

# Franklin Yard Yardmaster Notes



- Two control panels govern the track in Franklin Yard (FY):
  - The west panel controls the west A/D ladder, the engine service facility turnout, and the power toggles for the engine service tracks.
  - The east panel controls the east A/D ladder, the caboose track power selection toggle, classification track selection and the routing of the switch lead.
- The Yardmaster generally operates the control panels. At Yardmaster's discretion, the road crews can align the turnouts into the desired A/D track.
- The motive power from the road trains should move only on the A/D tracks, the A/D ladders, the through track, and the engine service facility.
- The pushbuttons on each control panel are used to match power to the A/D ladder and the currently selected A/D track. This allows the switcher to traverse A/D tracks that still have cabooses in them (and hence show "occupied" to the control computer). The pushbuttons are used as follows:
  - Move your switcher or motive power set onto the desired A/D ladder (east or west)
  - Select the desired A/D track using the control panel dial
  - Engage the pushbutton. The indicator LED will illuminate, indicating that power to the selected A/D track is now the same as the A/D ladder (and therefore your switcher or motive power set).
- The caboose track can be reached from either end. A toggle is used to energize the track power from either end.
- The engine service facility tracks are powered by the toggles on the west control panel. When powered, the engine service tracks are part of BLOCK 57.
- The switch lead is nominally 18 cars long.
- Yard activity generally follows the following pattern:
  - Manifest freight (non-numbered) and high-priority trains (such as unit coal trains and intermodal) don't stop in FY.
  - Numbered freights and locals stop to services engines and drop/pick cars.
  - Numbered freights can take cars going in their direction up to their limits.
  - Some trains coming out of Parsons (from the west) or Baden Yard (from the east) are "shotgunned", meaning not blocked. These trains should be reblocked before proceeding,
  - Upon arrival, the train's motive power should move to the through track and engine service facility, if possible, and remain there until the switcher completes its work.
- During quiet times, the switcher can work the New Franklin Industrial Park. Get dispatcher's approval to enter the main track. Or you can call a crew.

**Rule One is to relax and HAVE FUN!**