# Check Box <br> Train Orders 

Dave Clemens<br>Jim Providenza

# Speeding Up Timetable and Train Order Operations 

Dave Clemens (advocate) Jim Providenza (not so much!)

## Issues to consider

What ever you can do, the Ops Clock
 will do much faster.

Need five minutes to write and copy? You just burned up 20 to 30 minutes (or more) out on the railroad


## Issues to consider

## Recommendations to Otis McGee's SP Black Butte Subdn dispatchers.

Less is More is the best policy for Train Orders. Issue as few Train Orders as absolutely needed. Issue more, but very simple Train Orders where necessary. Although there are MANY forms of Train Orders, focus on just FOUR - Run or Work Extra, and Meet at or Right-Over.

1. Run Extra: ENG 1234 RUN EXTRA ALPHA TO MARY
2. Works Extra: ENG 1234 WORKS EXTRA FROM 901AM UNTIL

1230PM BETWEEN ALPHA AND BAKER
3. Setting a Meeting point: NO 20 MEET EXTRA 5678 WEST AT

CHARLIE
4. Right Over: EXTRA 5678 WEST HAS RIGHT OVER NO 20

ALPHA TO CHARLIE

## Issues to consider

I used to write ten or fifteen TO's per ? session at Otis's.

Now I write six or seven by keeping the trains spread out. Yet the railroad is more fluid from beginning to end, and traffic (and operators) keep moving NOT standing around.

## Some solutions

On Jim's Santa Cruz Northern we love to throw a match into the can of gasoline from time to time.

## Holiday weekend traffic balloons with more Suntan's running to the beach. So how do you keep up?

## Some solutions

## Keeping the Santa Cruz Northern fluid

 Memorial Day weekendPre-print lots of TO's. Just like when the DS told his Ops down the line, "Copy a bunch."

## Pre-Printed TOs




## Other solutions

Most recently, Jim had an issue of track work going on at SP Xing.

Do we deal with it as Train Orders?<br>Nope, having a prototype DS on call encouraged us to create a Division Bulletin.

## Some solutions

## Santa Cruz Northern RR

DIVISION BULLETIN NO. 207
NOVEMBER 17, 1971
12:07 P.M.
ALL SCN TRAINS ORIGINATING
AUTOMATIC INTERLOCKING SP XING MP 34.2 TEMPORARILY REMOVED FROM SERVICE. ALL MOVEMENTS AT SP XING SHALL BE GOVERNED BY SP FLAGMAN. ALL SCN TRAINS MUST APPROACH SP XING PREPARED TO STOP UNLESS PROCEED SIGNAL FROM FLAGMAN IS RECEIVED.

YELLOW FLAGS DISPLAYED EASTWARD AT MP 34.5 AND WESTWARD AT MP 33.9. ALL TRAIN MOVEMENTS BETWEEN MP 33.9 AND MP 34.5 SHALL BE MADE AT RESTRICTED SPEED PREPARED TO STOP SHORT OF MEN OR EQUIPMENT.

ON PROCEED SIGNAL FROM SP FLAGMAN AT SP XING, TRAINS SHALL SOUND BELL AND WHISTLE CONTINUOSLY BETWEEN MP 34.0 AND MP 34.4 UNLESS OTHERWISE PROVIDED.

SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL SHALL ENSURE ALL TRAIN SERVICE, MAINTENANCE OF WAY, OR OTHER PERSONNEL OPERATING AT, NEAR OR THROUGH SP XING HAS A COPY OF THIS BULLETIN WHEN ON DUTY.

SIGNED,
SUPERINTENDENT
JCP
CHIEF TRAIN DISPATCHER
DRC

## Issues to consider

## But how do you speed up the TO write, copy, repeat process?

Simplify the forms! Here are some prototype solutions.

## Issues to consider Some prototype solutions.



## Issues to consider <br> Some prototype solutions.

## TRAN ORDER C.

Train No. $\qquad$ will run to
of Train No. and after arriving there will bo governed by the mules. The last named train will not pass the point named until the other has arrived there. In other respects it will be governed by the rules. Neither train is authorized by this to run ahead of its own time table time.

## Sigucd by

Ifeceived by
operator.

## Issues to consider

## Some prototype solutions.



# What finally "tore" it for Dave? <br> <br> I love having the IMR\&N in full swing, 

 <br> <br> I love having the IMR\&N in full swing,}

Right up until the clock goes on. And I find myself an hour (fast clock, of course) behind.

## Here's Dave's solution

## A "Check Box" Train Order.

## The DS plays Telegrapher/ Operator doing all the paperwork, although crews could easily "copy and repeat" back if desired.



## Here's One example



# Reluctantly (VERY) 

Jim has will consider the "concept" of pre-printed forms, because...
The "fill in the blanks" forms match the prototype examples.
Just don't expect an operating session on the SCN to have these scattered around the Agent/Operators' desks. But, just in case....

## Reluctantly (Very)

## Jim will consider the "concept" of preprinted forms, just in case....



Eng $\qquad$ run extra $\qquad$
$\qquad$ meet $\qquad$ at
to $\qquad$
$\qquad$
$\qquad$ Time $\qquad$ M $\qquad$ Opr. is order CTD Made $\qquad$ _Time $\qquad$ ${ }^{M}$ $\qquad$ Opr. $\qquad$ CTD

## Reluctantly (Yes!)

## Jim will consider the "concept" of preprinted forms for others, just in case....



|  | Santa Cruz Northern RR |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| 19 |  | 19 |
| tran order no. | - |  |
| ${ }_{\text {To }}$ C. \& E. |  |  |
|  |  |  |

$\qquad$ run __ hours late
___ has right over
$\qquad$
m $\qquad$
to $\qquad$

# Other Options <br> Another approach from Byron Henderson. 

## Timetable and Two (2) Train Orders.

Of the 16 daily train "slots" on the schedule, the owner normally ran only six or seven trains. Train "slots" were annulled in pairs (east \& west), with any needed meets established by Train Order.

## Other Options

## Another approach from Byron Henderson.

## Timetable and Two (2) Train Orders.

- Timetable includes more trains than run in a session with scheduled meets
- "Run Late" and "Meet At" pre-printed orders
- Mark off annulled and arrived trains (Register)

Of the 16 daily train "slots" on the schedule, the owner normally ran only six or seven trains. Train "slots" often were annulled in pairs (east \& west), with any needed meets established by Train Order.

## Other Options

## Timetable and Two Train Orders forms.


The following trains are
annulled or have arrived
(draw line through Train \#)
1

Proceed with caution
through Yard Limits, prepared to stop

## Other Options

## Timetable \& 2 Train Orders trainsheet.

Dispatcher's record of Train orders issued


| 1 | 2 |
| :---: | :---: |
| 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 |
| 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 |
| 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 |
| 15 | 16 |

## Other Options

## Another approach from Kevin Leyerle. "Fill in the Blank" approach is similar to Dave's

MISSOURI - KANSAS - TEXAS RATLROAD COMPANY OKLAHOMA, KANSAS AND TEXAS RALLRQADCOMPANY

CLEARANCE
$\qquad$
C. \& E.
$\qquad$
I have orbery tor youn troin:
In btark apace athow tota number of ordens or, it none, how "Ho")


Operator will lid ordent aowrmard in numerical orset, ttanimg in lef column, apeed restriction crders hrat, old date morement aidera neat and cumort movement ordert last, find colurm to be filled before ueing pecond and thed columme.


ROperatoi $\pi 1$ in the apoce ontr when necessary to compy wim Rule 913
MISSOURI-KANSAS-TEXAS RALLROAD COMPANY OKLAHOMA, KANSAS AND TEXAS RAILROAD COMPANY SEOMI
TKAIN ORDER Ni
19 $\qquad$

$\square$
$\qquad$

Dispr. $\qquad$

Other Options

- Pat Flynn:
- "One Legged" Dispatching on the WP's $4^{\text {th }}$ Sub circa 1980
- "There will be no clerks at Keddie."


Rule 540. Traffic Control System in effect Keddie to MP 55.8. Westward signal located at MP 57.5 is Distant Signal for Absolute Signal at MP 55.8.
Westward trains do not require clearance or train order authority to operate in TCS territory west of Robbers Creek and will be identified as "Extras West"
Rules T-82-A and 204. Train orders will be issued at Oroville Yard and Portola which affect movement on Fourth Subdivision. Train orders will be issued at Bieber which affect movement on Third Subdivision. Clearance is not required at Keddie. TCS Signals will govern movements between MP 55.8 and Oroville Yard or Portola. Eastward Trains will check with Fourth Sub Dispatcher and Westward Trains with Third Sub Dispatcher to determine they have all applicable Form " $Z$ " orders before leaving Keddie.

## Other Options

## The WESTERN PACIFIC used

"One-legged Train Orders" on the "Highline" between Keddie and Bieber connecting to the GN (BN) via Klamath Falls

In the final days of Train Orders, Dispatcher's issued "Train Orders via radio" to northbound trains nearing the end of CTC at Robber's Creek.

Radio Train Orders permitted eliminating the Agent/Operator positions at Keddie. Bieber Operators (and traditional Train Orders) continued because Bieber Operators were also Crew Callers.


Flagman courtesy of RailsonWheels

