

Railway Executive News

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NO-SMOKE IS NO LONGER SURE-FIRE JOURNAL OK

Increased use of better oils, better lubricators and tighter cover seals has created one new problem for harassed trainmen—dangerously hot journals can no longer be counted on to advertise with easily spotted smoke signals.

Many defective journal boxes using improved lubrication methods can run up unusually high temperatures without a sign of smoke. This makes it easy for them to be overlooked by track-side observers. These hot boxes can be spotted only by the SERVOSAFE Detective, which "sees" thermally.

So tricky are these smokeless hot boxes that crewmen have been fooled even after they have been brought to the exact journal by the SERVOSAFE Detective. To cope with the problem, some railroads have instituted positive check-out procedures. Crew members are required to open the lid, look inside, then report back by telephone. The wisdom of this course is proven by the many reports of visually approved boxes that burst into flame when opened. ■

Seven Hot Boxes on Three Tank Cars are Arrested by Servosafe® Detective*

Midnight. In the tower at the interlocking, Bill Randolph is just beginning his trick. Four minutes later, the SERVOSAFE® Hot Box Detective* System's recorder starts writing. That's the westbound freight, BR-1, Bill decides...picked up by the infrared trackside scanners, three miles up the line.

On the record chart, the pen is steadily making a double row of short "OK" pips. Suddenly, the long "hot box" mark...then another...then another.

Even before the pen jumps the third time, Bill is up...to set the board against BR-1.

Looking back at the record, Bill sees four more warning marks—all seven in the space of three cars, 56, 57 and 58 head.

Within minutes, BR-1 rolls past, already slowing down for the stop. Bill counts...cars 56, 57 and 58 are tankers! But he can't see any signs of trouble on his side. Could there really be *seven* hot boxes on those three cars? Only 18 months of experience with the Detective

kept him from doubting. There had to be trouble!

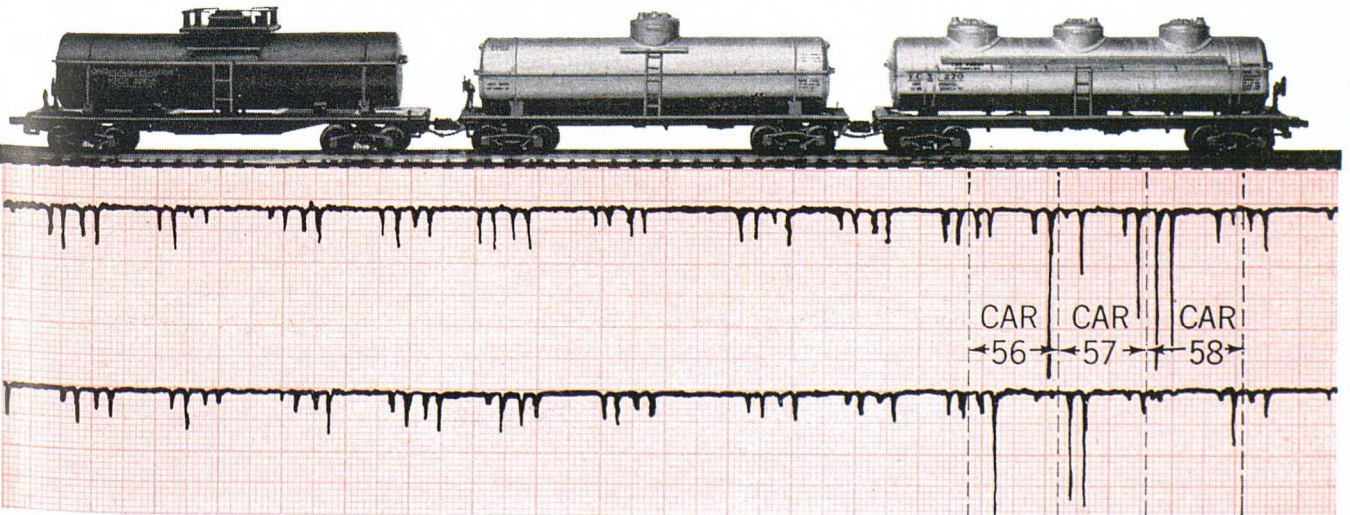
Three minutes later, when the phone rings, Bill speaks confidently. "Seven hot boxes on 3 cars," he tells the crewman. "56, 57 and 58 head cars, all tankers." He follows up with exact journal locations.

Later, Bill got the story. The three tankers were loaded with combustibles. Three boxes were blazing, three were smoking, the seventh showed nothing—but was red hot inside.

The SERVOSAFE Detective System kept BR-1 on the rails... and off the front pages of the next day's newspapers.

Round the clock, winter and summer, despite fog, rain or snow SERVOSAFE Detectives are automatically, dependably, tirelessly enabling 14 major railroads to attain faster freight movement in maximum safety.

Facts and figures that demonstrate the economies of the SERVOSAFE System are yours for the asking. ■



Actual recording of seven hot boxes on three tank cars as detected by SERVOSAFE Detective.