

U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO)



Railroad Safety: Dot Should Better Manage Its Hazardous Materials Inspection Program: Rced-90-43

By -

BiblioGov. Paperback. Book Condition: New. This item is printed on demand. Paperback. 46 pages. Dimensions: 9.7in. x 7.4in. x 0.1in.Pursuant to a congressional request, GAO evaluated the: (1) effectiveness of the Federal Railroad Administrations (FRA) hazardous materials inspection program; and (2) extent to which the Department of Transportations (DOT) Research and Special Programs Administration (RSPA) improved its Hazardous Materials Information System (HMIS) and established a program to register hazardous materials shippers. GAO found that: (1) FRA inspectors hazardous materials enforcement manual included outdated and contradictory inspection goals and guidance, did not describe ways for inspectors to identify and target high-risk shippers, and did not clearly delineate when inspectors should cite shippers and railroads for noncompliance or inspectors authority to issue violations at shippers facilities; (2) FRA did not use information available from its sources or HMIS to target inspection resources at high-risk shippers and railroad facilities; (3) FRA inspectors generally focused on inspecting individual cars carrying hazardous materials, rather than reviewing the adequacy of shippers or railroads safety procedures; (4) FRA lacked adequate staffing to accomplish its objective of ensuring that shippers and railroads complied with RSPA regulations; (5) FRA cited budget restrictions as the primary reason for not actively...

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