

Improperly loading of bagged seed

It has come to the attention of Canadian Pacific Railway that safety rules pertaining to the loading of bagged seed product in boxcars is being compromised. We are concerned when such policies are not implemented through lack of awareness, education or outright disregard. Our immediate concern is the lack of doorway protection (steel/or non-metallic strapping) applied at both doorways.

You can imagine the potential for personal tragedy should an un-braced bag topple out of the doorway while in transit or during unloading. Because of these risks, the following established loading rules must be adhered to:

**AAR (Association of American Railroad) Circular 42-J, pertains to the General Rules covering loading of Carload Shipments of Commodities in Closed Cars. Rule 7 reads, "When there is a possibility of lading falling or rolling out of doorway or coming in contact with sliding doors, openings must be protected with wood doorway protection, steel straps or other material of sufficient strength and number and adequately secured."

right: unprotected doorway



In regards to bagged or baled commodities, specific applications are detailed in AAR General Information Series Pamphlet No. 3.

**Use flush doorway protection in boxcars with sliding doors to prevent the lading from coming in contact with or the weight of the lading bearing against the side doors. Protect openings with wood bracing; flat steel straps covered with corrugated fiberboard secured so as not to fall out of position (one strap for every layer of product or every 6 to 12 inches); steel strap reinforced retaining strips or other material of sufficient strength for the weight of the lading. If lading is unitized by stretch-wrap, shrink film, gluing or other means, one steel strap is required for the bottom unit and two steel straps for the top unit.



right: improperly applied strapping