



## **DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

### **Federal Railroad Administration**

**[Docket Number FRA-2025-1149]**

### **Notice of Petition for Special Approval of Alternative Standard**

**AGENCY:** Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Department of Transportation (DOT).

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** This document provides the public notice that IS Technology Solutions (IS Tech) petitioned FRA for special approval of an alternative standard concerning single car air brake tests.

**DATES:** FRA must receive comments on the petition by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]**. FRA will consider comments received after that date to the extent practicable.

### **ADDRESSES:**

**Comments:** Comments related to this docket may be submitted by going to <https://www.regulations.gov> and following the online instructions for submitting comments.

**Instructions:** All submissions must include the agency name and docket number. All comments received will be posted without change to <https://www.regulations.gov>; this includes any personal information. Please see the Privacy Act heading in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section of this document for Privacy Act information related to any submitted comments or materials.

**Docket:** For access to the docket to read background documents or comments received, go to <https://www.regulations.gov> and follow the online instructions for

accessing the docket.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Derrick Griffith, Railroad Safety Specialist, FRA Motive Power & Equipment Division, telephone: 202-493-6322, email: [derrick.griffith@dot.gov](mailto:derrick.griffith@dot.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Under part 211 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), this document provides the public notice that by letter received December 22, 2026, IS Tech petitioned FRA for special approval of an alternative standard for certain provisions of the Federal railroad safety regulations contained at 49 CFR part 238 (Passenger Equipment Safety Standards). FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA-2025-1149.

Specifically, IS Tech seeks special approval to use an automatic signal car testing device (ASCTD) in lieu of a manual single car testing device (MSCTD) as an alternate standard for compliance with § 238.311, *Single car test*. Further, IS Tech proposes an annual calibration of the ASCTD instead of calibration every 92 days of the MSCTD.

In its petition, IS Tech states that ASCTDs have been used for “several years as a faster and more accurate alternative” to MSCTDs. IS Tech explains that the subject device has additional hardware, functionalities, and programming for testing of passenger cars but is based on the AAR S-4027 specification for testing of freight cars.

A copy of the petition, as well as any written communications concerning the petition, is available for review online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment and a public hearing, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

Communications received by **[INSERT DATE 30 DAYS AFTER DATE OF PUBLICATION IN THE FEDERAL REGISTER]** will be considered by FRA before final action is taken. Comments received after that date will be considered if practicable.

*Privacy Act*

Anyone can search the electronic form of any written communications and comments received into any of FRA's dockets by the name of the individual submitting the comment (or signing the document, if submitted on behalf of an association, business, labor union, etc.). Under 5 U.S.C. 553(c), DOT solicits comments from the public to inform its processes. DOT posts these comments, without edit, including any personal information the commenter provides, to [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), as described in the system of records notice (DOT/ALL-14 FDMS), which can be reviewed at <https://www.transportation.gov/privacy>. See also <https://www.regulations.gov/privacy-notice> for the privacy notice of [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov).

Issued in Washington, DC.

**John Karl Alexy,**

*Associate Administrator for Railroad Safety,*

*Chief Safety Officer.*