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## Catalogue Structure

The Railway Group Standards Catalogue has a number of different sections. The main body of the catalogue is the **Document Titles and Descriptions**. This is organised according to the lead standards committee that approves changes to the documents concerned.

Each Railway Group Standard (RGS) has a reference code which indicates which activity the standard relates to, and what type of document it is.



## Document Category

The standards are divided into categories:

### Category

GA	Administration <i>Policy management and administration of Railway Group Standards</i>
GC	Track & Structures (Infrastructure) <i>Permanent way, structures and construction safety</i>
GE	All Duty holders <i>Requirements for Multidisciplinary activities</i>
GH	Health & Safety <i>Operational and occupational health and safety</i>
GI	Infrastructure <i>Multidisciplinary infrastructure activities</i>
GK	Train Control & Communications (Control Command and Signalling) <i>Signalling &amp; telecommunications</i>
GL	Electrification (Energy) <i>Electrification Systems and electrical installations</i>
GM	Trains (Rolling Stock) <i>Trains and rolling stock</i>
GO	Operations (Traffic Operation and Management) <i>Operations, operational signalling, special operations such as the acceptance &amp; carriage of dangerous goods, and safety-critical activities</i>
GP	Plant <i>Fixed and mobile plant</i>

## Document Identification Code

The next two characters of the standard's reference code indicate the type of document.

- RT** Railway Group Standard (RGS)  
*A RGS is a document produced pursuant to the RGS Code (or equivalent predecessor documents, including previous versions of the RGS Code) defining mandatory requirements in respect of the mainline railway. These mandatory requirements may be in the form of technical and/or operational requirements, or a process for cooperation. Compliance with RGSs is mandatory for Infrastructure Managers and Railway Undertakings who operate on the GB mainline railway. Where appropriate, a deviation to comply with an alternative to the content of a RGS may be granted by a Standards Committee in accordance with the RGS Code.*
- RC** Rail Industry Approved Code of Practice (RACOP)  
*A non-mandatory document that defines a potentially suitable and sufficient means (but not the only means) of meeting an identified set of mandatory measures within a RGS. A RACOP therefore relates to meeting a set of measures that involve co-operation between two or more duty holders. A RACOP will contain a methodology which is designed to deliver the requirements of the RGS, but where an alternative methodology could be adopted. A RACOP will generally quote the relevant mandatory measures from a RGS alongside the non-mandatory content in order to provide a complete picture.*
- GN** Rail Industry Guidance Note (GN)  
*A non-mandatory document that is intended to provide potentially helpful information relating to the management and/or operation of the railway system or its subsystems. A GN may provide background to the measures contained within a RGS or describe information in relation to an issue that is outside the scope of RGSs. In some circumstances a GN may quote the mandatory measures from a RGS alongside the non-mandatory content in order to provide a complete picture.*
- RM** Manual  
*A suite of Railway Group Standards covering a particular area or activity.*

## Documents Prefixed RIS (Rail Industry Standard)

A Rail Industry Standard is a non-mandatory document that a group of members of RSSB, including at least one duty holder, has requested RSSB to produce and which that group has agreed to work to. A RIS defines functional or technical provisions in circumstances when management of the railway system or subsystems does not necessitate co-operation between duty holders but where there are expected to be economic benefits from that group all doing things in the same way. They will have a number format RIS-nnnn-XXX, where RIS is the acronym for Rail Industry Standard, nnnn is the four digit unique number identifier and XXX represents the three letter acronym of the approving standards committee. There are six standards committees as follows:

PLT – Plant

RST – Rolling Stock

INS – Infrastructure

TOM – Traffic Operation and Management

ENE – Energy

CCS – Control Command and Signalling

Specific responsibilities and compliance requirements are the subject of the internal procedures or contract conditions of the companies which choose to adopt the RISs, therefore any deviations should be managed by those companies.

## Documents with a Single Two-letter Prefix

- RT These are either guidance documents or documents mandated by a Railway Group Standard, such as RT3183, Agent's Point Setting Form.
- BR These are Railway Group Standards still numbered with a British Rail number. They will be given a new reference code when they are reviewed.

## Example of a Typical Catalogue Entry

	<i>Document No.</i>	<i>Issue No.</i>	<i>Date</i>	<i>Price code</i>
	GK/RT0060	Iss 4	Jun 03	(A)
<i>Title</i>	<b>Interlocking Principles</b>			
<i>Description</i> (unless the title is self-explanatory)	This document mandates the principles of interlocking of signals, points and other parts of the signalling system so that safe operation of trains is ensured.			

## Approval of Railway Group Standards

The Railway Group Standards Code mandates the process for operating standards committees. The role of the standards committee is to approve the development of RGS and associated documents, and approve deviations from Railway Group Standards. Information regarding standards committees and their members, meeting dates and cut-off dates for submission of documents can be found on the RSSB website at <http://www.rssb.co.uk>. A list of standards committee members can also be found in the Members Lists section of the RGS Catalogue.

## Changing Railway Group Standards

The process for making changes is detailed in the Railway Group Standards Code issue three, section five. If you wish to submit a proposal for change, please complete the form available from either the RSSB website at <http://www.rssb.co.uk> or from the Standards Management Department of RSSB on 020 7904 7550 (085 77550).

When a proposal to change a RGS is received by RSSB, it is recorded in the Proposals Register which tracks the progress of the proposal through the initial consideration process and the RSSB Standards Programme which tracks the development of documents. Both these stages are documented in the Railway Group Standards Code. The proposals register and the RSSB Standards Programme can be found on the RSSB website at <http://www.rssb.co.uk>

Proposals for changes to RGSs may arise as a result of RSSB's own review process or as a result of proposals from the industry.

## Deviations from Railway Group Standards

Under the terms of the Railway Group Standards Code issue three, and subject to the fulfilment of certain conditions, it is permissible to comply a specified alternative to the requirements defined in a Railway Group Standard provided this is authorised by the issue of a deviation certificate.

Any party wishing to deviate from the mandatory requirements of Railway Group Standards must be in possession of the appropriate certificate.

Details of how to apply for temporary non-compliances or derogations can be found in section 6 of the Railway Group Standards Code. Note that the option for a non-compliance (pending standards change) no longer exists in issue three. The reasons for the change are outlined in the briefing note which is available from the RSSB website at <http://www.rssb.co.uk>

The deviation application form and a list of all currently issued deviations can be found in the 'Deviations' area of the RSSB website: <http://www.rssb.co.uk> under 'Railway Group Standards.'

For further information regarding deviation application forms or certificates, please contact the Standards Management Department of RSSB on 020 7904 7550 (085 77550).

## Programmed Consultation Dates

Up-to-date information on documents in draft and proposed withdrawals, including details of their consultation periods is now provided on the Standards Programme which can be found on the RSSB website at <http://www.rssb.co.uk>

The information on the website is updated monthly and is therefore a more accurate representation of forthcoming consultation than was previously provided on this page.

## Network Rail Company Documents

Network Rail also produce standards documentation. These documents may contain more technical detail and, where appropriate, describe how Network Rail will meet the requirements of Railway Group Standards. Some documents also contain requirements relevant to Network Rail's commercial activities.

To obtain copies of these documents, you should contact either your Network Rail contracts manager or Technical Indexes Rapidoc Hotline on 01344 404 446.

## Duty Holders

In the context of Railway Group Standards, the term duty holders refers to Infrastructure Managers who hold a safety authorisation and Railway Undertakings who hold a Part B safety certificate issued in respect of the GB mainline railway.

## Railway Group Standards Cross References

Many Railway Group Standards refer to other Railway Group Standards and where this is the case these cross references are listed on the last page of the document.

The ongoing process of updating the suite of Railway Group Standards means that some of the cross references become out of date. Where you find that a referenced document is no longer available please contact the RSSB enquiry desk for the new document to be applied.

## Purchasing Railway Group Standards

A copy of the order form can be found in the Forms section of the RGS Catalogue or from the rgsonline website: [www.rgsonline.co.uk](http://www.rgsonline.co.uk). You will need the following details in order to complete the form:

- Railway Group Standard code and title
- Quantity
- Price
- Purchaser's full name, business, address and telephone number
- Credit card details, cheque or purchase order number
- Quantity

Then fax or post it to our distributors:

**Willsons Printers Limited**  
**Highlander House**  
**Cross Street**  
**Newark**  
**Nottinghamshire NG24 1PP**

**Fax: Ext: 01636 701396**

Please ensure that you include your credit card details, purchase order or a cheque made payable to Willsons Printers. Payments can also be made by BACS - please contact Willsons for company bank details.

**Tel: 01636 702334 Int: 037 9510**

Orders received will usually be dispatched within five working days.

## Purchasing National Operations Publications

National Operations Publications are Railway Group Standards which set out mandatory requirements for direct application in the workplace. These include:

- Modular Rule Book (GE/RT8000)
- Working Manual for Rail Staff: Handling and Carriage of Dangerous Goods (GO/RM3053)
- Working Manual for Rail Staff: Freight Train Operations (GO/RM3056).

Details of these documents can be found in the sections 'Document Titles and Descriptions' for Traffic Operations and Management.

As these documents are subject to frequent change, amendments which do not justify the reissue of the module or section of the working manual are published in GE/RT8001, Changes to National Operations Publications, which is bi-monthly.

Willsons Printers Limited supplies the Modular Rule Book and both working manuals. You can order these documents by contacting Denise Atkinson at:

**Willsons Printers Limited  
Highlander House  
Cross Street  
Newark  
Nottinghamshire NG24 1PP**

	<b>External</b>	<b>Internal</b>
<b>Tel:</b>	<b>01636 702334</b>	<b>037 9510</b>
<b>Fax:</b>	<b>01636 701396</b>	

## Price Codes

(A) = £7.00: up to 50 sides (B) = £10.00: 51 – 100 sides

(C) = £12.50: 101 – 150 sides

(W) = price available directly from Willsons Printers (see above)

(Z) = price or details upon request (from RSSB enquiry desk)

## Accessing Railway Group Standards Electronically

The definitive versions of Railway Group Standards and related documents can be accessed from the RGSonline website ([www.rgsonline.co.uk](http://www.rgsonline.co.uk)) and are available on CD-ROM. The web service is free to access and there is no requirement for a password to enter the site. The CD-ROM is sold on a subscription basis and the prices are detailed below.

<b>RSSB members</b>	£750 pa. In addition to the issue of six CD-ROMs ( <i>ie</i> one every two months), this will permit unlimited printing.
<b>Other companies</b>	£1500 pa for the issue of six CD-ROMs ( <i>ie</i> one every two months) with unlimited print facility.
<b>Additional copies</b>	If more than one copy of the CD-ROM is required ( <i>eg</i> for outbases), additional copies can be added to your subscription at a cost of £47 per set.

The prices shown include VAT. If you wish to place an order for a CD-ROM subscription, please contact Willsons Printers on 01636 702334 with your credit card details or a purchase order number. CDs will be supplied following your remittance.

For information on the functionality of the CD-ROM, contact:

**Computerstream Ltd**

**Email:** support@computerstream.co.uk

**Tel:** 01530 515050

For advice or assistance with the web service please contact the RSSB enquiry desk on 020 7904 7518.

## Enquiry Desk Services

The enquiry desk is available between the hours of 09:00 and 16:30.

Services provided by the RSSB enquiry desk include:

- General Rule Book enquiries
- General RGS enquiries
- Price and status of RGS
- CD-ROM password (provided only to companies subscribing to the CD)
- Requests for RSSB publications and documents
- Advice on accessing RGS on the Internet
- Technical queries (these may take slightly longer to deal with as they are passed on to the relevant technical specialist)
- If your query does not fit into any of the above mentioned, please call us anyway and we will do our best to help you, or put you in touch with someone who can.

**Enquiry Desk**  
**Rail Safety and Standards Board**  
**Floor 3, Evergreen House**  
**160 Euston Road**  
**London NW1 2DX**

**External**

Tel:020 7904 7518

Fax:020 7557 9072

E-mail

**Internal**

085 77518

085 79072

enquirydesk@rssb.co.uk

## Quality Standards

Railway Group Standards are produced under a management system certificated by BSI against requirements of ISO9001:2000.



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