



**American Short Line and
Regional Railroad Association.**

50 F Street, NW
Suite 500
Washington, DC 20001
aslrra@aslrra.org

Contact:
Amy Krouse
akrouse@aslrra.org
(Cell) 312-371-6947
(Direct) 202-585-3438

SHORT LINE TRAINING CENTER DELIVERS POSITIVE IMPACT ON SAFETY FOR SHORT LINE RAILROADS

Training Center Releases Two New Online Training Programs, and Provides Expert Speakers at In-Person Training

WASHINGTON – June 26, 2026 – The Short Line Training Center, supported by a grant from the Federal Railroad Administration’s Consolidated Rail Infrastructure Safety Improvements (CRISI) program, has announced the addition of two new computer-based training (CBT) programs to its online learning management system (LMS) platform, bringing the total new courses launched to 16. The Short Line Training Center has provided critical CBT and instructor-led training (ILT) to more than 1,500 railroad employees since its inception in 2021.

Designated Supervisor of Locomotive Engineers (DSLE) training was initially launched as an in-person (ILT) seminar. Now, railroad employees can also access this critical training online, extending its reach to the more than 1,200 employees currently signed up for the platform. The DSLE training course will provide managers of locomotive engineers with the training required per Part 240 and will cover aspects of Part 242. The training will provide an understanding of the qualifications and requirements of a DSLE including revocations and hearings. This training course can be utilized to cover the Part 243 requirement of training DSLEs every three years.

Similarly, the General Code of Operating Rules (GCOR) has been a highly popular in-person ILT seminar, and has now been translated to online CBT. The GCOR training program is provided in six individual stand-alone courses with the core GCOR course covering Chapters 1-8 of the rule book; other Chapters (9, 10, 14, 15 and 18) are provided as stand-alone options, applicable to specific railroad operations.

“The Short Line Training Center’s LMS provides small business freight railroads access to critical safety and regulatory training, developed by industry subject matter experts and delivered online at the click of a mouse. Most small railroads do not have the resources, capacity or in-house expertise to develop the breadth and depth of training offered by the Training Center. Moreover, many are challenged to spare the time and expense for critical employees to attend in-person training that may take them away from the railroad for several days at a time. The LMS addresses these challenges by delivering affordable computer-based training to employees on location, at a time that’s convenient to them,” said Sabrina Waiss, Senior Vice President, Education and Business Services, American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA).

In addition to online training, the Short Line Training Center hosts in-person instructor-led training seminars presented by industry subject matter experts. Recently, ASLRRA welcomed a special guest speaker from the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), Senior Policy Advisor Russell (Rusty) Roberts, to this month’s Designated Supervisor of Locomotive Engineers (DSLE) training seminar in Freeport, Maine. Roberts delivered remarks on the second day of the seminar.

“FRA has been pleased to support the Short Line Training Center. The importance of accessible, interactive and engaging safety training cannot be overstated in the drive to meet rail industry development and safety goals at every railroad,” said Roberts. “The successful launch and continued development of programs provided by the training center has done exactly what we at the FRA had hoped for – and we look forward to the continuation of this critical work.”

The LMS also assists railroads in streamlining the tracking and recording of training. Participating railroads enroll users, assign courses, track progress and manage team reports through an intuitive Admin dashboard. Admins may also upload individual employee OJT and external training records to fully leverage the platform’s training, record keeping and reporting capabilities.

For more information on the Short Line Training Center including a list of available courses, visit <https://www.aslrra.org/education/short-line-training-center/>.

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About ASLRRA - The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA) is a non-profit trade association representing the interests of the nation’s 600 short line and regional railroads and railroad supply company members in legislative and regulatory matters. Short lines operate 47,500 miles of track in 49 states, or approximately 29% of the national railroad network, touching in origination or termination one out of every five cars moving on the national railroad system, serving customers who otherwise would be cut off from the national railroad network. www.aslrra.org