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American Short Line and  
Regional Railroad Association's

# VIEWS & NEWS



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[September 11-14, 2010](#)  
[Baltimore, MD](#)

[ASLRRRA Central/Pacific Region Meeting](#)  
[October 2-7, 2010](#)  
[Kansas City, MO](#)

[ASLRRRA Southern Region Meeting](#)  
[November 7-9, 2010](#)  
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[2011 Railroad Day On Capitol Hill And Legislative Dinner](#)  
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[2011 ASLRRRA Annual Convention](#)  
[April 30-May 3, 2011](#)  
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## **ASLRRA TURNS ON NEW SWITCHING MEMBER CATEGORY**

With this edition, ASLRRA announces the creation of a new membership category, **Associate Switching**. Membership under this new category is open to any non-railroad that provides switching services to private industry and is not deemed a railroad by the Surface Transportation Board or its successor, or the applicable agency with jurisdiction, and is eligible for non-voting Associate Switching membership. Interested parties can refer to the ASLRRA website at [http://www.aslrra.org/our\\_members/how\\_to\\_join/index.cfm](http://www.aslrra.org/our_members/how_to_join/index.cfm) for information on benefits and application materials.

**The first new member in this category is Railserve, Inc.** Railserve is an experienced contract rail services company, with 65 locations/operations in the US and Canada. Railserve is a member of the Marmon Group, a Berkshire Hathaway company. The company is located at 1691 Phoenix Blvd. Suite 250 Atlanta, GA 30349 and their main number is (770) 996-6838. Their website is [www.railserve.biz](http://www.railserve.biz) and their fax number is (770) 996-6830. Please contact their VP Finance Tim Benjamin at [timbenjamin@railserve.biz](mailto:timbenjamin@railserve.biz).

Additional to the new Associate Switching category, ASLRRA maintains four other member categories:

- **Railroad:** For any Class II or III freight railroad in the continental or territorial U.S., Mexico or Canada
- **Associate:** For any company that supplies or contracts to Railroad Members.
- **Associate Railroad:** For any tourist or excursion railroad in the continental or territorial U.S., Mexico or Canada.
- **Associate Sustaining:** For any Class I railroad, transit agency, state DOT, rail shipper or third party logistics provider.

For further information on the above membership categories or any other aspects of membership, call Cheryl Huyck at (202) 585-3431 or email her at [chuyck@aslrra.org](mailto:chuyck@aslrra.org).

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## **SET SAIL FOR BALTIMORE REGIONAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 11-14**

**The ASLRRA Eastern Region Meeting in Baltimore is now little more than one week away. New on the speaker bill is the chair of the U.S. Surface Transportation Board, Dan Elliott!**

The meeting will be held September 11 through 14 at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, MD. This is the first of three regional meetings ASLRRA holds annually in the fall; the others this year will be the Central/Pacific Region meeting, to be held in Kansas City in October, and the Southern Region meeting, to be held in Atlanta in November. These regional meetings are well-known for being comprehensive educational, marketing and networking events, and for being held in a more intimate setting than the Association's larger-scale events. The Baltimore meeting will also include a HazMat Handling Training Session conducted and certified by the Federal Railroad Administration.

Here's a quick rundown of the Baltimore program:

### **Saturday, September 11:**

- 9AM-4PM: Service Project – B&O Railroad Museum
- 530PM-630PM: Party With A Purpose, benefiting the B&O Railroad Museum

**Sunday, September 12:**

- 10AM-2PM: Service Project – B&O Railroad Museum
- 2PM-730PM: Registration
- 4PM-515PM: Small Railroad Knowledge Exchange
- 530PM-730PM: Welcome Reception Atop the World Trade Center
- 730PM: Open Evening for Vendor Entertaining

**Monday, September 13:**

- 7AM: Breakfast in Exhibit Area
- 8AM: Business Session and start of HazMat Handling Training Session
- 930AM-10AM: Refreshment Break in Exhibit Area
- 1220PM-130PM: Networking Lunch in Exhibit Areas
- 130PM-315PM: Business Session
- 130PM-500PM: HazMat Handling Training Session continues
- 3PM-320PM: Refreshment Break in Exhibit Area
- 4PM-5PM: Railroad and Associate Sandhouse Sessions
- 5PM-530PM: Regional Meeting & Election
- 6PM-7PM: Reception in Exhibit Area
- 9PM-1030PM: Caboose Club Lounge

**Tuesday, September 14:**

- 7AM: Breakfast in Exhibit Area
- 8AM: Business Session
- 8AM: HazMat Handling Training Session concludes, examination
- 945AM: Refreshment Break
- 1215PM: Farewell Luncheon
- 1230PM: ASLRRA Technology Committee meeting
- 100PM: ASLRRA Bridge Committee meeting

Wednesday, September 15:

- 730AM: ASLRRRA Bridge Committee meeting resumes, concludes at Noon

Presentations during the business sessions will include: **Freight Railroads and their Rightful Place in a National Transportation Plan; Dateline Washington: Capitol Hill Happenings; Size Does Matter: Truck Size & Weights – An Update on What is Happening in Eastern Region States; A Day in the Life of the ASLRRRA Lobbyists; Planning Ahead – When Disaster Strikes: A Report From the South East Emergency Response Network (SEERN); Advanced Security Awareness Training Requirements: What Do the Feds Expect?; USDOT Mandatory Crossing Inventory Requirements; RAILROAD SURVIVOR 2010: KEEPING THE MEAT & POTATOES ON THE SHORT LINE MENU, including Preserving Carload Business, Costing Models: Factors to Consider When Pricing Interline Traffic, and Attracting Business: What Makes One Rail Site More Appealing Than Another to a Shipper?; Economic Outlook: What’s Ahead for the Transportation Industry?; Get Ready to Go Cold Turkey: Major Industry Change to the Damage Defective Car Tracking System; Whistleblowing – OSHA/FRA Response to Reporting Injuries & Employee Medical Treatment; NMB Ruling on Union Elections and Why Waiting to Talk to Your Employees Can Hurt You; The Rocky Horror Regulatory Show II: Employee Certification, Hours of Service Pilot Project, and Other Hot Regulatory Topics Session.**

If you are a railroader in ASLRRRA’s Eastern Region, this is a can’t-miss meeting especially for you! For further details, including access to online registration, link to the ASLRRRA Eastern Region meeting webpage at [http://www.aslrra.org/meetings\\_seminars/Eastern\\_Region\\_Meeting/](http://www.aslrra.org/meetings_seminars/Eastern_Region_Meeting/). And if you are a supplier, excellent meeting sponsorship opportunities remain available to put your company front and center of meeting attendees. For further information on sponsorship, contact Jenny McKinney at [jmckinney@aslrra.org](mailto:jmckinney@aslrra.org) or (202) 585-3449. See you one and all in Baltimore!

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### **THREE ASLRRRA COMMITTEES HOLD JOINT MEETING**

Never before have three ASLRRRA committees held a joint meeting. But that’s just what happened August 24-26 when ASLRRRA’s General Counsel, Police & Security, and Safety & Training Committees met in joint session in San Pedro, CA.

The joint meeting was hosted by Anacostia & Pacific (A&P)’s Director of Safety Tom Leopold and held at Pacific Harbor Line (PHL). PHL is one of the A&P’s family of railroads and provides switching services for the Ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach, the nation’s busiest intermodal harbors. Agenda items at the meeting included finalizing a charter for the Police & Security Committee and numerous presentations on topics of mutual interest to the three committees, one of which was on a new behavioral-based safety training program now being rolled out for Anacostia & Pacific railroads by Mr. Leopold.

Additional to meetings, Pacific Harbor Line President Mike Stolzman hosted a committee member tour of the ports via a special train that traversed the Alameda Corridor, the grade-separated rail line that has been hailed as one of the nation’s most successful public-private transportation partnership projects. Committee members were near-unanimous in the praise of the joint meeting, which several called, “a new benchmark for a short line meeting of this kind.”

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## **ANNUAL RSTAC FIELD MEETING HELD**

*ASLRRRA Board of Directors Chair Mike Ogborn here reports on the recent field meeting of RSTAC, one of the three (soon to be four) advisory committees to the U.S. Surface Transportation Board (STB):*

The Railroad-Shipper Transportation Advisory Council (RSTAC) held its quarterly meeting August 24-26 in Chicago, IL and Michigan City, IN. RSTAC met to discuss the state of the rail industry, the recent decision of the STB regarding the assessment of the mediation and arbitration procedures at the Board, a number of white paper submissions by the Council, U.S. Senate Bill S.3749, railroad readiness if the economy continues to recover, and the potential effects of increased truck sizes and weights on the short line industry.

Regarding the white papers, RSTAC approved papers supporting the extension of the investment tax credit for short lines, on Railroad and Shipper Industry Impacts of Positive Train Control, and will be reviewing for approval ones on the national rail plan. In addition, the members agreed to support S. 3749.

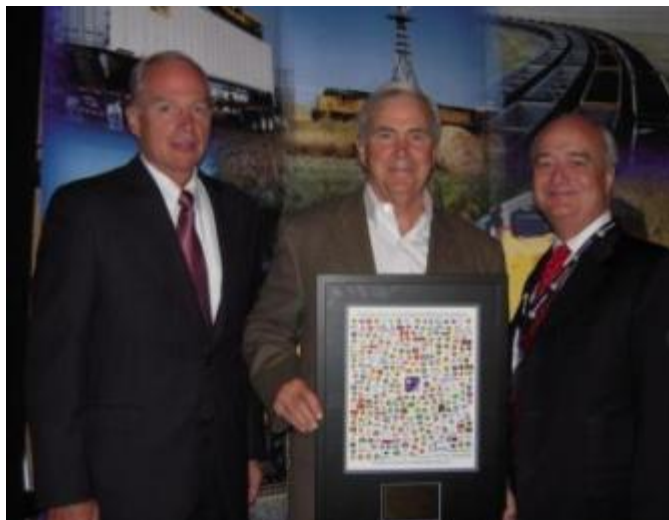
On August 25, the members toured the CREATE project on UP business cars to get a first-hand look at this important project. Thereafter, the Chicago South Shore & South Bend provided a tour of its railroad. On August 26, the group toured the Burns Harbor steel mill of ArcelorMittal.

Congress created RSTAC pursuant to the Interstate Commerce Commission Termination Act of 1995 to provide advice to the Surface Transportation Board (STB), the United States Department of Transportation, and Congress on rail issues affecting small railroads and shippers. RSTAC consists of 15 members, nine of whom represent small railroads small shippers, and one at-large member. These nine are the only voting members. The other members are from large shippers and railroads. The Chairman of the STB appoints the members.

The current voting members of the Council are Terry Voss, Chair, Ag-Processing Inc.; Vice Chair, Reilly McCarren, Arkansas & Missouri Railroad; Bruce Ridley, Secretary, Packaging Corporation of America; Henry Lampe, President, Chicago South Shore & South Bend Railroad; John Levine, Pinsky Railroad; Roger Fray, West Coast Cooperative; and Jeff Keever, Port of Virginia. The current non-voting members are Eric Butler, Union Pacific; D.J. Kratzberg, Exxon Mobil; Leslie Moll, ArcelorMittal USA; Dean Piacente, CSX Transportation; Peter Weiss, Chrysler LLC; Gary White, International Resource Partners; and Owen Zidar, KCS.

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## **UP HOLDS CONFERENCE FOR SHORT LINE PARTNERS**



*Mr. Ogborn here reports on Union Pacific's recent Short Line Workshop meeting:*

Union Pacific held its annual short line workshop this year from August 22–24 in Omaha, NE, using the phrase, "Together We Can – Driving Growth and Delivering Value" as the theme of the meeting. The turnout was exceptional with over 330 UP short line connections in attendance. The workshop began on Sunday, August 22 with a meeting of the Union Pacific Short Line Advisory Group (UP SLAG) holding its quarterly meeting. The minutes of that meeting will be sent to all of UP's short line connections but suffice to say that the thrust of the meeting was in line with the theme of the workshop – how do UP and its connecting short lines drive more business to rail.

UP then hosted a reception at the Joslyn Art Museum, perhaps one of the finest art museums in America. The crowd enjoyed the opportunity to view some exceptional art and socialize with other railroaders.

Monday morning the workshop began with Jim Young, the Chairman, President and CEO of UP, delivering a well-received overview of UP's operations, its view of the economy, and the opportunities facing the rail industry in general and those available to UP and its short line connections in particular. He was followed by Mike Ogborn, the Chairman of the ASLRRA, who delivered a talk on the state of the short line industry, the results of the UP survey, and other information regarding UP and its short lines. In addition, Jim Young and he presented a plaque to Dennis Duffy, UP's Chief Operating Officer, who will be retiring September 1, in recognition of his vast contributions to the rail industry, UP, and to the short line industry. Pictured above, left to right, are Messrs. Young, Duffy, and Ogborn with the plaque, which includes the logos of nearly 350 ASLRRA member railroads.

Dr. Chris Kuehn, Managing Director of Amada Corporate Intelligence, presented an entertaining and informative talk entitled "Economic Forecast – Is Business Picking Up?" His view was that the recovery was going to be a slow one but that the railroad industry is in a good position to benefit from any uptick in the economy.

Lance Fritz, UP's Vice President Operations then presented a slide presentation entitled "Are We Ready to Handle Increased Traffic Volumes?" His answer was a resounding yes, given the infrastructure expenditures UP has made in recent years, its recall of employees, and its return to active service of the cars and locomotives that had stored. Jack Koraleski, UP's Executive Vice President Marketing & Sales, gave the luncheon address, covering the marketing initiatives undertaken by UP, the outlook for rail business, and the opportunities available to the UP and its connecting short lines.

The balance of the day was divided into break-out sessions that covered UPDS car logistics, the threat of increased size and weights for trucks, and federal grants for railroads. On Tuesday, the workshop continued with presentations about the economic outlook for the rail industry by Rob Knight, Executive Vice President Finance and CFO; positive train control implementation practices by Tom Jacobs, Vice President Operating Systems & Practices; railroads at the crossroads by John Brennan, General Counsel Commerce; a presentation on how risk has changed by Gayla Thai, Vice President Law & Chief Compliance Officer; and environmental stewardship and business decisions by Bob Grimalia, Vice President Safety & CSO.

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## **RRB CELEBRATES 75TH ANNIVERSARY, ISSUES ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORTS**

The Railroad Retirement Board (RRB) held a special luncheon at the Drake Hotel in Chicago, IL on August 27 in observance of its 75th anniversary. Nearly 500 railroaders and special guests were in attendance, among them a centenarian: the 100-year-old widow of a railroader who receives RRB survivor benefits.

Serving as master of ceremonies of the event was RRB Chair Michael Schwartz, who was joined by his colleagues on the RRB's three-member board, Labor Member V. M. Speakman Jr. and Management Member Jerome F. Kever. Representing ASLRRA were VP & General Counsel Keith Borman and Board of Directors Chair Mike Ogborn. Mr. Ogborn was also among the featured speakers at the event, the others being FRA Administrator Joe Szabo, Brotherhood of Railroad Signalmen President Dan Pickett, and Association of American Railroads President Ed Hamberger.

The RRB was created by the first Railroad Retirement Act, which was signed into law by President Franklin Roosevelt on August 29, 1935. Since then, railroad retirement benefits totaling \$281 billion have been paid by the RRB to approximately 2,000,000 retired employees, 1,100,000 spouses and 2,400,000 survivors. This year, nearly 600,000 beneficiaries will receive retirement and survivor benefits totaling about \$11 billion and about 42,000 individuals will receive unemployment and sickness benefits totaling about \$300 million.

In a related story, the RRB recently submitted its annual financial report to Congress, as mandated by federal law. The report stated that, barring a sudden, unanticipated, and large drop in railroad employment or substantial investment losses, the railroad retirement system will experience no cash-flow problems for at least the next 23 years. The report also stated that, as of September 30 of last year, all railroad retirement system assets totaled \$24.6 billion. To view the summary that accompanied the complete report, link to [http://www.rrb.gov/opa/qa/pub\\_1008.asp](http://www.rrb.gov/opa/qa/pub_1008.asp).

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## **SHORT LINES BEGIN, WRAP NOTABLE INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS**

Several short line and regional railroads are starting, completing or have completed notable infrastructure projects.

The **Alaska Railroad** has engaged a contractor for the first phase of its Northern Rail Extension project. The project will extend the Alaska Railroad approximately 80 miles from its current terminus at North Pole, AK to serve Fort Greely and the Joint Tanana Training Complex. The work is being funded by \$104 million from the U.S. Department of Defense and \$40 million from the Alaska state legislature. First phase work included land acquisition, material procurement, and construction of a bridge over the Tanana River near Salcha. For more details, link to [www.northernrailextension.com](http://www.northernrailextension.com).

**Montana Rail Link** is nearing conclusion of their project to rehabilitate the 3,896-foot-long Mullan Tunnel west of Helena, MT. Rehabilitation work has included “daylighting” a portion of the tunnel; replacing the tunnel liner; reinforcing the tunnel with steel arches, rock bolts, and Shotcrete; and increasing clearances. Final work will include replacement and releveling of track ballast, and installation of a new tunnel drainage system. MRL hopes to complete the work by mid-October.

The **Nebraska Central Railroad** reopened its downed bridge across the Elkhorn River on August 12 after only 57 days. The bridge’s center pier collapsed June 15 due to severe, 300-year flooding causing the 350-foot structure to collapse into the raging Elkhorn. One of three NCRC employees inspecting the bridge at the time, Jeff Scholl, was fatally injured in the event. . On their Facebook page, <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Norfolk-NE/Nebraska-Central-Railroad/126788320692625>, the railroad reports on funds established to assist the family of Mr. Scholl and how to make donations to them. Also included in Facebook are pictures of and further information about the bridge being rebuilt.

And finally, the U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) announced that it had completed a grant agreement with West Virginia to fund that state’s portion of the **R.J. Corman Group**’s Appalachian Short Line Rail rehabilitation project. West Virginia, along with Kentucky and Tennessee, will together receive \$17.5 million in federal funding for the project through a Transportation Investment Generating Economic Recovery (TIGER) grant approved by USDOT last February. The project will assist in rehabilitating track and infrastructure on five separate R.J. Corman lines in these three states.

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## **RECORD DOMESTIC CROPS PREDICTED; RUSSIA BANS WHEAT EXPORTS**

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is predicting record crop amounts for the nation’s 2010 harvest – possibly the largest U.S. harvest in history.

In the USDA Crop Report issued August 12, corn production is forecast at a record high 13.4 billion bushels, up 2 percent from the previous record set in 2009. Soybean production is forecast at a record high 3.43 billion bushels, also up 2 percent from the previous record set last year. All wheat production is forecast at 2.26 billion bushels, also up 2 percent from last year. U.S. wheat will likely be a valued export commodity this year, as the Russian government has directed that their nation not export any wheat through the end of this year due to a severe drought that has greatly reduced their wheat crop. Russia is traditionally one of the world's largest wheat exporters.

The U.S. ranks first in wheat and soybean exports, and by itself accounts for more than half of the world's corn exports. It has approximately 9,000 commercial agricultural storage facilities. Its well-developed transportation system is often praised by world economists as a key factor in meeting the world's agricultural delivery needs.

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### **OGBORN DISCUSSES ASLRRRA GOALS IN MAGAZINE COMMENTARY**

ASLRRRA Board of Directors Chair Mike Ogborn is the featured commentator on the "Short Line/Regional Perspective" op-ed page of the current edition of Railway Age Magazine.

In his commentary entitled "Building On The Leadership Of Others," Mr. Ogborn reflects on his recent election as ASLRRRA chair. He notes the Association as having been "blessed with leaders with wisdom and foresight," and commends his predecessors and also the current ASLRRRA management and staff, who he says, "have given so generously of their time and energy to help make [it] the strong organization it is today."

Mr. Ogborn states that his goal for the Association is to "provide an even better, stronger organization that is as responsive to the needs and obligations of its members as possible." He notes the many challenges facing the short line and regional railroad industry, which he says include "changes to the existing regulatory regime; the extension of the short line investment tax credit this year and getting a long-term replacement for it in the next year; the threat of increased truck size and weights; the expensive burden of Positive Train Control; the National Mediation Board's newly minted rule concerning union organizing; and the plethora of new regulations emanating from the FRA."

Read Mr. Ogborn's commentary in full in the current edition of Railway Age Magazine, which is available to subscribers in a digital edition online at [www.railwayage.com](http://www.railwayage.com).

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### **ASLRRRA'S SULLIVAN COMMENTS ON SHORT LINE GREEN INITIATIVES**

ASLRRRA's VP & Executive Director Steve Sullivan was recently quoted in an article on green initiatives published in the online edition of Progressive Railroading Magazine.

In the article entitled, "Green Short Lines: Short Line Railroads and Environmental Stewardship," Mr. Sullivan notes the ways that short line and regional railroads are working to become better environmental stewards. He notes that, "There are many reasons why regionals and short lines are trying to be greener companies, not the least of which is being a good neighbor to the communities where they operate." He adds that there is also another main goal: reducing operating costs, such as by cutting fuel consumption.

The article goes on to include reports of specific green initiatives undertaken by several short line and regional railroads, including the Aberdeen, Carolina & Western Railway, the Genesee & Wyoming family of railroads, Iowa Interstate Railroad, Iowa Northern Railway, New York & Atlantic Railway, Paducah & Louisville Railway, Providence & Worcester Railroad, and the Twin Cities & Western Railroad. Read the article in its entirety by linking to the Progressive Railroading website at [www.progressiverailroading.com](http://www.progressiverailroading.com).

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## **NEW USDOT DRUG & ALCOHOL REGS EFFECTIVE OCTOBER 1**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) reminds that new regulations related to transportation workplace drug and alcohol testing programs take effect this October 1.

Here are summary elements of these new regulations, as furnished by USDOT's A/D Program Specialist, Kathy Schnakenberg:

- 1) The Department is required by the Omnibus Transportation Employees Testing Act (Omnibus Act) to follow the HHS requirements for the testing procedures/protocols and drugs for which we test.
- 2) Primary laboratory requirements in this final rule include:
  - Testing for MDMA (aka. Ecstasy);
  - Lowering cutoff levels for cocaine and amphetamines;
  - Conducting mandatory initial testing for heroin;
- 3) The Department brought several testing definitions in-line with those of HHS.
- 4) Each Medical Review Officer (MRO) will need to be re-qualified – including passing an examination given by an MRO training organization - every five years. The Final Rule eliminated the requirement for each MRO to take 12 hours of continuing education every three years.
- 5) An MRO will not need to be trained by an HHS-approved MRO training organization as long as the MRO meets DOT's qualification and requalification training requirements.
- 6) MRO recordkeeping requirements did not change from the five years for non-negatives and one year for negatives.
- 7) The Final Rule does **not** allow the use of HHS-Certified Instrumented Initial Testing Facilities (IITFs) to conduct initial drug testing because the Omnibus Act requires laboratories to be able to perform both initial and confirmation testing but IITFs cannot conduct confirmation testing.

To view a complete version of the new regulations on USDOT's Office of Drug & Alcohol Policy & Compliance website, link to [www.dot.gov/ost/dapc/](http://www.dot.gov/ost/dapc/). Ms. Schnakenberg may be called at (816) 561-2714 or emailed at [kathy.schnakenberg@dot.gov](mailto:kathy.schnakenberg@dot.gov) for any questions.

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## **NEW REGS FOR INTERMODAL EQUIPMENT POSTPONED TO MID-2011**

Railinc's Pete Varone recently alerted us to the fact that the U.S. Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration (FMCSA) has extended the date for compliance with its December 29, 2009 final rule concerning intermodal equipment. Compliance with these new regulations was to have been by June 30, 2010, but has now been extended to June 30, 2011.

These new regulations cover the inspection, repair, and maintenance of intermodal equipment (IME), specifically with respect to the requirement for drivers and motor carriers to prepare a driver-vehicle inspection report (DVIR) on any IME even if no damage, defects, or deficiencies are discovered by, or reported to, the driver. To view the FMCSA docket extending compliance that was published in the August 20, 2010 edition of the Federal Register, and which includes more information about the final rule, link to <http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#documentDetail?R=0900006480b3629c>.

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## **FRA PROPOSES NEW CONCRETE CROSSTIE REGS**

The FRA recently issued a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) related to concrete crossties.

In the NPRM notice posted in the August 27 edition of the Federal Register, the FRA is proposing "...to amend the Federal Track Safety Standards to promote the safety of railroad operations over track constructed with concrete crossties. In particular, FRA is proposing specific requirements for effective concrete crossties, for rail fastening systems connected to concrete crossties, and for automated inspections of track constructed with concrete crossties." FRA is also proposing to remove the provision on preemptive effect.

FRA requests that any comments on the proposed new concrete crosstie regulations be received by October 12, 2010. To view the entire NPRM, link to

<http://www.regulations.gov/search/Regs/home.html#documentDetail?R=0900006480b3b3d6>.

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## **ADDRESS CHANGE FOR FRA ACCIDENT/INCIDENT REPORT FILINGS**

The FRA recently advised that the address to which federal accident/incident reports are sent has now changed due to the relocation of the FRA contractor that does the initial review and processing of these reports.

The new address is:

FRA Project Office  
2600 Park Tower Drive, Suite 1000  
Vienna, VA 22180

FRA's Stan Ellis advises that this contractor's "...toll-number is (888) 372-9393. The new local number is (703) 204-0090. Most of the extensions will remain the same...[and] email addresses will remain the same." Mr. Ellis may be reached at (202) 493-6287 for any further questions.

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## **OPSL NOTES CHECK LAUNCHING**

In the coming weeks, ASLRRA will be contacting many Class II and III railroads concerning Open & Prepay Station List (OPSL) notes. OPSL notes are permanent station restrictions, such as maximum height or weight on rail of carloads to or from, that are published in the OPSL book and industry reference file. Attendant with recent enhancements to the AAR-Railinc Embargo/OPSL Notes & Permit System that allow such restrictions to be electronically alerted to, a check is being made to verify that these notes, many of which go back many years, are still valid.

Railroads with these notes on file will soon receive an email from ASLRRA's Jennie Lam-Nagata, which will include the specifics and the notes and the stations they are applicable to. Jennie may be reached at [jnagata@aslrro.org](mailto:jnagata@aslrro.org) and (202) 585-3442. Your help in promptly determining whether these notes should be updated, cancelled or continue as is will be gratefully appreciated.

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## **CORRECTIONS TO REPORTS ON CSX VISIT, TRUCK SIZE & WEIGHT**

We wish to correct two statements made in the last edition, one in the article, “CSX Conducts Annual Briefing To ASLRRRA” and the other in the article, “Truck Size And Weight Concerns Expand To Create New ASLRRRA Committee.”

In the CSX article, we reported that AVP-Emerging Markets Clark Robertson had succeeded Derrick Smith. In fact, Mr. Robertson succeeded Charles McSwain; Fredrick Eliasson succeeded Mr. Smith. Thanks to Rian Nemeroff of Housatonic Transportation for catching this – which we had more accurately reported in an earlier edition!

In the truck size and weight article, we reported that Congress had passed the 80,000 commercial vehicle weight limit in 1982. In fact, it first became law in 1974. Thanks to rail industry journalist Larry Kaufman for this update.

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## **SPOTLIGHT ON SAFETY: CAUTION, IT'S GASOLINE**

*(The following is excerpted from a recent Amtrak safety bulletin.)*

Gasoline is used to fuel many appliances and tools in household and commercial use. Additional to vehicles, it fuels lawn care equipment, power washers, air compressors, snow blowers, boats, motorcycles, and more. It has become so much a part of our everyday lives that we often forget how dangerous it can be if not properly stored or used.

Gasoline vapors are heavier than air and will move along close to the ground. These vapors will ignite with violence if an ignition source is reached, such as a pilot light, a lit cigarette, or a spark.

**If gasoline vapors ignite, one gallon can exploded with the same force as 14 sticks of dynamite!**

Take the following precautions when procuring gasoline in a portable container:

- Shut off your vehicle's engine. Do not smoke.
- Remove the container from the vehicle and place the container on the ground. Portable containers should not be filled when located inside a truck, passenger compartment or truck bed of a vehicle.
- Have the attendant fill the container only 95 percent full to allow for expansion during temperature changes.
- After filling, ensure that the container cap and vent cap are secured tightly.
- When transporting the gasoline container, place the container in the pickup bed or car trunk.
- Secure the container so it will not tip or slide around. Never place the container in the passenger compartment.
- Never leave the container in direct sunlight or unattended in the trunk of a vehicle.

Handle gasoline with care! Don't be “fuelish!”

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## NEW (AND CHANGING) RAILROADS

**A new railroad is the Eastern Berks Gateway Railroad.** Assigned Reporting Mark EBG and Rule 260 Code 063, the railroad will operate approximately 9 miles of line between Pottstown, PA and Boyertown, PA, and will interchange with Norfolk Southern at Pottstown. It was anticipated to start operations on or about August 15, 2010. Contact information is as follows: John Howell, President, Eastern Berks Gateway Railroad, 12 South Reading Ave. No. 1A, Boyertown, PA 19512, (610) 590-1007, [j.howell@ebgrr.com](mailto:j.howell@ebgrr.com).

**Another new railroad is the Gardendale Railroad.** Assigned Reporting Mark GRD and rule 260 code 499, the railroad will operate approximately one mile of line in Gardendale, TX and will interchange with Union Pacific at Gardendale. It was anticipated to start operations on or about August 13, 2010. Contact information is as follows: Carolyn Dellamano, Controller, Gardendale Railroad Inc., 102 Willow Dr., P.O. Box 99, O'Fallon, IL 62269, (618) 632-4400 x107, [carolyn@ironhorseresources.com](mailto:carolyn@ironhorseresources.com).

We also note the ceasing of operations of the Central Illinois Railroad. The railroad operated approximately 18 miles of line in the Chicago, IL area. The railroad ran its last train over the line on August 9 and BNSF has since resumed operation of the line. The Central Illinois Railroad's name and assets have recently been sold to a strategic railroad buyer, R&R Contracting. The sale also included Central Railink Services and Central Railgroup Construction Services.

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## MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

**Ansaldo STS USA** ([www.ansaldo-sts.com](http://www.ansaldo-sts.com)) has announced the appointment of Jason White as their VP-Sales and Business Development. Mr. White will be based at Ansaldo's Pittsburgh headquarters.....**Grand Canyon Railway** ([www.thetrain.com](http://www.thetrain.com)) has announced that its steam locomotive No. 4960 will be powered by recycled vegetable oil on Labor Day weekend as part of the railroad's ongoing environmentally-responsible initiatives. The railroad operates regularly scheduled tourist train service between the south rim of the Grand Canyon and Williams Junction, AZ, where the railroad connects with the BNSF main line.....**Greenbrier Companies** ([www.gbrx.com](http://www.gbrx.com)) recently noted that it had received orders for more than 1,000 new double-stack intermodal platforms and more than 700 new covered hopper cars. The work will be performed at Gunderson and Greenbrier Rail Services facilities in 2010 and 2011.....The **Nashville & Eastern Railroad** ([www.nerr.com](http://www.nerr.com)) on August 18 once again saw heavy rains wash out portions of its line between Nashville, Cookeville, and Monterey, TN. However, N&E maintenance-of-way forces were able to restore the line between Nashville and Cookeville to service by the afternoon of the following day, and restore the line between Cookeville and Monterey to service a few days later.....**RailComm** ([www.railcomm.com](http://www.railcomm.com)) has announced that it has been contracted to supply a dispatching system for Genesee & Wyoming's sixteen (16) Southern Region railroads.....**RMI** ([www.rmiondemand.com](http://www.rmiondemand.com)) has announced the appointment of Martin Page as vice-president of its RailDOCS line of business. Mr. Page was most recently the AVP-Engineering at Xorail, a signal engineering and railroad design subsidiary of **Wabtec Corporation**.....**Vossloh** ([www.vossloh.com](http://www.vossloh.com)) has announced that it recently won a contract from the Chinese Ministry of Railways to supply about 140 million high-speed rail fastener systems. Vossloh will manufacture and deliver the fasteners to China next year.

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## MEETINGS AND CONFERENCES COMING UP

**September 11-14: ASLRRRA Eastern Region Meeting:** To be held at the Renaissance Baltimore Harborplace Hotel in Baltimore, MD.

**October 2-7: ASLRRRA Central Pacific Region Meeting:** To be held at the Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza, in Kansas City, MO.

**October 5-6: ASLRRRA General Counsel Legal Symposium:** To be held at the Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza, Kansas City, MO.

**October 5-7: ASLRRRA/FRA Drug & Alcohol Program Manager Training with Signs & Symptoms Training:** To be held at the Intercontinental Kansas City at the Plaza, Kansas City, MO.

**October 6-8: Northeast Rail Shippers Association:** To be held on Cape Cod, at the Red Jacket Ocean Hotel in South Yarmouth, MA. For more information, link to <http://www.railshippers.com/regional/northeast/default.asp>.

**October 11-15: Railroad Track Inspection and Safety Standards Workshop:** To be held at the California State Railroad Museum in Sacramento, CA. Presented by the Center for Transportation Research of the University of Tennessee. For more information, call Jenny Jones at (865) 974-6549 or email [gohjones@utk.edu](mailto:gohjones@utk.edu).

**November 1-5: Railroad Track Inspection and Safety Standards Workshop:** To be held at the Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum in Chattanooga, TN. Presented by the Center for Transportation Research of the University of Tennessee. For more information, call Jenny Jones at (865) 974-6549 or email [gohjones@utk.edu](mailto:gohjones@utk.edu).

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

**January 5-8, 2011: National Railroad Construction & Maintenance Association (NRCMA) 33rd Annual Conference:** To be held at the Marriott Harbor Beach Resort & Spa in Fort Lauderdale, FL. For more information about the 2011 NRC Conference, link to <http://www.nrcma.org/ps.nrcconference.cfm?ID=165>.

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## EMAIL ALERTS NOW AVAILABLE FOR EMBARGOES

The AAR-Railinc Embargo/OPSL Notes And Permit System now has the capability to issue free email alerts whenever an embargo is created, amended, or cancelled. Although individuals will need to make application to Railinc to receive the email alerts, they can be received by anyone with a Railinc Single Sign On ID and a valid business case to receive them. For more information and to make application, link to <https://aarembargo.railinc.com/epdb/subscribeToEPDBAction.do?step=viewSubscriptionInstructionsForEmbargoes>. For any assistance, contact the Railinc Customer Support Desk at (800) 544-7245.

Listed below are all the embargoes currently in effect for the North American rail system. For further details about a specific embargo, including affected stations and a point of contact for further information, link to the Railinc AAR Embargo/OPSL Notes & Permit System at <https://aarembargo.railinc.com>. Once there, select the "Embargoes" tab, then "Search Embargoes," and then enter the embargo number.

The below list is in issuing railroad order and the embargoes newly issued and effective since our last edition – CPR002309, CPRS001710, KBSR000210, KCS000510, and RRVW000110 – are bolded below:

Issuing Road	Embargo No	Amendment No	Effective Date	Expiration Date	Allow Permits	Status	Last Amended Date	Op Station Notice	Participating Roads	Cause
ABL	ABL000210	0	04/01/2010	04/01/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
AF	AF000110	0	06/11/2010	06/11/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
AOK	AOK000109	1	11/04/2009	11/04/2010	NO	Effective	11/04/2009	NO	KCS	Track Conditions
BCR	BCR000109	0	05/13/2010	05/13/2011	NO	Effective		NO	CSXT,NS	Other - specify
BNSF	BNSF000710	0	08/03/2010	08/03/2011	YES	Effective		NO		Other - specify
BNSF	BNSF000410	0	06/18/2010	06/18/2011	YES	Effective		NO		Congestions/Accumulation
BNSF	BNSF001609	0	12/11/2009	12/11/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
CEMR	CEMR000209	0	08/31/2009	08/31/2010	YES	Effective		NO	CN	Work Stoppage
CN	CN000410	0	07/31/2010	07/31/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Other - specify
CN	CN000310	0	07/19/2010	07/19/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
CN	CN000210	0	04/23/2010	04/23/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
CN	CN001609	0	09/28/2009	09/28/2010	NO	Effective		YES		Other - specify
<b>CPRS</b>	<b>CPRS001710</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>08/26/2010</b>	<b>08/26/2011</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Effective</b>		<b>NO</b>		<b>Prevent Congestion/Accumulation</b>
<b>CPRS</b>	<b>CPRS002309</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>08/23/2010</b>	<b>08/23/2011</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Effective</b>		<b>NO</b>		<b>Other - specify</b>
CPRS	CPRS001410	3	06/02/2010	06/02/2011	YES	Effective	07/23/2010	NO		Track Conditions
CPRS	CPRS000310	2	03/17/2010	03/17/2011	NO	Effective	04/19/2010	NO		Track Conditions
CPRS	CPRS003109	0	12/18/2009	12/18/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Prevent Congestion/Accumulation
CPRS	CPRS003009	0	10/13/2009	10/13/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Other - specify
CPRS	CPRS002809	0	10/11/2009	10/11/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Other - specify
CPRS	CPRS002409	1	09/28/2009	09/28/2010	YES	Effective	09/28/2009	NO		Other - specify
CPRS	CPRS002509	1	09/28/2009	09/28/2010	YES	Effective	09/28/2009	NO		Other - specify
CSXT	CSXT000810	5	03/17/2010	03/17/2011	YES	Effective	06/07/2010	NO	NS	Track Conditions
CSXT	CSXT000710	1	02/25/2010	02/24/2011	NO	Effective	02/25/2010	NO		Other - specify
CZRY	CZRY000110	1	04/01/2010	03/31/2011	NO	Effective	03/18/2010	NO	UP	Other - specify
DN	DN000210	1	02/23/2010	02/23/2011	NO	Effective	02/16/2010	NO	BNSF	Bridge out of service
GRYR	GRYR000110	0	04/28/2010	04/28/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
GSWR	GSWR000209	2	12/09/2009	12/09/2010	NO	Effective	12/09/2009	NO	NS	Track Conditions
GTR	GTR000109	0	10/09/2009	10/08/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
GWR	GWR000309	1	11/10/2009	11/10/2010	NO	Effective	11/10/2009	NO	UP	Track Conditions
IAIS	IAIS000110	0	01/20/2010	01/20/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Weather Conditions - specify
<b>KBSR</b>	<b>KBSR000210</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>08/30/2010</b>	<b>08/30/2011</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Effective</b>		<b>NO</b>		<b>Bridge out of service</b>
<b>KCS</b>	<b>KCS000510</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>08/18/2010</b>	<b>08/18/2011</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Effective</b>		<b>NO</b>	<b>CSXT,CN</b>	<b>Track Conditions</b>
LS	LS000109	0	11/16/2009	11/15/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Bridge out of service
MMA	MMA000310	3	05/25/2010	05/25/2011	YES	Effective	06/04/2010	NO	CPRS,CN	Congestions/Accumulation
MNNR	MNNR000110	0	01/07/2010	01/07/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Other - specify
MRL	MRL000110	1	04/07/2010	04/07/2011	NO	Effective	04/07/2010	NO		Track Conditions
MRL	MRL000109	0	11/30/2009	11/30/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
NS	NS000609	1	11/17/2009	11/16/2010	NO	Effective	11/09/2009	NO	LS	Bridge out of service
NYLE	NYLE000210	0	02/18/2010	02/17/2011	NO	Effective		NO	CSXT,CPRS,BPRR,BSOR,NS	Track Conditions
NYNJ	NYNJ000110	0	03/24/2010	03/23/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Other - specify
NYNJ	NYNJ000309	2	11/06/2009	11/06/2010	NO	Effective	11/09/2009	NO		Other - specify
PAS	PAS000109	0	12/23/2009	12/23/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Bridge out of service
PNWR	PNWR000109	0	06/03/2010	06/03/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
<b>RRVW</b>	<b>RRVW000110</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>08/24/2010</b>	<b>08/24/2011</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Effective</b>		<b>NO</b>	<b>BNSF</b>	<b>Bridge out of service</b>
RSR	RSR000110	0	04/16/2010	04/16/2011	YES	Effective		NO		Bridge out of service
SSR	SSR000109	1	12/04/2009	12/04/2010	NO	Effective	12/04/2009	NO		Track Conditions
UP	UP000810	2	06/18/2010	06/18/2011	NO	Effective	06/24/2010	NO		Bridge out of service
USRP	USRP000109	0	09/08/2009	11/30/2010	NO	Effective		NO		Bridge out of service
WE	WE000210	0	07/16/2010	07/16/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Bridge out of service
WE	WE000110	0	05/10/2010	05/10/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
WE	WE000109	1	12/23/2009	12/23/2010	YES	Effective	12/23/2009	NO		Track Conditions
WMI	WMI000110	0	04/28/2010	04/28/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
WSOR	WSOR000309	0	08/11/2010	08/11/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
WSOR	WSOR000109	0	05/06/2010	05/06/2011	NO	Effective		NO		Track Conditions
WTJR	WTJR000110	1	02/03/2010	02/03/2011	NO	Effective	02/03/2010	NO	UP	Bridge

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## CLASS I RAIL TRAFFIC

**For the week ending August 21, 2010**, U.S. carload rail traffic totaled 296,634 carloads, up 6.2 percent from the comparable week last year. This traffic was up 6.1 percent in the East and up 6.2 percent in the West. Fourteen of nineteen carload commodity groups increased this year over last, including metallic ores up 54.6 percent and metals and metal products up 43.0 percent. U.S. intermodal traffic totaled 236,404 trailers and containers, the highest number of loadings so far this year and up 22.4 percent over the previous year. Also for the week, Canadian carload rail traffic was up 10.5 percent, Canadian intermodal rail traffic was up 21.7 percent, Mexican carload rail traffic was up 19.5 percent, and Mexican intermodal rail traffic was up 12.6 percent.

**For the period January through August 21, 2010**, U.S. carload rail traffic was up 7.1 percent over the comparable period last year. Also for this period, U.S. intermodal rail traffic was up 14.2 percent, Canadian carload rail traffic was up 20.8 percent, Canadian intermodal rail traffic was up 15.4 percent, Mexican carload rail traffic was up 20.7 percent, and Mexican intermodal rail traffic was up 31.0 percent.

(Note: Canadian traffic totals include that traffic on U.S. operations of the Canadian National and Canadian Pacific Railways.)

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## RAILINC SHORT LINE TRAFFIC INDEX

The Railinc Short Line Traffic Index is movement-based, totaling loaded trips originating on all non-Class I railroads for all destinations and, also, all loaded trips terminating on all non-Class I railroads from all origins. This is tallied from all railroads that have passed movement event records to Railinc, including from all third party information services providers. In some instances, Railinc is not a party to accompanying waybill information and so those unknown commodities are presented in "All Other."

This index is calculated monthly. **The below data is for January 1 through July 31, 2010, and compares with January through July, 2009.** Special thanks to Railinc's Phillip Johnson for this valuable statistical information.

COMMODITY	2010 YTD ORIGS	2009 YTD ORIGS	% CHG	2010 YTD TERMS	2009 YTD TERMS	% CHG	2010 YTD TOT	2009 YTD TOT	% CHG
Chemicals	261,043	265,044	-1.5%	342,084	295,156	15.9%	603,127	560,200	7.7%
Coal	133,992	131,947	1.5%	319,562	394,058	-18.9%	453,554	526,005	-13.8%
Crushed Stone, Sand, Gravel	131,093	115,978	13.0%	96,829	80,989	19.6%	227,922	196,967	15.7%
Food & Kindred Products	84,531	97,170	-13.0%	87,097	85,426	2.0%	171,628	182,596	-6.0%
Grain	166,859	170,818	-2.3%	188,015	158,020	19.0%	354,874	328,838	7.9%
Grain Mill Products	51,305	54,755	-6.3%	84,711	79,755	6.2%	136,016	134,510	1.1%
Lumber & Wood Products	48,223	45,197	6.7%	43,579	39,115	11.4%	91,802	84,312	8.9%
Metallic Ores	31,227	18,182	71.7%	72,379	47,289	53.1%	103,606	65,471	58.2%
Metals & Metal Products	150,006	117,056	28.1%	99,134	71,755	38.2%	249,140	188,811	32.0%
Motor Vehicles & Equipment	51,126	38,579	32.5%	58,173	42,209	37.8%	109,299	80,788	35.3%
Nonmetallic Minerals	13,802	15,714	-12.2%	15,059	15,976	-5.7%	28,861	31,690	-8.9%
Petroleum Products	12,745	11,439	11.4%	14,991	13,289	12.8%	27,736	24,728	12.2%
Pulp, Paper & Allied Products	123,166	122,657	0.4%	84,844	83,607	1.5%	208,010	206,264	0.8%
Stone, Clay & Glass Products	79,020	81,621	-3.2%	61,686	66,021	-6.6%	140,706	147,642	-4.7%
Trailer or Container	223,107	213,569	4.5%	202,373	180,567	12.1%	425,480	394,136	8.0%
Waste & Scrap Materials	70,426	64,654	8.9%	91,880	79,842	15.1%	162,306	144,496	12.3%
All Other Carloads	529,311	564,173	-6.2%	540,198	542,411	-0.4%	1,069,509	1,106,584	-3.4%
Total	2,160,932	2,128,553	1.5%	2,402,294	2,275,485	5.6%	4,563,576	4,404,038	3.6%

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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 341 such railroads. This index is calculated weekly. The **below data is as of the week ending August 21, 2010**, the 33rd week of 2010. Special thanks to RMI's Cheri Denton for this valuable statistical information.

	Week Ending August 21			Year-To-Date		
	2010	2009	% Change	2010	2009	% Change
<b>CARLOADS HANDLED</b>						
Coal	12,315	13,134	-6.24%	366,035	420,901	-13.04%
Grain	11,393	13,025	-12.53%	406,544	365,241	11.31%
Farm & Food (Exc. Grain)	4,998	4,898	2.04%	152,897	159,561	-4.18%
Ores	2,602	2,422	7.43%	104,114	54,571	90.79%
Stone, Clay, Aggregates	12,273	9,719	26.28%	354,542	310,403	14.22%
Lumber/Forest Prods.	3,782	3,737	1.20%	121,556	115,779	4.99%
Paper Products	6,446	5,936	8.59%	204,097	198,377	2.88%
Waste & Scrap Materials	5,188	5,090	1.93%	165,731	142,053	16.67%
Chemicals	15,281	14,738	3.68%	509,551	481,830	5.75%
Petroleum & Coke	5,141	4,426	16.15%	159,889	137,062	16.65%
Metals & Products	8,182	5,304	54.26%	266,126	194,847	36.58%
Motor Vehicles & Equip.	1,151	1,132	1.68%	36,347	30,265	20.10%
Intermodal	7,856	6,083	29.15%	214,258	226,583	-5.44%
All Other	1,948	1,336	45.81%	69,415	44,738	55.16%
<b>Total</b>	<b>98,556</b>	<b>90,980</b>	<b>8.33%</b>	<b>3,131,102</b>	<b>2,882,211</b>	<b>8.64%</b>

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### 2011 CONVENTION FACEBOOK PAGE NOW ACTIVE

The ASLRRRA 2011 Convention has debuted on Facebook! This Facebook page, which includes the new 2011 Convention logo, will be a top source for the latest news and information concerning this notable event, which is scheduled for April 30 through May 4, 2011 in San Antonio, TX.

To follow or "friend" the ASLRRRA Convention Facebook page, or the main ASLRRRA Facebook page, 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 ASLRRRA page and on "ASLRRRA Annual Convention" to get to the Convention page, then make sure to click on "Become A Fan." For further information, contact Jenny McKinney at [jmckinney@aslrro.org](mailto:jmckinney@aslrro.org).

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## SEND US YOUR PRESS RELEASES AND NEWS

Don't forget to send us your press releases and news! We will either post them in the Hot Tracks section of our website, [www.aslrra.org](http://www.aslrra.org), or include them in the "Members In The News" section of the next edition of Views & News – or both! Please make sure to add ASLRRRA to your press release distribution list, sending them to Cara Lione at [clione@aslrra.org](mailto:clione@aslrra.org). The press release should include a link back to the news listing on your company's website.

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## HELPFUL LINKS

For the ASLRRRA public website, link to [www.aslrra.org](http://www.aslrra.org). For the members-only website, link to [members.aslrra.org](http://members.aslrra.org).

For the Railinc website, link to [www.railinc.com](http://www.railinc.com). To use the Railinc AAR Embargo/OPSL Notes & Permit System, which includes both embargoes and open & prepay station (OPSL) notes, link to [aarembargo.railinc.com](http://aarembargo.railinc.com).

For the Railroad Retirement Board website, link to [www.rrb.gov](http://www.rrb.gov). To check the Railroad Retirement Board's Railroad Jobs Vacancies page, link to <http://www.rrb.gov/PandS/Jobs/rjjobs.asp>.

The U.S. Department of Labor website has a web page that provides substantial information on the new health care law, formally known as the Patient Protection & Affordable Care Act. To view it, link to [www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform](http://www.dol.gov/ebsa/healthreform).

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