

## § 230.93

### DRIVING GEAR

#### § 230.93 Pistons and piston rods.

(a) *Maintenance and testing.* Pistons and piston rods shall be maintained in safe and suitable condition for service. Piston rods shall be inspected for cracks each time they are removed, and shall be renewed if found defective.

(b) *Fasteners.* Fasteners (keys, nuts, etc.) shall be kept tight and shall have some means to prevent them from loosening or falling out of place.

#### § 230.94 Crossheads.

Crossheads shall be maintained in a safe and suitable condition for service, with not more than  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch vertical or  $\frac{5}{16}$  inch lateral clearance between crossheads and guides.

#### § 230.95 Guides.

Guides shall be securely fastened and maintained in a safe and suitable condition for service.

#### § 230.96 Main, side, and valve motion rods.

(a) *General.* Main, side or valve motion rods developing cracks or becoming otherwise defective shall be removed from service immediately and repaired or renewed.

(b) *Repairs.* Repairs, and welding of main, side or valve motion rods shall be made in accordance with an accepted national standard. The steam locomotive owner and/or operator shall submit a written request for approval to the FRA Regional Administrator prior to welding defective main rods, side rods, and valve gear components.

(c) *Bearings and bushings.* Bearings and bushings shall so fit the rods as to be in a safe and suitable condition for service, and means shall be provided to prevent bushings from turning in the rod. Straps shall fit and be securely bolted to rods. Floating bushings need not be provided with means to prevent bushings from turning.

(d) *Side motion of rods.* The total amount of side motion of each rod on its crank pin shall not exceed  $\frac{1}{4}$  inch.

(e) *Oil and grease cups.* Oil and grease cups shall be securely attached to rods, and grease cup plugs shall be equipped

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with a suitable fastening that will prevent them from being ejected.

(f) *Main rod bearings.* The bore of main rod bearings shall not exceed pin diameters more than  $\frac{3}{32}$  inch at front or back end. The total lost motion at both ends shall not exceed  $\frac{5}{32}$  inch.

(g) *Side rod bearings.* The bore of side rod bearings shall not exceed pin diameters more than  $\frac{5}{32}$  inch on main pin nor more than  $\frac{3}{16}$  inch on other pins.

#### § 230.97 Crank pins.

(a) *General provisions.* Crank pins shall be securely applied. Securing the fit of a loose crank pin by shimming, prick punching, or welding is not permitted.

(b) *Maintenance.* Crank pin collars and collar fasteners shall be maintained in a safe and suitable condition for service.

### RUNNING GEAR

#### § 230.98 Driving, trailing, and engine truck axles.

(a) *Condemning defects.* Driving, trailing, and engine truck axles with any of the following defects shall be removed from service immediately and repaired (see appendix A of this part for inspection requirements):

- (1) Bent axle;
- (2) Cut journals that cannot be made to run cool without turning;
- (3) Transverse seams in iron or steel axles;
- (4) Seams in axles causing journals to run hot;
- (5) Axles that are unsafe on account of usage, accident or derailment;
- (6) Any axle worn  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch or more in diameter below the original/new journal diameter, except as provided in paragraph (a)(7) of this section;
- (7) Any driving axles other than main driving axles with an original or new diameter greater than 6 inches that are worn  $\frac{3}{4}$  inch or more in diameter below the original/new diameter.

(b) *Journal diameter stamped.* For steam locomotives with plain bearings, the original/new journal diameter shall be stamped on one end of the axle no later than January 18, 2005.