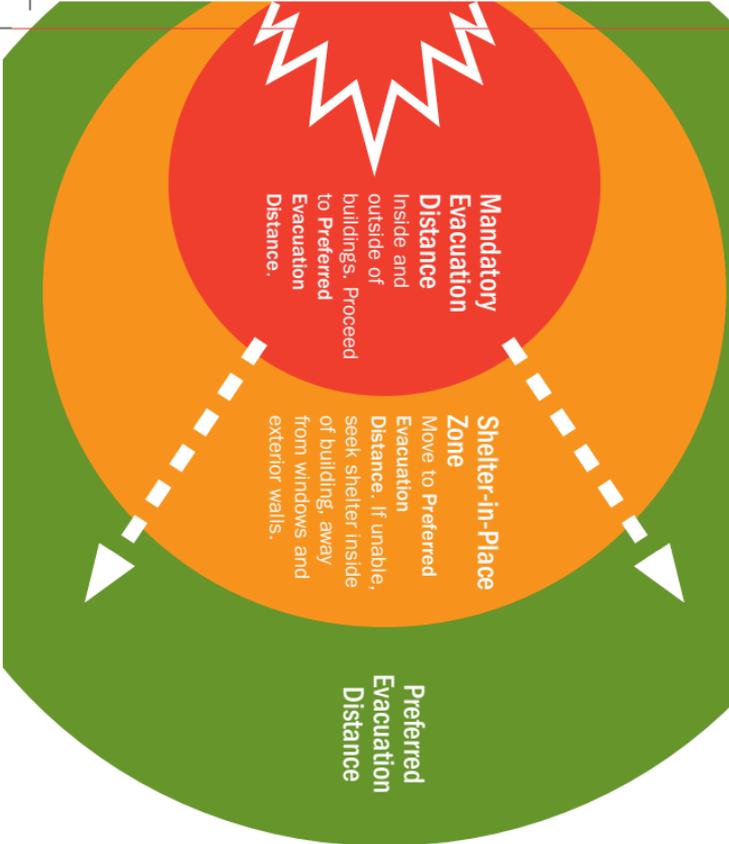
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EVACUATION

TYPES OF INCIDENTS



CAUTION!

- Do not touch suspicious item.
- Notify proper authorities. **Call 911.**
- Ensure all witnesses are available to brief first responders.
- Recommended stand-off data should be used in conjunction with your emergency evacuation plan.

Sources: Department of Homeland Security, Office for Bombing Prevention, Arlington, VA; FBI, Bomb Data Center, Quantico, VA; Technical Support Working Group, Arlington, VA

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SABOTAGE

Railroad infrastructure and equipment can be the target of sabotage. Sabotage can be either mechanical (cutting, removing, loosening) or explosive (placing IEDs).

Examples of sabotage include the following:

- Removing track joint bars
- Loosening spikes
- Cutting rails
- Placing IEDs on tracks, railcars or locomotive fuel tanks

Potential targets of sabotage:

- Track components
- Switches, including switch points, stands and targets
- Communication and signal equipment, including bungalows, cables and signal masts or signal bridges
- Locomotives and railcars

What to Look For

1. Signs of tampering, such as:

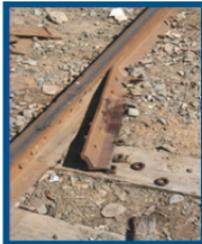
- Loosened bolts
- Damaged track components
- Cut or gapped rails
- Cut or severed cables
- Broken locks

2. Suspicious objects, such as:

- Items placed within the gage of the track or on the head of the rail
- Abandoned or left-behind tools
- Wires
- Objects taped or fixed to railroad equipment
- Objects that are out of place or don't belong where you see them

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REMEMBER: **IF IT DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT, IT PROBABLY ISN'T.**

Notify the proper authority per your company's operating rules or security plan.

SUSPICIOUS PACKAGES

Avoid touching any suspicious packages or objects.

Suspicious packages could be observed in office settings, mail rooms, storerooms and yard offices. Characteristics of suspicious packages:

- **Inappropriate or unusual labeling:** excessive postage; handwritten or poorly typed addresses; misspellings of common words; missing or strange return address; incorrect title or title without a name; not addressed to a specific person; marked with restrictions (personal, confidential, do not X-ray, etc.); marked with threatening language; postmarked from a city or state that does not match the return address

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SABOTAGE / PACKAGES

TYPES OF
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Characteristics of suspicious packages (Cont'd)

- **Appearance:** powdery substance felt through or appearing on the package or envelope; oily stains, discolorations or odor; lopsided or uneven envelope; excessive packaging material such as masking tape, string, etc.
- **Other suspicious signs:** excessive weight, ticking sound, protruding wires or aluminum foil

When suspicious packages or envelopes are found:

- Do not touch, move or change the orientation of the package, and notify law enforcement or security personnel.
- Alert others in the area about the suspicious package or envelope. Leave the area, close any doors and take actions to prevent others from entering the area. If possible, shut off the ventilation system.
- Wash hands with soap and water to prevent spreading any potential contamination. Seek additional instructions from emergency response personnel upon their arrival at the scene.
- Notify authorities of the need to investigate; provide as many observational details as possible to help them prepare their response.

SUSPICIOUS PEOPLE AND ACTIVITIES

Be alert for people in the wrong place or wandering aimlessly around company property. Remember that terrorists typically survey and observe their targets when planning an attack. Be wary of individuals expressing an unusual level of interest in railroad operations.

Surveillance is one of the eight basic signs of terrorism. Adversaries are known to “case” potential targets, looking for vulnerabilities to exploit.

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A suspicious person is someone who is:

- In an unauthorized area.
- In the wrong place or appears lost.
- Overdressed for the weather conditions.
- Pacing, nervous or jumpy.
- A repair, utility or delivery person or other “trusted employee” who is out of place.
- Expressing an unusual level of interest in operations, personnel, equipment or facilities.
- On railroad property without proper identification or safety gear.

What to Do About a Suspicious Person

- When approaching a suspicious person in a restricted area, calmly ask if you can help.
- Request identification; ask what the person’s business is or whom he or she is there to see.
- Avoid approaching people who are threatening or dangerous.
 - Do not become confrontational, abusive or offensive.
 - Do not try to detain or hold a person by any means.
- If you have observed an unfamiliar person in a restricted or unauthorized area or engaged in suspicious activity, check the areas in which they were seen for signs of tampering or suspicious packages, devices or substances.
 - Try to keep the person in sight at all times and observe and report his or her location, activity, behavior and physical characteristics.

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Physical Characteristics

When you observe a suspicious person, based upon his or her location and/or activity, you should take note of the person's physical description.

Details about the following characteristics will help law enforcement officers identify the person should he or she leave the area.

- **Eyes:** color, glasses
- **Hair/facial hair:** color, length, style, clean-shaven/beard/mustache
- **Size/body shape:** height, weight, build
- **Complexion:** skin color, acne, rashes
- **Markings:** tattoos, scars, birthmarks
- **Hat:** color, style
- **Shirt/blouse:** color, style, sleeves, collar
- **Coat:** color, style, length
- **Pants/skirts/shorts:** color, style
- **Shoes:** color, style
- **Appearance:** neat/sloppy, clean/dirty
- **Accessories:** bags, backpack, purse, briefcase

INSIDER THREAT

Not all threats are external. Any one of your coworkers could decide that the only way change can occur is if something bad happens. There are many reasons why people might want to harm themselves, others or their employer.

There are indicators that can be warning signs that an individual may be considering harmful acts. Alerting the appropriate authority (a supervisor) that the individual is in need of assistance is a prudent action. Early reporting often allows for intervention and the prevention of harm to the employee and others.

The following list contains examples of behaviors that may signal an individual's willingness to divulge company sensitive information, commit sabotage or otherwise cause harm.

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VEHICLE THEFT

- Alcohol or other substance abuse or dependence
- Mental health issues
- Extreme, persistent interpersonal difficulties
- Hostile or vindictive behavior
- Criminal behavior
- Poor financial conduct or unexplained or sudden affluence
- Unusual foreign travel, contacts or relationships
- Inappropriate, unusual or excessive interest in security sensitive information
- Mishandling of business sensitive or proprietary information (train documents)
- Misuse of company computers

Consult your company's guidelines for reporting potentially dangerous behavior, or contact your supervisor.

VEHICLE THEFT PREVENTION

Theft of company vehicles may be a precursor of terrorist or other illegal activities.

Suggested practices to prevent vehicle theft:

- Use high-quality padlocks and/or seals to protect cargo and company equipment.
- Never pick up hitchhikers.
- Follow a "no unnecessary stop" policy.
- Park in secure areas with ample lighting.
- Carry a 24-hour emergency telephone number at all times.
- Keep the vehicle, license plate and vehicle identification number (VIN) with you at all times for the vehicle you are operating. They will be critical for law enforcement if the vehicle is stolen.

TYPES OF
INCIDENTS

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Hazardous Material Shipments

Pay special attention to hazardous material shipments, particularly those classified as Rail Security Sensitive Materials (RSSM).

RSSM commodities are as follows:

- More than 5,000 lbs (2,268 kg) of Division 1.1, 1.2 or 1.3 Explosive Materials on a single railcar
- Tank cars containing poisonous by inhalation (PIH)/toxic by inhalation (TIH) materials
- Highway route controlled quantities (HRCQ) of Class 7 Radioactive Materials

The TSA Rail Security Rule (49 CFR Part 1580) has provisions regarding these shipments, requiring the maintenance of a “chain of custody” for shipments of RSSM. Your awareness and attention to cars containing RSSM can help to prevent unauthorized people from gaining access to these shipments.



DOMAIN AWARENESS

Your awareness about security reduces the risk both you and your company face from terrorists intent on attacking. It is important to understand your company's security policies and your part in making them work.

Should you see anything suspicious, notify the appropriate authority per your company's operating rules/security plan.

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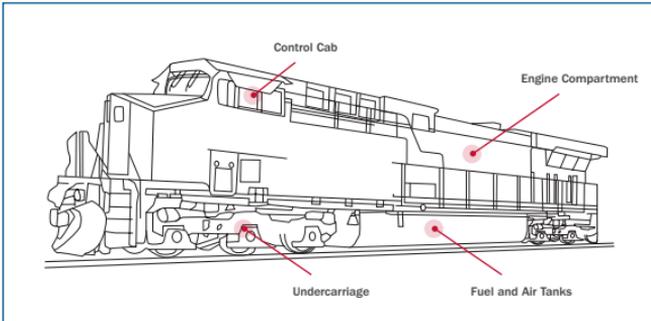
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FREIGHT RAIL ROLLING STOCK PRE-TRIP INSPECTION

A focus on security should be part of your pre-trip inspection process. Look for the following signs.

LOCOMOTIVE INSPECTION



General Indicators

- Anything unusual in factory-built compartments or spaces
- New or shiny bolts or screws
- Signs of tampering or unusual scratches
- New or broken welds
- Leaks from unidentified sources

Exterior Fittings and Fuel or Air Tanks

- Fresh bodywork; metalwork modified in front, rear or side
- Lights not working
- Inconsistent or missing connections

LOCOMOTIVE

PRE-TRIP
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Engine Compartment

- Unusual or additional electrical wires
- Packages or containers that look out of place
- Strange odors

Control Cab

- Fresh wiring and/or electrical tape
- False compartments
- New or damaged screws
- Unusual bulges or lumps in seat
- Fresh welds, weld spatters or seams in floor

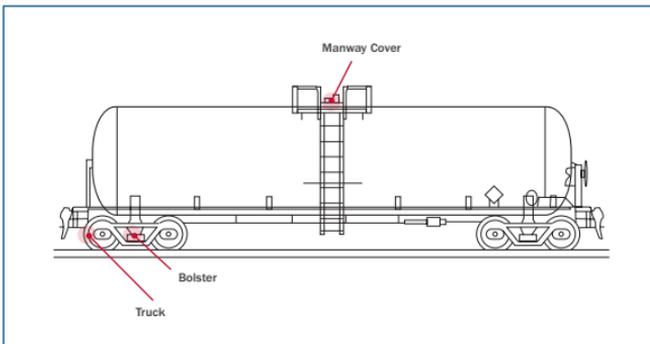
Undercarriage

- Items taped or wired to frame members
- Fresh undercoating or paint
- Items or tanks with no obvious use

RAILCAR INSPECTION

Federal regulations require the inspection of all placarded railcars transporting hazardous materials. Some areas to consider in a security focused inspection include:

Non-Pressure Tank Cars

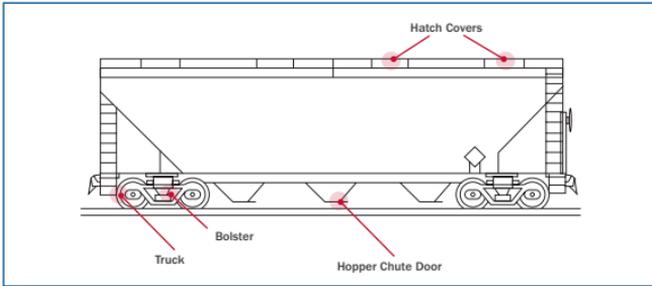


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Covered Hoppers



Indicators of Possible Tampering

- Open manways or hatch covers
- Product leaking or seeping from bottom outlets or hopper chute door
- Unusual items attached to bolster and/or truck frames
- Objects attached to car body with no obvious use



REMEMBER:
IF IT DOESN'T LOOK RIGHT, IT PROBABLY ISN'T.

Notify the proper authority per your company's operating rules or security plan.

RAILCAR

PRE-TRIP
INSPEC-
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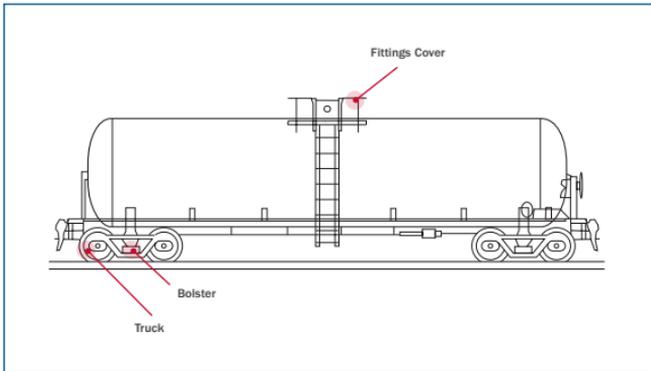
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PRESSURE TANK CAR INSPECTION

Pressure tank cars require special attention due to the dangers associated with the cargo (e.g., high pressure, toxicity, flammability, low temperature and combinations of these properties).

Typical cargo can include:

- Chlorine
- Anhydrous ammonia
- Ethylene oxide
- Refrigerant gases
- Cryogenic liquids
- Liquefied petroleum gas and other flammable gases



Indicators of possible tampering:

- Locking devices or custody seals broken or missing from discharge valves or fittings cover
- Strange odors
- Unusual items attached to bolster and/or truck frames
- Objects attached to car body with no obvious use

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INSPECTION ITEMS

The following are the regulatory required inspections for the acceptance of hazardous materials to be transported by rail.

The following information is provided for reference only. Consult the appropriate sections of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) or your company's operating rules for complete details.

Rail shipments of hazardous materials are covered by provisions of 49 CFR §174.9, which require safety and security inspections at each location of acceptance or placement of a hazmat car in a train. These inspections at ground level include looking for the following:

- Required markings, labels and placards
- Securement of closures
- Leakage
- Suspicious items that do not belong

Pay particular attention to signs of compromised security on railcars transporting materials covered by 49 CFR §172.820 – rail carload quantities of ammonium nitrate or ammonium nitrate mixtures in solid form, or hazardous materials of interest based on current threat information.

If evidence of tampering or a suspicious item is found, take appropriate actions:

- Notify the appropriate authority per your company's operating rules/security plan.
- Do not accept or move a potentially security-compromised car.

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INSPECTION ITEMS (CONT'D)

The TSA Rail Security Rule (49 CFR Part 1580) requires rail hazardous materials shippers, rail hazardous materials receivers located within a High Threat Urban Area (HTUA), and freight railroad carriers to:

- Create a Rail Security Coordinator position to serve as a 24/7 TSA point of contact.
- Report significant security concerns to DHS/TSA.
- Implement chain-of-custody and control requirements for certain railcars containing Rail Security Sensitive Materials (RSSM).
- Be prepared at all times to report the location and shipping information for certain railcars containing RSSM.



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SECURITY PLANNING: FREIGHT RAIL

All carriers of hazardous materials, including railroads, are required by 49 CFR §172.800 to have security plans that address personnel security, unauthorized access and en route security.

Many railroads have security plans that address much more than hazardous materials transportation. These plans include provisions for operations, infrastructure protection, cybersecurity and law enforcement.

As mentioned earlier, you should be aware of your role in the company's security plan. In many cases that role may be limited to remaining vigilant and reporting suspicious activities and conditions to the proper authorities. However, depending upon your particular craft or position with the railroad, your role may also include inspections and securement of infrastructure or other specific duties.

If you have questions about the company's security plan and the role you play, ask your supervisor.

EVACUATION

You should be familiar with the emergency evacuation plans for the locations where you work. Review your company's emergency plans and guidance so you know locations of "safe refuge" or designated gathering points for the facility.

In some cases, sheltering-in-place is a preferred method of protection. This means that you stay in a safe area of your home or work location with doors and windows closed until you are advised by the proper authorities that it is safe to leave.

Check with your supervisor if you have any questions about what to do or where to go in the event of an emergency.

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PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT

Personal protective equipment (PPE) is designed to protect you from serious workplace injuries or illnesses. It is important for you to know about and have the proper PPE for your work, and ensure that it is in good working condition.



If you have any questions about the condition of your PPE, what is available or your need for a particular item, contact your supervisor.

CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL AND NUCLEAR (CBRN) INCIDENTS

Evacuation is the most common protective action taken when an airborne hazard is perceived in any environment.

If possible, determine the source of the hazard and move upwind to reduce exposure. A building can provide substantial protection from agents released outdoors if the flow of fresh air can be temporarily interrupted.

You are encouraged to familiarize yourself with any company procedures related to exposure to and decontamination of the toxic or hazardous materials that could be found in the workplace.

Check with your supervisor about the availability and use of specialized PPE for CBRN incidents.

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IDENTIFICATION & CREDENTIALING

TSA requires that a security threat assessment (STA) be conducted on certain people in the highway and motor carrier community before they can engage in certain duties.

There are two TSA programs requiring an STA that are applicable to freight rail industry employees. These are:

1. The Hazardous Materials Endorsement (HME) Threat Assessment Program (HTAP) conducts an STA on any individual who wishes to have the HME included on his or her state-issued commercial driver's license (CDL). The STA for this program is comprised of an immigration, criminal history and terrorism check.

2. The Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC®) Program conducts an STA on any individual requiring unescorted access to secure areas of regulated maritime facilities and vessels. The STA for this program is the same as the HME check and includes an immigration, criminal history and terrorism check.

TSA's HME and TWIC® Programs provide the most complete government security background check available to people employed in the transportation business, using some databases that are not available to commercial background firms.

If a transportation company (truck, bus, rail, pipeline) does business in secure areas of maritime-related worksites or hauls placarded hazardous materials, they may require employees or candidates for employment to obtain a TWIC® or HME respectively. Employers without such a business association may not lawfully require employees to obtain a TWIC® or HME.

Individuals who work for or intend to seek employment with a transportation business associated with a TWIC®-controlled secure area or placarded hazardous materials may, at their discretion, apply for a TWIC® and HME respectively to enhance their opportunity for employment.

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HME and TWIC® (Cont'd)

For both the HME and TWIC® Programs, the background investigation reviews criminal history including convictions and incarcerations, citizenship or alien status, and terrorist watch lists. Some criminal offenses may lead to disqualification; appeals or waivers from such disqualification are available on a case-by-case basis.

TWIC® application information must be maintained purely between the applicant and TSA. The governing statute does not permit TSA to share detailed information about disqualifications with employers or potential employers. The result of the application is simply the award of a TWIC® or the lack of that credential.

HME and TWIC® background checks must be renewed every five years. The cost of a TWIC® as of April 2016 is \$128, and the HME varies by state.

To enroll in TWIC®, go to:

<https://universalenroll.dhs.gov/programs/twic>

CYBERSECURITY

Recognizing that the national and economic security of the U.S. depends on the reliable functioning of critical infrastructure, the President issued Executive Order 13636, Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity, in February 2013. It directed the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to work with stakeholders to develop a voluntary framework for reducing cyber risks to critical infrastructure.

The “Framework for Improving Critical Infrastructure Cybersecurity,” created through collaboration between industry and government, consists of standards, guidelines and practices to promote the protection of critical infrastructure. The prioritized, flexible, repeatable and cost-effective approach of the Framework helps owners and operators of critical infrastructure to manage cybersecurity-related risks.

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Delivery of the Framework to stakeholders is a measurable National Strategy for Transportation Security (NSTS) goal for DHS, TSA and TSA Surface Division, developed with TSA's Surface Division industry partners.

For more information, contact a TSA Freight Rail Security Specialist at: freightrailsecurity@tsa.dhs.gov

The Framework may be found at:
www.nist.gov/cyberframework

The Stop.Think.Connect. Campaign

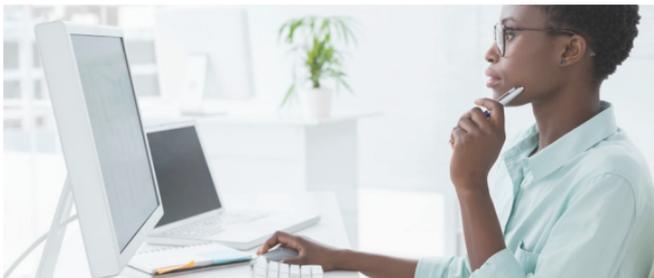
Stop.Think.Connect. is a national public awareness campaign aimed at increasing the understanding of cyber threats and empowering the American public to be safer and more secure online.

Cybersecurity is a shared responsibility. We each have to do our part to keep the Internet safe. When we all take simple steps to be safer online, it makes using the Internet a more secure experience for everyone.

For more information about Stop.Think.Connect. and a resource tool kit, go to: www.dhs.gov/stopthinkconnect



STOP | THINK | CONNECT™



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NATIONAL TERRORISM ADVISORY SYSTEM (NTAS)

DHS issues NTAS advisories to communicate information about terrorist threats. These advisories provide timely, detailed information to the public, government agencies, first responders, public sector organizations, airports and other transportation hubs.

NTAS consists of two types of advisories:

1. Bulletins have been added to the advisory system to communicate current developments or general trends regarding threats of terrorism. Bulletins provide critical terrorism information that, while not necessarily indicative of a specific threat against the U.S., can reach homeland security partners or the public quickly, thereby allowing recipients to implement necessary protective measures.

2. Alerts will be issued when there is specific, credible information about a terrorist threat against the U.S. Alerts may include specific information, if available, about the nature of the threat, including geographic region, mode of transportation or critical infrastructure potentially affected by the threat, as well as steps individuals and communities can take to protect themselves and help prevent, mitigate or respond to the threat.

Elevated Alert: DHS has credible threat information, but only general information about timing and target, making it reasonable to recommend implementation of protective measures to thwart or mitigate an attack.

Imminent Alert: DHS believes the threat is credible, specific and impending in the very near term.

For more information, go to:

www.dhs.gov/national-terrorism-advisory-system

NTAS

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TSA RESOURCES FOR FREIGHT RAIL

TSA's vision for freight rail security is to lead the national effort to maintain the capability to move freely, to facilitate commerce in all conditions, and to continuously set the standard for excellence in rail transportation security through our people, processes and technology.

www.tsa.gov

Email: freightrailsecurity@tsa.dhs.gov

Office of Security Policy and Industry Engagement (OSPIE): The OSPIE Surface Division develops risk-based surface transportation security policies and engages strategically with security partners in their development and implementation. The modal surface transportation systems within the responsibility of the Surface Division include Pipeline, Highway and Motor Carrier, Mass Transit and Passenger Rail, Maritime and Freight Rail transportation systems.

Office of Security Operations (OSO): The Office of Security Operations ensures entities carry out a broad range of statutory, regulatory and security program requirements for transportation security. Federal Security Directors serve as the lead transportation security officials in each state.

Office of Security Capabilities (OSC): The Office of Security Capabilities, Intermodal Division, directly supports TSA's mission by providing security capabilities to the field. OSC's primary responsibility is the development of technologies to detect the range of terrorist threats targeting commercial transportation. OSC expertise includes applied research, development, operational testing, deployment and life-cycle management to ensure the free movement of people and commerce.

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TSA RESOURCES

RE-
SOURCES
POCs

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Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response (VIPR): TSA VIPR teams can be composed of a variety of TSA and other federal and local law enforcement and security resources, including Federal Air Marshals, TSA canine teams, Transportation Security Officers, Behavior Detection Officers and Transportation Security Inspectors. TSA deploys VIPR teams at the request of and in collaboration with federal, state and local transportation stakeholders to prevent and deter acts of terrorism against our transportation systems. VIPR operations are conducted in all modes of transportation, including Freight Rail.

First Observer is a national security program whose mission is to administer an antiterrorism security awareness message to all transportation professionals in support of the National Preparedness Guidelines. The program offers security awareness training to transportation workers engaging in Highway, Mass Transit, Freight Rail and Pipeline modes, recruiting them to act as “First Observers” by reporting suspicious activities of a criminal or terrorist nature.

For training information, go to: www.tsa.gov/firstobserver

Transportation Security Operations Center (TSOC): The TSOC provides 24-hour-a-day, 7-day-a-week, 365-day-a-year coordination, communications, intelligence and domain awareness for all DHS transportation-related security activities worldwide.

TSOC also provides continuous domain and operational awareness for TSA Headquarters of special events, incidents and/or crises; furnishes real-time alerting and reporting to field security organizations; fuses actionable intelligence with operational information across all modes of transportation; and coordinates with federal, state and local homeland security entities.

To report suspicious activities, call TSOC (also known as the Freedom Center) at **1-866-615-5150** or **1-844-TSA-FRST (844-872-3778)**.

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STATE & LOCAL POCs

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Agency

Phone Number

Railroad Operations Center	
Dispatcher or Controller	
Railroad Police	
Fire Department	
Police Department	
Emergency Management	
State Police	
Local FBI-JTTF	

Other Important Contacts

Phone Number

NOTE: The recommendations in this guide are not intended to alter or conflict with any TSA or other federal requirement.

STATE & LOCAL POCs

RE-SOURCES
POCs

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FREIGHT RAIL

COUNTERTERRORISM GUIDE

This guide is intended to provide an awareness of specific issues that should be considered when developing and implementing your organization's security plan.

Railroad employees should follow their specific company policies and procedures to prevent, protect and respond to a security incident.



For more information or to request additional complimentary guides, contact TSA at freightrailsecurity@tsa.dhs.gov or visit the website at: www.tsa.gov/for-industry/surface-transportation



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