

necessary to support loading and unloading procedures and other transportation activities. Nothing on the buffer railcar can obstruct the line of sight between the escort railcar and the Atlas railcars.

### Loading procedures

As part of Phase 1 of the railcar project, Areva TN Americas developed general loading procedures for the Atlas railcar. The procedures include descriptions of how to load each of the initial 15 transport casks onto the Atlas railcar, including whether the impact limiters would be attached to the cask before or after the cask is placed on the railcar. The purpose of the general procedures is not to replace any detailed site-specific or cask-specific loading procedures, but to inform the railcar, cask, and cradle designers and users of equipment about the design features and operational requirements needed to accommodate the casks. Whenever possible, the procedures are provided in a general sense and apply to all 15 casks and associated cradles.

The Areva team did not include sequences and associated steps for other activities, such as the unloading of a cask from the railcar. The general loading procedures, however, do identify when a collection of steps could be used for other activities, such as unloading and trans-loading of the transport cask, whether empty or loaded. In many cases, these activities would simply require the user to reverse the order of the provided steps.

The general loading procedures also describe the methodology used to create the procedures, any limitations of use, and applicable assumptions, as well as references to the source information. The procedures are based on the current conceptual designs of the cradles and Atlas railcar, with specific instructions, diagrams, figures, and tables subject to change during final design and fabrication.

### Sources

Areva press release, "AREVA Awarded Contract to Design and Fabricate Railcars for Nuclear Material Transportation," (Dec. 9, 2015).

Areva Federal Services, "Design and Prototype Fabrication of Railcars for Transport of High-Level Radioactive Material, Phase 1: Mobilization and Conceptual Design" (DE-NE0008390), <http://energy.gov/ne/downloads/atlas-railcar-phase-1-final-report>, (Oct. 2016). ■

Edited by Tim Gregoire.



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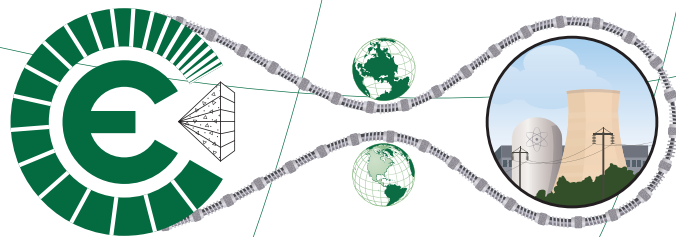


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