

## Questions & Answers for Scheduled Employees FRA's Revises Definition of "Day"

**1) I hear the FRA has revised the definition of a "day." What exactly is changing?**

A "day" will be defined as the 24-hour period ending when the employee is finally released from duty and begins his/her statutory, minimum off-duty time.

**2) Do I need to do anything to prepare for the change?**

TY&E employees do not need to take any action. BNSF's Crew Support Systems will automatically apply the new "day" interpretation beginning Dec. 12, 2012.

**3) Which BNSF employees will be affected by the new definition of a day?**

TY&E employees are the only employee group affected as of Dec. 12, 2012.

**4) Do I need 24 hours of undisturbed rest to break my consecutive starts?**

No. The entire 24 hours of rest does not need to be undisturbed; however, the mandatory minimum rest period of 10 hours following tie-up must be undisturbed.

**5) Will the *Smart Rest* tool still be available for me to help manage my rest time?**

Yes, where available, employees are encouraged to use the *Smart Rest* tool to help manage their rest. If *Smart Rest* is not available, employees should contact their supervisors or crew managers with questions. (Note: *Smart Rest* is in place where BNSF and various General Committees have established RSIA Agreements. Approximately 80% of TY&E employees have access to *Smart Rest*.) *Smart Rest* has been modified to provide employees with the ability to secure 24 hours off following release from duty from their fourth or fifth consecutive start.

**6) Can you provide an example using the new 24-hour "day"?**

Yes. For example, a TY&E employee goes on duty at 1 a.m. on May 11, works eight (8) hours, and is released from duty at 9 a.m. on May 11, 2012.

This same employee returns to duty at 9 p.m. on May 11 and works four (4) hours, going off duty at 1 a.m. on May 12.

Under the new definition of a "24-hour day," effective Dec. 12, 2012, this employee has accumulated two (2) starts for the purposes of accumulating starts on six consecutive days.

*Note: A return to duty following an interim release (e.g., the employee is at the AFHT and is off duty for less 10 hours) does not count as another "start" because there has been no final release.*

*For example: Employee A goes on duty at 1 a.m. on May 11, works eight (8) hours, and is released from duty at the away-from-home terminal (AFHT) at 9 a.m. on May 11. That employee returns to duty at 4 p.m. (prior to obtaining mandatory rest – also sometimes referred to as "split rest" or "continuous time") and works four (4) hours and is released from duty at the home terminal at 8 p.m. That employee has only accumulated one (1) start due to not having a "final release" at the AFHT.*