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Friday Safety Brief®

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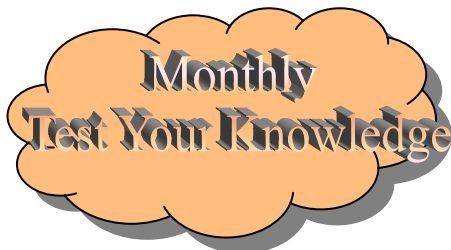
Highway-Rail Grade Crossings: 7 Steps for Safety

What to Do If Your Vehicle Stalls or Hangs Up On the Tracks



- Approach with Care.** Warn others that you are slowing down. Turn on 4-way flashers. Use pull-out lane if available.
 - Prepare to Stop.** Turn off fans and radio and roll down windows. Locate your cell phone for use in emergency. Stop at least 15 feet, but not more than 50 feet, from nearest rail.
 - Look and listen both ways, carefully.** Bend forward to see around mirrors and A-pillars.
 - If it won't fit, don't commit.** Trains extend beyond the width of the rails at least 3 feet on each side. Remember your vehicle—and cargo—overhang.
 - Look again.** Before you move, look again in both directions.
 - Cross tracks with care.** Signal, watch for a safe gap, pull back onto the road if you used a pull-out lane. Use highest gear that will let you cross without shifting.
 - Keep going once you start, even if lights start to flash or gates come down.**
- Get out immediately. Evacuate your vehicle.** (Trains traveling at 60 mph may take a mile or more to stop.)
 - Move away. Walk toward the oncoming train, and away from the tracks at 45-degree angle.** (If your vehicle is hit, debris will spread out from the tracks in the same direction the train is moving.)
 - Locate the emergency phone number.** When you are safely away from the tracks, find the railroad's emergency phone number and the DOT crossing identification number posted near the crossing.
 - Call for help!** Call the railroad's emergency phone number, the local police, or 911. Tell them a vehicle is on the tracks. Provide the location, crossing number (if posted), and the name of the road or highway that crosses the tracks.

For further information visit <http://www.fmcsa.dot.gov>



1. What is a "short-haul" operation?
2. What is an "air-mile"?
3. What are the recordkeeping requirements for a driver who is utilizing either the 100 or non-CDL, as defined in Part 383, 150 air-mile radius provisions?

- i. The HOS regulations do not specifically define or use the term "short haul" except as a caption for § 395.1 (e), which includes requirements for drivers using the 100 air-mile radius exception and those covered by the "non-CDL, as defined in Part 383, 150 air-mile radius" provision.
2. The term "air-mile" is internationally defined as a "nautical mile" which is equivalent to 6,076 feet. Thus, the 100 air-miles are equivalent to 115.08 statute miles, and 150 air-miles are equivalent to 172.6 statute miles.
3. Under both provisions, a driver may use time records in lieu of RODS.

Pop Quiz Answers: