

EARLY WARNING



Convenient access to current information about potential mechanical problems with rail equipment is critical to the safe handling and movement of railcars. A service of the Association of American Railroads (AAR), Early Warning acts as an alert-management system and a hub for communications about this equipment.

When equipment owners or manufacturers identify potential mechanical problems, they notify the AAR, which issues a Maintenance Advisory (MA) or Early Warning (EW) notice depending on the severity of the potential problem. These notices inform industry participants about equipment that needs inspection or repair. Railinc maintains Early Warning, which also serves as a central repository of notice data and associated equipment and enables repair shops and others to report when a car has been inspected or repaired so that equipment can be removed from notices.

SINGLE SOURCE FOR NOTICE DATA

Early Warning provides a single source for accurate, up-to-date information on EW and MA notices and enables rail industry participants to query share and update data on equipment with potential mechanical problems. The system also helps railroads meet industry requirements to share information about equipment with potential safety conditions.

ACCURATE, UP-TO-DATE DATA

With Early Warning, rail industry participants are viewing accurate, up-to-date data on equipment notices. The system automatically assigns cars to a notice if they are past their due date for air brake testing. Early Warning's advanced query tool incorporates search criteria from Railinc's Umler® system, which provides richer search results and enables users to locate equipment associated with notices faster and with greater accuracy.

EASY INSPECTION AND REPAIR REPORTING

Early Warning's interface helps reporting parties to input detailed data that show a car's status, including whether it has been inspected or repaired and is ready to return to service, has been moved for additional inspections or to scrap, or was incorrectly added to a notice and has been removed.



EMAIL ALERTS ON NOTICE EVENTS

Early Warning users can receive email alerts to stay informed of when one of seven unique scenarios occurs, including when a notice or a supplement to an existing notice is created, when their equipment is assigned to or removed from a notice, and when an EW or MA notice expires.

DETAILED TRANSACTION LOG QUERIES

Early Warning's transaction log query function enables users to see EW and MA notice data for a specified period. Users can also add other search parameters, including notice numbers, equipment IDs and criteria from the Umler system.

TRAIN II AND WEB SERVICES ACCESS

Access to Early Warning via Train II and web services provides users with additional, convenient points of entry to the system. Early Warning can integrate with customers' existing systems, enabling users to receive notice creating and equipment assignments, report inspections and perform queries through Train II and web services instead of logging on to the user interface.

ACCESS EARLY WARNING

Go to www.railinc.com and create a Single Sign-On user ID, then request permission to access the Early Warning system via the Railinc Launchpad.

To learn more about the Early Warning system, visit the Railinc website at www.railinc.com or contact the Railinc Customer Support Center at (877) 724-5462 or csc@railinc.com.

