

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 connected to the eastern through track (block 51), so be sure that block 51 is not occupied before throwing a toggle.
- The switch lead is nominally 12 cars long.
- Yard activity generally follows the following pattern:
 - Manifest freight (non-numbered) and hi-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 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.

Rule One is to relax and HAVE FUN!