



# FRA EO 26 – Electronic and Electrical Device Flow Chart

When are RR operating employees prohibited from using electronic and electrical devices?

**Personal or RR supplied electronic/electrical devices may NOT interfere with RR operating employees performance of safety related duties**

**Use of RR supplied electronic/electrical devices *PROHIBITED* when:**

**Personal electronic/electrical devices *MUST BE TURNED OFF* with earpiece removed when:  
(other than a hearing aid device)**

**Other RR Operating Employee\***

**Locomotive Engineer/ RCO**

**All RR Operating Employees\***

**On a moving train unless:**

- Authorized for business purpose
- A safety briefing is held
- Crew agrees it is safe to do so

or

Authorized business purpose within the body of a passenger train or RR business car

**Outside the cab unless:**

- Not fouling a track
- No Switching Operation is underway
- No other safety related duties
- All crew members have been briefed that operations are suspended

**On a moving train**

- During switching Operations when:
  - Duty requires crew member to be on the ground
  - Crew member is riding rolling equipment during a switching operation
  - When another employee of the RR is assisting in preparation of the train (e.g., air brake test)

**On a moving train**

- During switching Operations when:
  - Duty requires crew member to be on the ground
  - Crew member is riding rolling equipment during a switching operation
  - When another employee of the RR is assisting in preparation of the train (e.g., air brake test)

### Exceptions:

- May use electronic control systems/informational displays within the cab or on remote control transmitter; or remote transmitter to operate or conduct switching operations (e.g. switches)
- Employee may refer to a digital timepiece to ascertain time of day/verify accuracy of speed indicator
- Employee may use during an operating emergency, radio failure; or to reference electronically stored rules
- As authorized under 49 CFR 220, may use RR supplied or authorized in lieu of RR radio to conduct operations

### Note:

Use of personal electronic/electrical devices for other than voice communication is prohibited except as noted above

\*Means a person performing duties subject to 49 U.S.C. 21103, "limitation on duty hours of train employees."