

DIRECTOR MECHANICAL SERVICES

The Railway Association of Canada (RAC) is the national industry association representing close to 60 freight and passenger railway companies and approximately 60 associate member suppliers and partners. RAC's mission is to educate and collaborate with supply chain partners, governments, regulators and other stakeholders and advocate to ensure rail's ongoing role in safely and efficiently moving Canada's goods, resources, and people.

RAC's Mechanical Services Team promotes safe car-loading procedures, informs shippers and railway employees of industry best practices, and ensures that the Canadian car-loading rules are consistently applied. The team plays a key role in ensuring that shippers and railways adhere to the [Open Top Loading Rules](#) developed by RAC and the Association of American Railroads (AAR). Compliance with these rules is mandatory under the federal [Railway Safety Act](#).

The Railway Association of Canada (RAC) is looking to fill the position of **Director Mechanical Services**.

Interested and qualified candidates are invited to submit their resume in confidence by **December 14, 2021** to skazaka@railcan.ca with a covering letter describing their interest and suitability for the position.

The Railway Association of Canada welcomes and encourages applications from people with disabilities. Accommodations are available on request for candidates taking part in all aspects of the selection process.

We thank applicants for their interest, however, only those advancing in the process will be contacted.

RAILWAY ASSOCIATION OF CANADA POSITION GUIDE – DIRECTOR MECHANICAL SERVICES

Position Overview

The Director Mechanical Services directs and manages the provision of mechanical services to RAC members, railways, and shippers by promoting safe loading procedures and practices pursuant to mandatory loading rules issued by the RAC, the Association of American Railroads and Transport Canada, and provides training sessions to RAC members, railways, and shippers.

Organizational Structure

The Director Mechanical Services will report to the Executive Vice President and General Counsel. This role is expected to maintain internal and external stakeholder contacts, including:

- Member and related industry organizations
- Railway and Shipper management
- Equipment suppliers
- Association of American Railroads (AAR)
- Transport Canada
- Various Shipper Associations

The Responsibilities

- Support, prepare, coordinate, and schedule the activities of the mechanical and car loading rules Committees.
- Participate in meetings with key federal and provincial regulators.
- Prepare and edit revisions to mechanical rules (Freight car, Locomotive, Train Brake, and other mechanical related rules) for review and approval by Mechanical Committee.
- Act as main resource/contact for member railways and/or their customers including provision of liaison and arbitration services.
- Keep abreast of mandatory loading rules as issued by the RAC, the Association of American Railroads and Transport Canada, provide interpretation and monitor adherence of these rules to shippers and member railways as requested.
- Promote improved loading practices by shippers and within the industry for domestic and international traffic moving via closed or open top freight cars, TOFC or COFC and any other specially equipped cars or oversized shipments.
- Establish and maintain the following manuals: RAC 6000, CL-20 Securement methods for Military Rail Movements, ARR Loading Rules and update the corresponding Circulars within the RAC Car loading Rules.

- Supervise subcontractor activities, including adherence to rules and budget requirements, for creation of loading figures with diagrams and manuals related to the rail transportation of various commodities.
- Supervise/direct shipping and railway personnel, including RAC Car Loading Rules Manager, in the proper safe loading of railway freight cars when requested.
- Evaluate and approve loading test procedures for new loading patterns and submit the results with recommendations to the appropriate committee, RAC Sub Committee or AAR Open Top Loading Rules Committee.
- Prepare RAC Loading Figure Specifications and diagrams for publication under the RAC Car Loading Circular.
- Promote railway safety through proper loading practices by ensuring that the RAC circulars and AAR loading rules, as prescribed by Transport Canada, are properly and clearly communicated to appropriate shippers and, if requested, to member railways.
- Ensure compliance with the use of the various types of railway freight equipment as outlined in the official Railway Equipment Register as well as the various operational procedures and line clearances as issued by member lines and their connecting carriers.
- Inspect carload shipments, before, during and/or after movements to ensure loads are properly secured, in an approved manner, to avoid excessive movement; address safety hazards and/or potential for commodity damage.
- Periodically inspect cars in railway yards/shipper's siding to ensure adherence to rules, report infractions and/or advise railway supervisors on appropriate solutions, including recommending the prohibition for the movement of cars.
- Provide authoritative interpretations of proper loading practices and regulations for shipper personnel and member railways, as required, when violations and/or exceptions are noted or reported.
- Assist shippers to ensure compliance with proper procedures and formats for requesting rule revisions, transit arrangements or test permits for safe and secure loading of traffic for which there is no specific instruction or method in effect.
- Respond to requests from Transport Canada inspectors and district staff officers concerning various matters relating to car loading rules.
- Prepare and present multi-media instructional classes for shippers as well as railway employees, as requested, regarding current loading methods and regulations.
- Maintain frequent contact with railway member line officers, shippers, AAR, and other trade association officers.
- Participate in various committees including RAC Mechanical, AAR Open Top Loading Rules, AAR Damage Prevention & Freight Claims and other Association committees as required.

Professional Experience and Qualifications

- College degree or equivalent including basic engineering fundamentals;
- 8 to 12 years of broad and extensive functional rail experience or some cross functional managerial experience;
- Able to navigate through Canadian codes and standards and Federal regulations;
- Must be able to develop and maintain effective working relationships with internal and external parties;
- Proficiency in both official languages preferred.

Working Conditions

- Work within assigned territory; frequent exposure to inclement weather conditions;
- Flexible work schedule including extensive work hours;
- Extensive travel throughout North America;
- Manage multiple activities against timelines;
- High sensory attention required.