TRACK MOTOR CARS

Each track motor car shall be equipped with an efficient hand brake so located that it can be safely operated while the car is in motion. Each hand brake shall be equipped with a ratchet or other suitable device which will provide a means of keeping the brake applied when the car is not in motion. The requirements of this rule will be satisfied if the ratchet or other suitable device operates in connection with at least one hand brake on track motor cars that may be equipped with more than one such brake.

One or more safe or suitable handholds conveniently located shall be provided and securely fastened to each motor car.

Each track motor car shall be equipped with safe and suitable sillsteps or footboards conveniently located and securely fastened to the car when bed or deck of track motor car is more than 24 inches above the top of the rail.

When used to haul other cars, each track motor car shall be equipped with a coupler at each end where such cars are coupled (1) which provides a safe and secure attachment, (2) which can be coupled or uncoupled without the necessity of men going between the ends of the cars.1/

49 C.F.R. § 231.25

1/ In 1963 a rule was issued which made it unlawful for any railroad to operate or permit to be operated on its line track motor cars to pull or haul trailers, pushtrucks, handcars, or similar cars or equipment. However, this rule has been stayed indefinitely and never has gone into effect.