

EMRA Standards, Practices, & Concepts

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STANDARDS DOCUMENT: **DEFINITIONS**

Why do we have Concepts, Standards, and Practices?

The Monashee Pacific looks realistic and operates reliably - and it has done so for over twenty years! This is because of the thoughtfulness and discipline put into developing the parameters for how the layout is constructed.

Members have spent countless hours researching and considering all of the elements that go in to the modeled Monashee Pacific, from what year and part of the world the Railroad is set in, to how feeder wires should be attached to the rail.

These parameters are broken in to three distinct and specific categories:

1. Concepts
2. Practices
3. Standards

What does each one cover?

Concepts:

Concepts are defined as **the vision** that the club is working to create.

- Define a subject at a high level,
- Guide what the railroad is, does, looks like, etc,
- Represent the input and consensus of the membership,
- Are only changed in very special circumstances.

Practices:

Practices are defined as the day-to-day ways that have been developed by members to **enact the Standards and Concepts**.

- Are more easily changed than Concepts or Standards
- Should not contradict Concepts or Standards, they help enact them
- Are most often set by Coordinators (mediated by the Club Executive in case of dispute) – see Bylaws Section 15(b)(c)
- May (but not always) be dictated by current technology, availability of models, or popular techniques.

Standards:

Standards are defined as **replicable physical parameters** that allow everything concerning the modeled railroad to function reliably, consistently, and for the long term.

- Dictate how something will be done
- Further the vision of (and must not conflict with) Concepts
- Can only be changed by a Special Resolution as outlined in the Club Bylaws – see Bylaws Section 15(a)
- Act as a record of institutional memory for members and the Club
- Are legible, replicable directions for how something should be done, look or function
- NMRA Standards and recommended Practices (791127) take precedent over EMRA standards.

Examples:

Example 1: Motive Power

Concept: The Monashee Pacific is set in the steam-to-diesel transition era in Canada.

Practice: Athearn's current GP9s represent the 1700 to 1709 series Monashee Pacific units.

Standard: Diesel locomotives of class GMD GP9 are numbered in the 1700 to 1709 series.

Example 2: Structures

Concept: Blue Springs has the following Railway facilities: station, section house, water tower.

Practice: Structures department uses Floquil brand paint, "Medium Brown" colour for all railway structures standard brown, applied with an airbrush.

Standard: All Railway Facilities are painted brown with cream trim.

Notes:

- Not every element has an associated Concept, Standard, AND Practice. Sometimes just a Practice is sufficient (eg: the grade of wood used for benchwork).
- **When in doubt, ask!** Read "Scenes on the Monashee" and the Standards on the members page or in the standards Binder in the club room.
- New Standards and Practices can be introduced if you think something is missing.

Conclusion:

If you are adding to or working on the layout, whatever you are doing MUST adhere to the Concepts and Standards. It might not always adhere to Practices though, depending on circumstances.