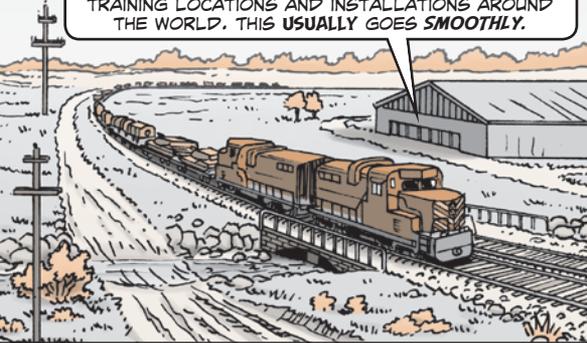


# Safety... Shut, Latch and Strap Vehicle Doors

THE ARMY MOVES MILITARY EQUIPMENT BY RAIL TO TRAINING LOCATIONS AND INSTALLATIONS AROUND THE WORLD. THIS USUALLY GOES SMOOTHLY.

BUT TWO DIFFERENT TIMES RECENTLY, VEHICLE DOORS CAME OPEN DURING RAIL SHIPMENTS. BAD NEWS! BOTH THE VEHICLES AND RAILROAD EQUIPMENT WERE DAMAGED.



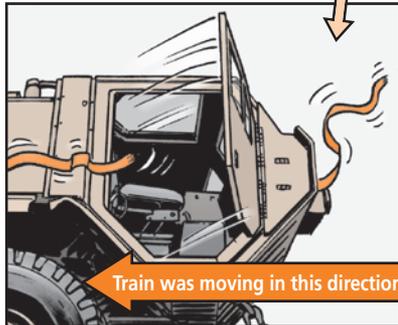
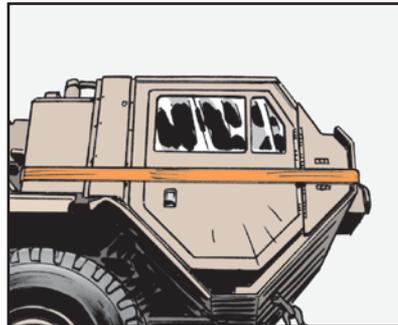
This is a serious safety issue. Not only can an open door damage Army equipment, but it could strike a passing passenger rail car. That could hurt or even kill someone.

So whenever you ship vehicles by rail, make sure all doors are properly shut, latched and strapped or banded. Make sure door latches are holding. Broken latches **must** be secured by using wire, banding or some other method.

CSX railway already requires that all vehicle doors, armored and unarmored, be secured by wire, banding or other means before rail transport, whether the latches are working or not.

Load team supervisors and inspectors should also double-check that all vehicle doors are secured before rail transit.

Even a strapped door can open, though. In one incident, the train's motion caused the strap to rub against a sharp edge on the vehicle until it broke.



Strap over door was cut by edge of truck, allowing door to fly open

Normal vibration/swaying of flatcar slowly cut strap with saw-like action on vehicle edge. Strap broke and door opened, striking railroad's side signal.

So the Army's Transportation Regimental Safety Office recommends these additional steps when strapping vehicle doors:

- Use rubber or plastic corner/edge protectors when running web straps over vehicle edges.
- Check that protectors are securely connected to web straps so they don't vibrate loose.

Proper tie-down procedures for rail shipping many types of equipment are covered in the Transportation Engineering Agency's (TEA) pamphlet 55-19, *Tie-down Handbook for Rail Movements* (Jul 2009). Go to:

<http://www.tea.army.mil/pubs/Deploy.asp>

Click [Field Guidance Pamphlets](#) to get TEA PAM 55-19 and related pubs.

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Safety...

# Don't Snag the Ring Fish



Summertime means fishing for a lot of folks. But one thing you don't want to hook is a ring fish when you're working on or around Army equipment.

Too many Soldiers have lost fingers (or parts of 'em) by snagging rings when doing maintenance or climbing on or off equipment.

Fact is, jewelry is **risky business** in the motor pool. If you're working on or around electrical devices, it can even pose an electrocution hazard.

So remember—stash the bling and take off the ring!