

## **PURPOSE**

Purpose of this section is to highlight the rules and acceptable loading standards common to all open top figures. Many rules are simply common sense, for responsible loading of open top cars, some are demanding. All are critical in building a strong reliable and safe load. We would like to remind you that the Federal Law of Canada sanctions the RAC and AAR rules contained in this pamphlet.

## **CORRESPONDING AAR OPEN TOP LOADING RULES SECTION 1:**

- Rule 1. Inspection and Compliance
- Rule 2. Required Clearances
- Rule 3. Weight Distribution and Load Location on Single Cars and Intermodal Trailers Containers .
- Rule 4. Load Dimension and Weight Restrictions
- Rule 5. Load Restraint
- Rule 6. Machines and Other Lading with Moving Parts
- Rule 10. Wood Types and Species
- Rule 11. Wood and Wood Substitute Securement Items
- Rule 12. Inflatable Dunnage Bags and Pack-out Materials
- Rule 13. Lateral Load Protection
- Rule 14. Attachment of Securement
- Rule 15. Nails, Staples, and Lag Screws
- Rule 16. Bolts, Rods, Bar, and Plate
- Rule 17. Steel Banding
- Rule 18. Protectors for Bands and/or Wire
- Rule 19. Nonmetallic Strapping
- Rule 20. Synthetic Webbing and Assemblies
- Rule 21. Chain, Binders, and Assemblies
- Rule 22. Wire Rope/Cable
- Rule 23. Turnbuckles, Clevises, and Shackles
- Rule 24. Wire—High Tension and Common
- Rule 25. Substitution of Securement Items



To ensure the safety of all concerned, the blocking, bracing and tie downs of loads on rail cars originating in Canada must be done in conformity with the “Car Loading Rules” produced by the Railway Association of Canada (RAC) and or “Rules Governing the Loading of Commodities on Open Top Cars” produced by Association of American Railroads (AAR).

Shippers must observe the drawings and specifications of an applicable Loading Figure, where a figure is available, as well as all applicable General Rules regarding the safe loading of freight cars. All items described under the figures for securing loads must be applied as specified. Shippers must also inspect shipments to ensure that they are properly and safely secured and that all details of the applicable Figure and General Rules have been complied with, before the shipments are released to carriers.