

FOREWORD

1. The Maintenance manual for Wagons was last compiled and issued by Ministry of Railways in 1979.
2. During the last two decades, considerable work has been done in upgrading the wagons to meet the traffic demand for higher productivity. Thus, it has become necessary to update the Wagon Maintenance Manual incorporating the technological upgradations/innovations brought out in the wagon design, maintenance strategy and operation over Indian Railways.
3. The manual deals with maintenance of all systems of the wagons like superstructure, running gear, braking system, etc. Thus, it can act as the single bare reference document for maintenance of wagons in workshops and open line depots. In this manual, the attempt is not to cover the entire range of individual working conditions, which may exist on the various zonal railways. The zonal railways may, if considered necessary, supplement these instructions with subsidiary procedures based on local practices with the approval of CME.
4. Technological upgradation is a continuing process. Those that have been implemented have been covered in this manual. With IR's thrust in increased productivity and market orientation, emphasis on factors such as increased throughput in terms of higher axle load and speeds, product specific designs, enhanced reliability and availability etc. will gather momentum ushering in newer designs and technological upgradation of wagons more than ever before. Therefore, separate maintenance instructions will also be issued as and when the newer designs are inducted in to the system.
5. This manual has been written with the purpose of knowledge dissemination and guidance of staff dealing with repairs and maintenance of wagons. Hence full use of the same must be made to derive the intended benefits fully. However, it should be clearly understood that practices and service wear limits mentioned in the manual are more restrictive than wear limits based on Safety criteria, any minor deviation from the former, though not recommended, need not be considered unsafe for running of wagons on line.
6. Apart from detailed maintenance instructions for the different types of wagons now on IR, this manual also lists out various rules and provisions given in IRCA Part III as a supplement for reference purposes. It is, therefore, not the intention to replace IRCA rules Pt. III. Statutory provisions and instructions contained in the general rules and various codes are to be followed and remain unaffected by the issue of this manual.

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