

### GCOR 6.5: Shoving Movements

July 24, 2023

Shoving cars and engines is a task we perform every day which requires dedicated coordination and communication between employees to ensure each movement is performed safely and effectively. This coordination can involve different methods that may be affected by where and how the shove is being performed, or how communication is being delivered to the employee controlling the engine.

Effective **August 1, 2023**, GCOR rule 6.5 Shoving Movements is amended so that employees protecting the leading end of a shove movement are no longer allowed to provide instruction or additional information while they are operating a vehicle. The requirement for employees to stop prior to communicating with a radio will ensure that the operation of a vehicle does not interfere with their ability to visually observe the leading end of the movement.

#### Rule Change Effective August 1, 2023

##### GCOR 6.5 Shoving Movements (*in part*)

When communicating with a radio:

- The employee observing the leading end of the movement must inform the employee at the controls of the engine who is protecting the movement and how the protection will be provided (e.g., Conductor Smith on the ground, riding equipment, riding in vehicle, camera, etc.), and specify a distance.
- Direction will be described in relation to the front of the controlling locomotive (F stencil). Use the following terms:
  - “Ahead” to move forward
  - “Backup” to move backward
  - “Stop” to stop the movement
- ***When operating a vehicle, the employee observing the leading end of the movement must stop the vehicle to provide instruction or additional information.***

#### Questions for Discussion

##### ☐ Is a crew member prohibited from operating a motor vehicle while protecting the point of a shove move?

A crew member may, while stopped, give a command to commence a shove move and then drive alongside or ahead of the leading end of the movement. For the employee providing protection to give additional car counts or information over the radio, the vehicle must first be stopped. This does not require the shove move to be stopped, only the vehicle the employee is operating.

##### ☐ May a crew member use a radio to update car counts during a shove move while operating a utility vehicle?

**No.** When operating a vehicle, the employee observing the leading end of the movement must stop the vehicle to provide instruction or additional information.

##### ☐ Are TYE employees who are not involved with a shove movement allowed to communicate via radio while operating a vehicle?

**Yes.** All employees are required to operate a vehicle in a careful and safe manner.