Federal Railroad Administration, DOT

§ 230.49 Setting of safety relief valves.

(a) Qualifications of individual who adjusts. Safety relief valves shall be set and adjusted by a competent person who is thoroughly familiar with the construction and operation of the valve being set.

(b) Opening pressures. At least one safety relief valve shall be set to open at a pressure not exceeding 6 psi above the MAWP. Safety relief valves shall be set to open at pressures not exceeding 6 psi above the MAWP.

(c) Setting procedures. When setting safety relief valves, two steam gauges shall be used, one of which must be so located that it will be in full view of the persons engaged in setting such valves; and if the pressure indicated by the gauges varies more than 3 psi they shall be removed from the boiler, tested, and corrected before the safety relief valves are set. Gauges shall in all cases be tested immediately before the safety relief valves are set or any change made in the setting. When setting safety relief valves, the water level shall not be higher than ¾ of the length of the visible water glass, as measured from the bottom of the glass.

§ 230.48 Number and capacity.

(a) Number and capacity. Every boiler shall be equipped with at least two safety relief valves, suitable for the service intended, that are capable of preventing an accumulation of pressure greater than 6 percent above the MAWP under any conditions of service. An FRA inspector may require verification of sufficient safety valve relieving capacity.

(b) Determination of capacity. Safety relief valve capacity may be determined by making an accumulation test with the fire in good, bright condition and all steam outlets closed. Additional safety relief valve capacity shall be provided if the safety relief valves allow an excess pressure of more than 6 percent above the MAWP during this test.

§ 230.47 Boiler number.

(a) Generally. The builder’s number of the boiler, if known, shall be stamped on the steam dome or manhole flange. If the builder’s number cannot be obtained, an assigned number, which shall be used in making out specification cards, shall be stamped on the steam dome or manhole flange.

(b) Numbers after January 10, 1912. Numbers which are stamped after January 10, 1912 shall be located on the front side of the steam dome or manhole flange at the upper edge of the vertical surface, oriented in a horizontal manner, and have figures at least ¾ inch high.

(c) Name of manufacturer or owner. The number shall be preceded by the name of the manufacturer if the original number is known or the name of the steam locomotive owner if a new number is assigned.

§ 230.46 Badge plates.

A metal badge plate showing the allowed steam pressure shall be attached to the boiler backhead in the cab. If boiler backhead is lagged, the lagging and jacket shall be cut away so that the plate can be seen.

§ 230.45 Method of testing.

Steam gauges shall be compared with an accurate test gauge or dead weight tester. While under test load at the MAWP of the boiler to which the gauge will be applied, the gauge shall be set to read that pressure as accurately as the physical limitations of the gauge will allow. Under test the gauge shall read within the manufacturer’s tolerance at all points on the gauge up to 25 percent above the allowed pressure. If the manufacturer’s tolerance is not known, the gauge must read within 2 percent full scale accuracy at all points on the gauge up to 25 percent above allowed pressure.

§ 230.44 Time of testing.

Steam gauges shall be tested prior to being installed or being reapplied, during the 92 service day inspection, and whenever any irregularity is reported.