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American Short Line and  
Regional Railroad Association's

# VIEWS & NEWS



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Convention  
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Orlando, FL](#)

[ASLRRRA Eastern  
Region Meeting  
September 12-14, 2010  
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[ASLRRRA  
Central/Pacific Region  
Meeting  
October 3-5, 2010  
Kansas City, MO](#)

[ASLRRRA Southern  
Region Meeting  
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Atlanta, GA](#)

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## ASLRRRA WELCOMES MORE NEW MEMBERS

We are pleased to welcome the following new Railroad members:

**Canton Railroad Company:** Canton Railroad Company operates 21 miles of track in Maryland and connects with CSX and NS. The railroad is located at 1841 S. Newkirk St., Baltimore, MD 21224 and their main number is (410) 633-9200. Canton Railroad Company's website is [www.cantonrr.com](http://www.cantonrr.com) and their fax number is (410) 633-8720. Please contact CEO & President John Magness at [jmagness@cantonrr.com](mailto:jmagness@cantonrr.com).

**East Chattanooga Belt Railway:** East Chattanooga Belt Railway operates four miles of track in Tennessee and connects with NS. The railroad is located at 4119 Cromwell Rd., Chattanooga, TN 37421 and their main number is (423) 894-8028. East Chattanooga Belt Railway's website is [www.tvrail.com](http://www.tvrail.com) and their fax number is (423) 894-8029. Please contact President Tim Andrews at [tandrews@tvrail.com](mailto:tandrews@tvrail.com).

And we are also pleased to welcome the following new Associate members:

**LTE Rail Service:** LTE Rail Service manufactures locomotive parts and provides locomotive leasing to short line and regional railroads. LTE Rail Service can be reached at P.O. Box 1107, Warren, OH 44482 and their main number is (330) 399-1881. Their website is [www.ltextrail.com](http://www.ltextrail.com) and their fax number (330) 395-8790. Please contact President George Bakeris at [ltextrail@aol.com](mailto:ltextrail@aol.com).

**Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc.:** Safety-Kleen Systems, Inc. is a premier provider of environmental industrial waste management services, including parts cleaner services, oil recovery services, as well as hazardous and non-hazardous waste management and waste recycling services. Safety-Kleen Systems is located at 5800 Legacy Dr., Building 2, Suite 1000, Plano, TX 75024 and their main number is (847) 358-2035. Their website is [www.safety-kleen.com](http://www.safety-kleen.com) and their fax number is (847) 358-2468. Please contact Senior Account Manager of Railroads and Fleets Tom Pyziak at [tom.pyziak@safety-kleen.com](mailto:tom.pyziak@safety-kleen.com).

**TAS Insurance Group, Inc.:** TAS Insurance Group, Inc. administers Railroad Protective Solutions, Inc. (RPS), which specializes in railroad insurance coverage with on-line quoting capabilities for Railroad Protective Liability (RPL) bids/policies. TAS Insurance Group, Inc. is located at 255 NW Blue Parkway, Suite 102, Lee's Summit, MO 64063 and their main number is (816) 554-8162. The company's website is [www.railroadprotectivesolutions.com](http://www.railroadprotectivesolutions.com) and the fax number is (816) 554-8324. Please contact Vice President Stephanie Woltemath at [stephanie@tasinsurance.com](mailto:stephanie@tasinsurance.com).

**The Timken Company:** The Timken Company is a global provider of friction management and power transmission solutions for diverse markets, including rail, aerospace, automotive, construction, distribution, energy, trucks and mining. The Timken Company is located at 1835 Dueber Ave. SW, Canton, OH 44706, their main number is (330) 438-3000 and their mail code is GCH-21. Their website is [www.timken.com](http://www.timken.com) and their fax number is (330) 458-6006. Please contact Vice President of North American Sale- Rail Thomas M. Young at [thomas.young@timken.com](mailto:thomas.young@timken.com).

**Willis of North America, Inc.:** Willis of North America, Inc. is a world leader in providing insurance brokerage services to the rail industry. Willis of North America is located at 200 Liberty Street, New York, NY 10281 and their main number is (212) 915-7952. Their website is [www.willis.com](http://www.willis.com) and their fax number is (212) 519-5468. Please contact Senior Vice President Daniel Bancroft at [daniel.bancroft@willis.com](mailto:daniel.bancroft@willis.com).

**Are you aware of a company with different products or services than your own and interested in heightening their visibility to short line and regional railroads? Then let Cheryl Huyck know, so that she may acquaint them with the many benefits of becoming an ASLRRRA associate member. Email Cheryl at [chuyck@aslrra.org](mailto:chuyck@aslrra.org) or phone her at (202) 585-3431.**

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## **ASLRRRA 2010 CONVENTION STARTS THIS WEEKEND!**

It's here! It's time! ASLRRRA's 2010 Annual Convention starts this weekend at the Hilton Bonnet Creek Resort in Orlando, Florida!

In what is sure to be – as Railway Track & Structures Magazine last year put it – “a barnburner of a meeting,” railroaders, suppliers and persons from throughout the rail industry will gather to meet, learn and enjoy all that this classic ASLRRRA event provides. This year's Exhibit Hall features over 150 rail industry vendors featuring products perfectly suited for short line railroads and suppliers. In addition, educational opportunities like the Breakout Tracks will expose attendees to a variety of topics and developing issues for the short line and regional rail industry. These exciting opportunities, combined with fun events for networking like Saturday's Party with a Purpose will have first time attendees wondering why they have only begun attending the convention and remind returning attendees of why they come back year after year.

Although the Hilton Bonnet Creek and Waldorf Astoria room blocks are sold out, the staff at the ASLRRRA are happy to provide you with suggestions for alternative hotels nearby. Contact Eileen Keane at [ekeane@aslrra.org](mailto:ekeane@aslrra.org) for any last-minute help and information. Online registration has closed, but onsite registration starts this Saturday, May 1 at 2:00PM, so there is still time to sign up and attend the industry's premier annual convention! We'll see you in Orlando!

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## **EARL DURDEN PASSES: OWNED SHORT LINES, CHAIRED ASLRRRA**



Earl Durden, owner of 14 short line railroads and a former ASLRRRA chairman, passed away April 25 at his home in Panama City Beach, FL. He was 73 years of age.

Mr. Durden was a longtime ASLRRRA member. Beginning in the 1990s, he owned Rail Management Corporation, which controlled 14 short line railroads in the Southeastern U.S. These railroads were acquired by Genesee & Wyoming in 2005. He also served as chairman of the Florida Transportation Commission. Upon hearing the news of his passing, Florida Governor Charlie Christ issued the following statement: “Earl Durden represented what is best about Florida: a lifetime of dedicated service to his community, a deep respect for people and a constant desire to help others. Our state may have lost a Great Floridian, but his spirit and compassion will live on and impact many generations to come. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Durden family as we all grieve the loss of this great man.”

Mr. Durden was widely recognized for his ability to effectively handle government affairs. In commemoration of his service to the short line industry, ASLRRA established the EARL Award, which is presented at the annual Railroad Day On Capitol Hill reception and dinner in Washington, DC. The award serves to memorialize Mr. Durden's achievements and has come to stand for "Excellence in Advancing Rail Legislation."

A funeral service for Mr. Durden will be held Wednesday, April 28, at 2:00PM, at the First Baptist Church of Panama City. For more information and to leave an online tribute, link to the website of the Kent Forest Funeral Home at [www.kentforestlawn.com](http://www.kentforestlawn.com).

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### **URGENT PUSH BEGINS FOR TAX CREDIT**

ASLRRA and its allied firm, Chambers, Conlon & Hartwell, have launched an urgent push to secure the renewal of the Short Line Tax Credit. The tax credit expired on December 31, 2009 and has not yet been renewed.

The renewal of the tax credit has been incorporated into a collective tax credit extension bill, H.R. 4213. Although the bill has passed both houses of Congress, it has passed in different forms and cannot be dispatched to President Obama for signing until the differences are reconciled. CC&H's Adam Nordstrom reports that, "Democratic and Republican leaders hint to us that rank-and-file Congressmen are not speaking out in favor of quickly moving this bill. This lack of energy has created an atmosphere of delay instead of a 'must pass' atmosphere."

All ASLRRA members are now asked to please contact their senators and representatives to ask them to give a one minute speech in support of the Short Line Tax Credit, a.k.a. Section 45G. Whenever Congress is in session, any representative is permitted to speak at the start of the day for one minute on any issue, and senators are permitted to speak slightly longer. Calling their offices to ask them to make that speech – which CC&H will then help capture video of and help get circulated to constituents – will help to keep this issue front and center in Congress and build momentum to reconcile the bill so that it may be signed into law.

ASLRRA's Dave Whorton, in cooperation with CC&H, has updated the ASLRRA website's Action Alert page with helpful information as to how best to go about urging Congress to speak, including suggested talking points, draft emails, and a list of representatives and senators already on record as supporters of the tax credit and therefore most likely to help with this effort. Link to that information at [http://www.aslrra.org/legislative/Action\\_Alert/](http://www.aslrra.org/legislative/Action_Alert/). For more help, contact CC&H's Jeff Van Schiack at (202) 715-2915 or email him at [jeff.vanschaick@cch-llc.com](mailto:jeff.vanschaick@cch-llc.com).

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## SHORT LINE, SUPPLIER HOST CONGRESSIONAL VISITS



*(left to right: Arizona Eastern President Ed Ellis, U.S. Rep. Ann Kirkpatrick, Mayor Fernando Shipley, Globe Main Street Chair Kip Culver)*

An Arizona railroad and a Pennsylvania supplier were the host for two recent congressional visits in support of their companies.

The Arizona Eastern Railway welcomed U.S. Representative Ann Kirkpatrick (D-AZ) on March 31, when she cut the ribbon to dedicate AZER Locomotive No. 6070, the newest addition to the Cooper Spike excursion train that operates between Globe, AZ and the Apache Gold Casino. After cutting the ribbon, the congresswoman took a ride on No. 6070. While aboard, she expressed her strong support for railroads, for Arizona's copper industry, and for AZER's track rehabilitation program, which has seen the Section 45G Short Line Tax Credit completely reinvested each year.

On April 12, Ansaldo STS USA, formerly Union Switch & Signal, welcomed Congressman Tim Murphy (R-PA) to its North American headquarters in Pittsburgh, PA. The congressman discussed topics ranging from local issues to current legislation potentially impacting the rail industry. "We were honored to have Congressman Murphy visit our facility, meet our employees and see a sample of our technologies," said Ansaldo President & CEO Alan Calegari.

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## FRA ANNOUNCES \$50 MILLION SAFETY TECHNOLOGY GRANT PROGRAM

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has begun accepting grant applications for the deployment of Positive Train Control (PTC) systems and complementary advanced technologies under a new \$50 million Rail Safety Technology Program.

Applicants who are eligible for the program include passenger and freight railroads, railroad suppliers and state and local governments. The program requires that PTC projects or related systems that are funded be ready for deployment within 24 months of the grant award.

The FRA has said that it will give preference to collaborative projects sponsored by multiple railroads and public authorities that satisfy one or more specific objectives, particularly interoperability. Those seeking funds for PTC under the program must have either received FRA approval of a Technology Implementation Plan and PTC Implementation Plans or successfully demonstrate to FRA that they are currently developing them.

Applications are now being accepted and will be reviewed immediately following the July 1, 2010 filing deadline. Selection announcements will be made on or about September 3, 2010.

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### **BNSF SHORT LINE CAUCUS FORMED**

BNSF, in partnership with ASLRRA and several of its short line partners, has announced the formation of the BNSF Short Line Caucus.

The caucus is scheduled to meet at least twice annually. Its objectives will be to improve two-way communication between BNSF and its connecting short lines; to jointly work together to address and solve problems facing both BNSF and its short lines; to share ideas regarding best practices between short lines and Class I's (what short lines are seeing other Class I's doing that BNSF may want to consider); and to develop and nurture opportunities to attract new business to rail through information exchange and joint efforts.

Fourteen short lines and regional railroads will be members of the caucus and their representatives will serve staggered terms, with the ASLRRA President being the fifteenth and permanent member. Initially, the following individuals will form the caucus: Frank Butzelaar of the Southern Railway of British Columbia; Steve George of the Fort Worth & Western; Bill Henderson of R.J. Corman; Greg Kissel of Western Group; Reilly McCarren of the Arkansas & Missouri; Ed McKechnie of Watco Companies; Dennis Miller of Iowa Interstate; Mike Ogborn of OmniTRAX; Josh Putterman of RailAmerica; Dan Rickel of Northern Lines; Ron Russ of the Portland & Western; Andy Thompson of the Red River Valley & Western; Norma Torres of the Brownsville & Rio Grande Western; and J.D. Ventreck of Patriot Rail.

For further information about the caucus, contact ASLRRA's Rich Timmons at [rftimmons@aslrra.org](mailto:rftimmons@aslrra.org).

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### **MAINE SECURES FUNDING TO PURCHASE THREATENED RAIL LINES**

Maine Governor John Baldacci recently signed a job creation investment bill into law that include funds to purchase a Montreal, Maine & Atlantic Railway line that has been proposed for abandonment, Progressive Railroading Magazine has reported. The bill's bond package includes \$7 million to buy the line in Aroostook County. In addition, up to \$7 million in cash that was originally slated for the state's budget stabilization fund will be used to fund the balance of the line purchase.

MM&A had earlier filed with the Surface Transportation Board (STB) to abandon 233 miles of line in northern Maine. The STB is scheduled to hold a hearing on May 10 in Presque Isle, ME to gather public feedback on the proposed abandonment.

The job creation legislation will also provide \$5 million to expand rail service in Lewiston-Auburn and \$4 million to help restore rail service on the Mountain Division line.

Gov. Baldacci also signed an executive order calling for the creation of the Aroostook Rail Advisory Task Force, which will be charged with ensuring the abandonment and acquisition process is done openly. The task force will work with the Maine DOT and other interested parties to develop an operating plan after the line is purchased.

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## OHIO QUANTIFIES RAIL IMPORTANCE

The State of Ohio recently released a report demonstrating the importance of rail transportation to the state's economic well-being.

The report stated that at least 225 companies across the state have benefited economically from investments made by railroads. It looked beyond those companies directly associated with rail, to secondary and tertiary companies that supply components and services to the rail sector. Taken together, these 225 companies employ more than 26,000 workers in the state.

The report was produced under the auspices of the Ohio Rail Development Corporation (ORDC) and the Ohio Department of Transportation (ODOT). For more details, link to <http://www.dot.state.oh.us/Divisions/Rail/Programs/passenger/3CisME/Pages/default.aspx>, under the subheading, "Rail Investment Means Jobs To Ohioans."

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## GATEWAY PERFORMANCE MEETINGS SCHEDULED, UPDATED

The Association of American Railroads (AAR) and the Gateway Performance Improvement Committee (GPIC) have now scheduled the gateway performance meetings for the second half of this year and updated the meetings already scheduled for the second quarter.

For the second quarter, meetings will be held at and for the following gateways on the following dates:

- **Vancouver, BC, at the Inn at Westminster Quay, on May 18**
- **Minneapolis, MN, at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis, on May 20**
- **St. Louis, MO, at the Marriott St. Louis Airport, on June 15**
- **Kansas City, MO, at the Marriott Kansas City Airport, on June 17**
- **Detroit, MI, at the Norfolk Southern offices in Dearborn, on June 22**
- **Buffalo, NY, at the Holiday Inn Buffalo Airport, on June 24**

For the second half of this year (July through December), meetings will be held as follows:

- **Chicago, IL, at the Chicago Transportation Coordination Office, on July 19 and 20**
- **Birmingham, AL, on September 21**
- **Minneapolis, MN, on September 23**
- **Vancouver, BC, on September 28**
- **Kansas City, MO, on October 19**
- **St. Louis, MO, on October 21**
- **New Orleans, LA, on October 26**
- **Memphis, TN, on October 28**
- **Chicago, IL, at the Chicago Transportation Coordination Office on November 15 and 16**
- **Detroit, MI, on November 30**
- **Buffalo, NY, on December 2**

The AAR and GPIC encourage short line and regional railroads operating in these gateways, or that have service issues related to traffic flowing through these gateways, to attend and participate at these meetings. If unable to attend, relevant matters may be forwarded on for attention and follow-up. For additional information, contact ASLRRRA's Dave Mears at [dmears@aslrra.org](mailto:dmears@aslrra.org).

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## RAILWAY TIE ASSOCIATION NOW CONDUCTING ANNUAL SURVEY

The Railway Tie Association (RTA) is again conducting its annual survey of crosstie usage and demand for the benefit of our industry, and for use by ASLRRA with its national and regional legislative agendas.

It is RTA's goal to obtain information regarding crosstie requirements for 2010 beyond. This information will be used to enable the crosstie industry to better serve the market and the short line and regional railroad industry to achieve its goals for favorable infrastructure enhancing legislation. The survey has been significantly streamlined for 2010 to make replying simpler and easier.

ASLRRA members may use an electronic submittal format to fill out an interactive form at <http://www.rta.org/Portals/0/SLSurvey%20Form%20for%2010%20V&N.pdf> . Instructions for e-submittal are provide with the form. **Respondents will receive a \$10 Amazon E-card as RTA's thank you for participating.** Please take time today to fill out this important industry survey.

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## NEW E-MARKETPLACE CATEGORIES CREATED

ASLRRA has established three new categories in its E-Marketplace directory of products and services offered by ASLRRA Associate Member companies. E-Marketplace may be found on the ASLRRA website under the tab, "Member Tools."

The new categories are A) **Positive Train Control Systems**, B) **Radio Narrowbanding Systems**, and C) **Video Surveillance Systems**. These categories have been created in recognition of potential new interest by short line and regional railroads in these systems.

If you are an ASLRRA Associate Member company offering products and services that fall into any or all of these categories, please contact ASLRRA's Dave Whorton at (202) 585-3430 or [dwhorton@aslrro.org](mailto:dwhorton@aslrro.org), so that he may update E-Marketplace with your information.

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## STB RELEASES 2ND QTR., 2010 COST ADJUSTMENT FACTORS

The Surface Transportation Board recently published the Quarterly Rail Cost Adjustment Factor (RCAF) for the Second Quarter of 2010. These factors are calculated by the STB based on statistical data furnished by the Association of American Railroads (AAR).

The STB determined that the **Second Quarter RCAF (unadjusted) is 1.060**, an increase of 2.1 percent from the First Quarter, 2010 RCAF of 1.038. The **RCAF (adjusted) is 0.477**, an increase of 2.1 percent from the First Quarter RCAF (adjusted) of 0.467. The **RCAF-5 is 0.452**, an increase of 2.0 percent from the Fourth Quarter RCAF-5 of 0.443.

For further information, link to the full notice on the STB website, [www.stb.dot.gov](http://www.stb.dot.gov), under "Decisions & Notices" for March 31, 2010.

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## MEETINGS, CONFERENCES NOW SCHEDULED

ASLRRA's 2010 Regional Meetings have been scheduled! More details on each of the meetings will become available throughout the year. Check in with [http://www.aslrra.org/meetings\\_seminars/index.cfm](http://www.aslrra.org/meetings_seminars/index.cfm) for more information!

**May 1-4: ASLRRA Annual Convention:** To be held at the Hilton Bonnet Creek in Orlando, FL. More information available on ASLRRA's website: <http://annualconvention.aslrra.org>.

**May 12-14: Association of Car Accounting and Car Service Officers (ACACSO)** at the Crowne Plaza, Kansas City, MO (816) 474-6664 (group code- ACACSO). ACACSO meetings are intended to serve as a forum to share information on industry initiatives and projects, car hire, car service, and other industry rules. Information on this meeting is available on the website at <http://www.acacso.org/Meetings/May10/callToMeeting.asp> or email [acacso@gbx.org](mailto:acacso@gbx.org).

**May 13: CN Shortline Conference:** To be held at the Marriott Chateau Champlain in Montreal, Canada. The one-day meeting will include dinner and an evening event. Visit [http://cnplus.cn.ca/it/Shortlines/SL\\_Static.nsf/sl\\_home/english?OpenDocument](http://cnplus.cn.ca/it/Shortlines/SL_Static.nsf/sl_home/english?OpenDocument) for more information.

**May 26-28: North American Rail Shippers Annual Meeting:** To be held at the Mayflower Renaissance Hotel in Washington, DC. NARS is predicting a record turnout of rail shippers, railroads, investment firms, lenders, and industry suppliers. Registration is \$425. More information and a link to register is available at the NARS website: [www.railshippers.com](http://www.railshippers.com).

**June 6-9: 104<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the American Railway Development Association (ARDA):** To be held at the Westin Savannah Harbor Resort in Savannah, GA. ARDA is an association where the industrial and economic development, real estate, environmental, technology, and legal types (railroaders and consultants) of the rail sector meet and exchange knowledge and information. For more information, visit [www.amraildev.com](http://www.amraildev.com).

**June 10: Railway Age PTC Seminar:** To be held at the Washington Marriott Hotel in Washington, DC. Noted as being especially for "small suppliers and small railroads." Featured speakers will include ASLRRA's Keith Borman and Tom Streicher, and also Alaska Railroad Technology VP Eileen Reilly. For more information, link to <http://www.railwayage.com/conferences/ptc-seminar.html>.

**June 23-25: The Indiana Rail Road 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Liability Seminar:** To be held at the Indianapolis Crowne Plaza Downtown at 123 West Louisiana St. in Indianapolis, IN. Visit <http://resweb.passkey.com/go/INRailroadCo> to register or call 1-888-233-9527 to make your room reservations. To download an agenda and registration forms, go to the Indiana Rail Road website and check out the Liability Seminar in the News and Events section: <http://www.inrd.com>.

**June 28-30: AAR Damage Prevention & Freight Claim Conference:** To be held at the Palmer House Hilton Hotel in Chicago, IL. Join railroaders, suppliers and shipping industry professionals for an in-depth look into the latest technologies available to ensure safe and damage-free delivery of rail freight. Includes a trade show, displaying the latest products and services to increase damage protection and enhance safety. For more information, link to [www.regonline.com/2010-DamagePrevention](http://www.regonline.com/2010-DamagePrevention).

**July 11-13: Norfolk Southern Short Line Meeting:** To be held at the Hotel Roanoke in Roanoke, VA. For more information, visit Norfolk Southern's webpage for the event at <http://www.nscorp.com/nscportal/nscorp/Customers/Shortline/>.

**September 12-14: ASLRRA Eastern Region Meeting:** To be held at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, MD.

**October 3-5: ASLRRA Central Pacific Region Meeting:** To be held at the Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza, in Kansas City, MO.

**November 7-9: ASLRRRA Southern Region Meeting:** To be held at the JW Marriott Buckhead in Atlanta, GA.

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## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

**Ansaldo STS USA** recently announced the appointment of Susan Keaney as VP-Program Management. The company also appointed Melinda Rombold as VP-Human Resources... Mississippi Governor Haley Barbour recently signed into law a transportation bond package that includes \$15 million to help rebuild the **Columbus & Greenville Railway** line between West Point and Greenwood, MS. The 92-mile line has been closed since 2001... **Electro-Motive Diesel** recently announced that it will partner with Norfolk Southern to conduct testing of biodiesel locomotive fuel. An EMD spokesman said that it will be one of the most extensive testing programs to date on the use of biodiesel... **GATX** recently appointed Al Smith as Vice President & Executive Director of its Locomotive Group. Mr. Smith has led the commercial efforts of the Locomotive Group for the past 11 years, and more recently managed the mechanical and administrative aspects of their business... Helm Environmental Solutions, a subsidiary of **Helm Financial Corporation**, announced the debut of 645EcoLogic, their new EPA Tier 0+ compliant remanufacturing kit for the EMD 645 Roots Blown engine family. Helm says that the new kit “represents a cost effective alternative to OEM offerings and gives the rail industry more choice when selecting a 645E remanufacturing solution to meet Tier 0+ emission standards”... **Modesto & Empire Traction Railway** recently purchased five new “ultra clean” locomotives. They are being funded largely by a \$6.7 California state grant. A M&ET spokesman said that the new locomotives will not only emit less pollutants, they will also cost less to maintain and operate... **North Shore Railroads** announced that they had successfully lifted their first locomotives on their newly refurbished locomotive jacks. The jacks, four in total, were put in service at NSHR’s Locomotive Shop and had been refurbished by the shop staff... **Ohio Central Railroad** was recently given the go-ahead by the Ohio Rail Development Corporation to proceed with repairs to a tunnel and three key bridges on the state-owned Panhandle Line, which the railroad operates. The repairs, totaling \$6.9 million, are being paid for by federal stimulus funding that is being administered by the state... **Patriot Rail** has appointed Dan Kisner to the newly-created position of Director-Fleet Management/Mechanical. Mr. Kisner has over 30 years of railroad mechanical and operations experience, including 13 years with CSX and its predecessor railroads, and was most recently VP-Motive Power Leasing at CIT Rail... **RailComm** has been selected to provide the Track Warrant Control (TWC) system for the **Wisconsin & Southern Railroad**. Through their Software-as-a-Service model, the W&S can be remotely dispatched by RailComm wherever an internet connection is available... **Transportation Certification Services** announced that it had held six training sessions the week of April 19 to train rail and related employees in safe operating procedures. At the Guardian Energy plant in Janesville, MN, TCS trained employees to operate the plant’s locomotive both from the locomotive cab and from the ground via remote control... **Transportation Technology Center** of Pueblo, CO announced the availability of its annual report online. TTCI’s report may be viewed and printed by linking to [http://www.aar.com/news/pdfs/2009\\_TTCI\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](http://www.aar.com/news/pdfs/2009_TTCI_Annual_Report.pdf)... **Williams Venker & Sanders LLC** was named by the *St. Louis Business Journal* as one of the “Best Places to Work” in St. Louis, MO for the second year in a row. The company was the only law firm to be named as a finalist in this year’s competition.

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## OTHER INDUSTRY NEWS

**Amtrak recently announced that it has targeted having Positive Train Control installed and operable on its Northeast Corridor and Michigan lines by 2012, three years ahead of the federal PTC deadline.** An Amtrak spokesman noted that its Advanced Civil Speed Enforcement System (ACSES), which together with cab signal and automatic train stop replicate essential PTC elements, has already been installed on several sections of its NEC line... **Canadian Pacific Railway has appointed Ed Harris its EVP and chief operating officer.** Mr. Harris retired from Canadian National in 2007, where he had been its EVP-Operations. CPR also announced the appointment of Jane O'Hagan as SVP-Marketing & Sales. Ms. Hagan was most recently CPR's SVP-Strategy & Yield... **On the occasion of reporting its first quarter results, CSX noted that increased economic activity had caused it to reduce its furloughed train and engine employees from 2,533 to 1,093; reduce the number of locomotives in storage from 707 to 272; and reduce the number of freight cars in storage from 30,533 to 12,321...** **The U.S. Federal Highway Administration has recommended to state highway officials that they install stop or yield signs at highway-rail grade crossings.** The recommendation was praised by the Association of American Railroads, whose spokesman noted that, "Drivers need to know that they should yield [at crossings] or stop to look for oncoming trains." Noting earlier studies of driver behavior, the spokesman added that "only one in five motorists today understand that the crossbuck is a warning sign." ...**Former Interstate Commerce Commission Chairman Reese Taylor passed away April 16 near Las Vegas, NV.** Mr. Taylor, who was 81 years of age, was ICC chairman from 1981 to 1985. The ICC is the predecessor organization of the Surface Transportation Board... **Kansas City Southern has appointed Warren Erdman its EVP-Administration & Corporate Affairs.** Mr. Erdman, who has been with KCSR since 1997, was most recently its EVP-Corporate Affairs. KCSR also appointed Michael Fenley its AVP-Business Solutions. Mr. Fenley, who will lead KCSR's Customer Solutions Center, was most recently at YRC Worldwide Corporation... **Metrolink, Southern California's commuter rail operating authority, has appointed John Fenton its chief executive officer.** Mr. Fenton was earlier the president and CEO of shortline holding company OmniTRAX, and also earlier worked for the Canadian National, Kansas City Southern, Santa Fe, and Union Pacific Railroads... **Norfolk Southern recently announced that it had completed raising the clearances in the Cooper Tunnel near Coopers, WV.** The tunnel's daylighting is part of NS's Heartland Corridor Project to enable double-stack train operation between Chicago and the Port of Hampton Roads, VA, a project that an NS spokesman said earlier this year was expected to be complete by this summer. A spokesman for one of the contractors working on the project said that about 28 tunnels on the corridor were enlarged by having their ceilings raised, while the others were enlarged by lowering the track through them... **The U.S. Occupational Health & Safety Administration recently fined New Jersey Transit \$569,587 for retaliating against one of its employees for reporting a work-related illness.** The OSHA investigation that resulted in the fine stated that the NJT employee had been disciplined and then suspended after reporting the illness. The fine was levied under a federal whistleblower statute and was reportedly a record amount levied under that law ...**The U.S. Department of Transportation's Bureau of Transportation Statistics has reported that surface trade with Canada and Mexico decreased more in 2009 than in any other year of the 15-year history of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA).** The bureau reported that trade between the U.S. and its NAFTA partners utilizing surface transportation fell 23.3 percent in 2009 compared with 2008. Trade with Canada totaled \$386 billion in 2009, a decrease of 28.1 percent, and trade with Mexico totaled \$251 billion in 2009, a decrease of 14.4 percent... **Union Pacific recently announced the following appointments:** Tony Chacon as VP-Mexican & Automotive Operations, succeeding Robert Naro, who is retiring; Barry Michaels as VP-Intermodal Operations, succeeding Dennis Jacobson, who is retiring; Roger Lambeth as Superintendent-Transportation Services for UP's Livonia Service Unit; Pat O'Malley as VP-Tax, succeeding Bernie Gutschewski, who is retiring; Bryan Clark as AVP-Federal Tax, succeeding Mr. O'Malley; and Phillip Schultz as General Director-Tax & Financial Reporting, succeeding Mr. Clark... **National Train Day is scheduled for Saturday, May 8.** Consult the website, [www.nationaltrainday.org](http://www.nationaltrainday.org), for a complete schedule of events to be held in cities and towns across the U.S.

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## CLASS I RAIL TRAFFIC

**For the week ending April 17, 2010**, U.S. carload rail traffic was up 16.1 percent from the comparable week last year and – at 296,599 carloads – was the highest weekly total since December 6, 2008. Notable traffic increases included metallic ores up 177.5 percent, metals and metal products up 68.8 percent, motor vehicles and equipment up 49.0 percent, nonmetallic mineral up 46.4 percent, and primary forest products up 34.5 percent. Also for the week, U.S. intermodal rail traffic was up 14.6 percent, Canadian carload rail traffic was up 24.3 percent, Canadian intermodal rail traffic was up 14.8 percent, Mexican carload rail traffic was up 27.8 percent, and Mexican intermodal rail traffic was up 42.3 percent.

**For the period January 1 through April 17, 2010**, U.S. rail volume grand totaled 455.4 billion ton-miles, up 4.9 percent from the comparable period last year. Also for this period, U.S. carload rail traffic was up 4.0 percent, U.S. intermodal rail traffic was up 9.2 percent, Canadian carload rail traffic was up 17.3 percent, Canadian intermodal rail traffic was up 8.6 percent, Mexican carload rail traffic was up 23.1 percent, and Mexican intermodal rail traffic was up 39.7 percent.

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## RMI RAILCONNECT SHORT LINE TRAFFIC INDEX

The RMI Railconnect Index is waybill-based and totals shipments billed by non-Class I railroads using RMI billing products. For this report, this totals 340 such railroads. This index is calculated weekly. **The below data is as of the week ending April 17, 2010**, the 15th week of 2010. Special thanks to RMI's Cheri Denton for this valuable statistical information.

	Week Ending April 17			Year-To-Date		
	2010	2009	% Change	2010	2009	% Change
<b>CARLOADS HANDLED</b>						
Coal	13,186	11,734	12.37%	172,567	204,458	-15.60%
Grain	11,857	9,745	21.67%	200,180	173,432	15.42%
Farm & Food (Exc. Grain)	4,558	4,851	-6.04%	69,791	73,594	-5.17%
Ores	3,705	1,695	118.58%	53,928	22,128	143.71%
Stone, Clay, Aggregates	12,870	9,400	36.91%	149,357	135,453	10.26%
Lumber/Forest Prods.	3,880	3,470	11.82%	53,725	50,804	5.75%
Paper Products	5,995	5,735	4.53%	88,865	91,258	-2.62%
Waste & Scrap Materials	5,652	3,924	44.04%	74,793	64,891	15.26%
Chemicals	15,043	14,768	1.86%	233,536	225,969	3.35%
Petroleum & Coke	5,097	4,334	17.60%	69,649	67,837	2.67%
Metals & Products	8,359	5,790	44.37%	117,201	94,912	23.48%
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	1,238	967	28.02%	15,434	13,399	15.19%
Intermodal	5,509	7,472	-26.27%	96,259	110,058	-12.54%
All Other	2,037	1,299	56.81%	32,103	22,099	45.27%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,986</b>	<b>85,184</b>	<b>16.20%</b>	<b>1,427,388</b>	<b>1,350,292</b>	<b>5.71%</b>

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## BE SURE TO CHECK OUT ASLRRA HOT TRACKS

Every Wednesday, the ASLRRA staff selects several current news stories in the short line industry to post on the Hot Tracks section of the association's website. Be sure to check out [www.aslrra.org](http://www.aslrra.org) every week for the latest news on short line and regional railroads!

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## FOLLOW ASLRRA ON FACEBOOK & TWITTER

Be sure to follow the latest ASLRRA news and developments on Facebook and Twitter!

ASLRRA maintains both its own and also a 2010 Annual Convention Facebook page. To follow either or both, log into [www.facebook.com](http://www.facebook.com), signing up if you are a first-time Facebook user. Search on "American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association" to get to the ASLRRA page and on "ASLRRA Annual Convention" to get to the Convention page, then make sure to click on "Become A Fan." For further information contact ASLRRA's Jenny McKinney at [jmckinney@aslrra.org](mailto:jmckinney@aslrra.org).

ASLRRA also uses Twitter to tell – as do more than 40 million other Twitter users worldwide – "what we are doing." You can view the ASLRRA Twitter page directly at [www.twitter.com/aslrra](http://www.twitter.com/aslrra). And if you sign up for a free Twitter ID at [www.twitter.com](http://www.twitter.com) or if you already have one, you can customize it to automatically receive ASLRRA updates, including on a mobile device, such as a Blackberry or iPhone, as well as on a conventional mobile phones capable of receiving text messages. For further information, contact ASLRRA's Dave Mears at [dmears@aslrra.org](mailto:dmears@aslrra.org).

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## HELPFUL LINKS

**\*NEW\***: The U.S. Department of Labor has constructed a web page that provides substantial information on the new health care law, formally know as the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act. To view it, link to <http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform/>.

To use the Railinc Embargo & Permit System, including open & prepay station (OPSL) notes, link to <https://aarembargo.railinc.com/epdb/public.do> **Note: all embargo offers were required by Railinc to re-subscribe by December 1, 2009. If you have not yet done so, please contact ASLRRA's Steve Sullivan at [sullivan@aslrra.org](mailto:sullivan@aslrra.org) as soon as possible.**

To reach the Railinc homepage, link to [www.railinc.com](http://www.railinc.com).

To reach the ASLRRA public website, link to [www.aslrra.org](http://www.aslrra.org). To reach its members'-only website, link to [members.aslrra.org](http://members.aslrra.org).

To check the Railroad Retirement Board's Railroad Jobs Vacancies page, link to <http://www.rrb.gov/PandS/Jobs/rrjobs.asp>.

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