

Federal Railroad Administration, DOT

§ 230.40

PRESSURE TESTING OF BOILERS

§ 230.35 Pressure testing.

The temperature of the steam locomotive boiler shall be raised to at least 70 deg. F any time hydrostatic pressure is applied to the boiler.

§ 230.36 Hydrostatic testing of boilers.

(a) *Time of test.* The locomotive owner and/or operator shall hydrostatically test every boiler at the following times:

(1) During the 1472 service day inspection, and at every annual inspection thereafter;

(2) After making any alteration to the boiler;

(3) After installing a flush patch on an unstayed portion of the boiler; and

(4) After any riveting on an unstayed portion of the boiler.

(b) *Method of testing.* The metal temperature of the boiler shall be between 70 degrees Fahrenheit and 120 degrees Fahrenheit each time it is subjected to any hydrostatic pressure. Hydrostatic testing required by these rules shall be conducted at 25 percent above the MAWP.

(c) *Internal inspection.* An internal inspection of the boiler shall be conducted following any hydrostatic test where the pressure exceeds MAWP.

§ 230.37 Steam test following repairs or alterations.

Upon completion of any repair or alteration, the locomotive owner and/or operator shall conduct a steam test of the boiler with steam pressure raised to between 95 percent and 100 percent of the MAWP. At this time, the boiler shall be inspected to ensure that it is in a safe and suitable condition for service.

STAYBOLTS

§ 230.38 Telltale holes.

(a) *Staybolts less than 8 inches long.* All staybolts shorter than 8 inches, except flexible bolts, shall have telltale holes $\frac{3}{16}$ inch to $\frac{7}{32}$ inch diameter and at least $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep in the outer end.

(b) *Reduced body staybolts.* On reduced body staybolts, the telltale hole shall extend beyond the fillet and into the

reduced section of the staybolt. Staybolts may have through telltale holes.

(c) *Telltale holes kept open.* All telltale holes, except as provided for in § 230.41, must be kept open at all times.

§ 230.39 Broken staybolts.

(a) *Maximum allowable number of broken staybolts.* No boiler shall be allowed to remain in service with two broken staybolts located within 24 inches of each other, as measured inside the firebox or combustion chamber on a straight line. No boiler shall be allowed to remain in service with more than 4 broken staybolts inside the entire firebox and combustion chamber, combined.

(b) *Staybolt replacement.* Broken staybolts must be replaced during the 31 service day inspection, if detected at that time. Broken staybolts detected in between 31 service day inspections must be replaced no later than 30 calendar days from the time of detection. When staybolts 8 inches or less in length are replaced, they shall be replaced with bolts that have telltale holes $\frac{3}{16}$ inch to $\frac{7}{32}$ inch in diameter and at least $1\frac{1}{4}$ inches deep at each end, or that have telltale holes $\frac{3}{16}$ inch to $\frac{7}{32}$ inch in diameter their entire length. At the time of replacement of broken staybolts, adjacent staybolts shall be inspected.

(c) *Assessment of broken staybolts.* Telltale holes leaking, plugged, or missing shall be counted as broken staybolts.

(d) *Prohibited methods of closing telltale holes.* Welding, forging, or riveting broken staybolt ends is prohibited as a method of closing telltale holes.

§ 230.40 Time and method of staybolt testing.

(a) *Time of hammer testing—*(1) General. All staybolts shall be hammer tested at every 31 service day inspection, except as provided in paragraph (a)(2) of this section. All staybolts also shall be hammer tested under hydrostatic pressure above the MAWP specified on the boiler specification form (FRA Form No. 4), is applied to the boiler. (See appendix B of this part.)

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(2) Exception for inaccessible staybolts. The removal of brickwork or grate bearers for the purpose of hammer testing staybolts during each 31 service day inspection will not be required if the staybolts behind these structural impediments have a telltale hole $\frac{3}{16}$ inch to $\frac{7}{32}$ inch in diameter their entire length. Whenever the brickwork or grate bearers are removed for any other reason, however, the bolts shall be inspected at that time.

(b) *Method of hammer testing.* If staybolts are tested while the boiler contains water, the hydrostatic pressure must be not less than 95 percent of the MAWP. The steam locomotive owner and/or operator shall tap each bolt with a hammer and determine broken bolts from the sound or the vibration of the sheet. Whenever staybolts are tested while the boiler is not under pressure, such as during the 31 service day inspection, the staybolt test must be made with all the water drained from the boiler.

§ 230.41 Flexible staybolts with caps.

(a) *General.* Flexible staybolts with caps shall have their caps removed during every 5th annual inspection for the purpose of inspecting the bolts for breakage, except as provided in paragraph (b) of this section.

(b) *Drilled flexible staybolts.* For flexible staybolts that have telltale holes between $\frac{3}{16}$ inch and $\frac{7}{32}$ inch in diameter, and which extend the entire length of the bolt and into the head not less than one third of the diameter of the head, the steam locomotive owner and/or operator need not remove the staybolt caps if it can be established, by an electrical or other suitable method, that the telltale holes are open their entire length. Any leakage from these telltale holes during the hydrostatic test indicates that the bolt is broken and must be replaced. Before the steam locomotive is placed in service, the inner ends of all telltale holes shall be closed with a fireproof porous material that will keep the telltale holes free of foreign matter and permit steam or water to exit the telltale hole when the bolt is broken or fractured.

(c) *Recordkeeping.* The removal of flexible staybolt caps and other tests

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shall be reported on FRA Form No. 3. (See appendix B of this part.)

(d) *Testing at request of FRA inspector.* Staybolt caps also shall be removed, or any of the tests in this section made, whenever the FRA inspector or the steam locomotive owner and/or operator considers it necessary due to identifiable safety concerns about the condition of staybolts, staybolt caps or staybolt sleeves.

STEAM GAUGES

§ 230.42 Location of gauges.

Every boiler shall have at least one steam gauge which will correctly indicate the working pressure. The gauge shall be positioned so that it will be kept reasonably cool and can conveniently be read by the engine crew.

§ 230.43 Gauge siphon.

The steam gauge supply pipe shall have a siphon on it of ample capacity to prevent steam from entering the gauge. The supply pipe shall directly enter the boiler and be maintained steam tight. The supply pipe and its connections shall be cleaned each time the gauge is tested.

§ 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.

§ 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.

§ 230.46 Badge plates.

A metal badge plate showing the allowed steam pressure shall be attached