

**American Railway Engineering and Maintenance of Way Association
Letter Ballot**

Title: Update to SECTION 3.5.8 Machining

1. **Committee and Subcommittee:** Committee 30 – Subcommittee 3
2. **Letter Ballot Number:** 30-22-03
3. **Assignment:** 3.3 Tie Test and the Economics of Service Life
4. **Ballot Item:** In an effort to review and revise Section 3 of Chapter 30 Subcommittee 3 would like to submit this ballot proposing an update to 3.5.8 Machining. This change is for clarification and to reflect current activities.
5. **Rationale:** Subcommittee 3 believes that the current recommendations needs to be updated to currently protocols by removing section c. This has not been an active practice at treating facilities in 20+ years. It goes back to when many ties were still hand hewn and is no longer an active practice. Also in section “b” there are 2 editorial changes to be more current and accurate.

3.5.8 Machining

CURRENT

- a. **While anti-splitting devices designed to control the splitting of ties can be applied at any time, it is recommended they be applied prior to or at the time the ties are delivered to the treating plant, prior to air-seasoning our bouldenizing in order to maximize their effectiveness.**

PROPOSED

- a. Ties may be bored prior to treatment to minimize splitting when driving spikes and provide preservative penetration around the spike holes.
- b. Incising is recommended prior to seasoning to hasten seasoning, retard splitting, and serious checking, and permit deeper preservative penetration of recalcitrant woods refractory species.
- c. ~~———— Poorly sawn ties should be adzed prior to seasoning or treatment for the purpose of insuring even support for tie plates in the same plane.~~