



The Voice of the Railroad Construction Industry

# NRC Bulletin - March 9, 2016

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### 2016 Railroad Day on the Hill was a Success!

Thank you to all NRC member companies who attended the **2016 Railroad Day on the Hill** last Thursday.



The 2016 Railroad Day on the Hill kicked off with a Board and railroad guest dinner held by the NRC on Wednesday evening. Thank you to Congressman Blumenauer and Senator Grassley for speaking.

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**New Members**

**EMI Inc**



[emiproducts.com](http://emiproducts.com)

**Rosenqvist Rail**



[www.rosenqvistrail.com](http://www.rosenqvistrail.com)

**Railroad Industry News**

[MTA to issue RFPs for next  
phase of Second Avenue  
Subway extension](#)

[BNSF details \\$670m capital  
program in California,  
Colorado, North Dakota,  
Montana & Nebraska](#)

[Fort Worth transit agency  
adopts plan calling for](#)

Many NRC member companies attended the 2016 Railroad Day on the Hill. Over 375 people from over 40 states met with 350 congressmen and senators last Thursday. Thank you to all who attended and made the 2016 Railroad Day on the Hill a success.



From Left to Right: 1) NRC member company RJ Corman employees, NRC Board Member Kirk Bastyr (Progressive Railroading) and others meet with Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. 2) NRC Board member Scott Goehri and others meet with House Railroad Subcommittee Chairman Congressman Denham. 3) NRC's Secretary/Treasurer Jim Hansen of RailWorks meets with Congressman Rick Nolan. 4) NRC Board Member Steve Bolte of Danella and others meet with former House T&I Chairman Congressman Mica.

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**2016 NRC Rail Construction & Maintenance  
Equipment Auction - Thursday, April 14, 2016 -  
Little Rock, Arkansas**

The 13th Annual NRC Rail Construction and Maintenance Equipment Auction is set for Thursday, April 14, 2016 in Little Rock, Arkansas at the Blackmon Auctions facility. For more information, visit: <http://www.nrcma.org/auction>

**AUCTION SITE:**

Blackmon Auctions, 425 Blackmon Road, Lonoke, Arkansas 72086 (address via Google Maps: <http://goo.gl/maps/vYlmn>)

## expansion

### Sound Transit restores funding for two light-rail extensions

## NRC Toolbox Talks

The NRC Safety Committee has revised and updated the NRC's Toolbox Talks. They are available for download at: <http://www.nrcma.org/safety>.

A version is available in PDF format as well as in Microsoft Word so that NRC member companies can make company or job specific changes.

## Member-Get-A-Member Campaign

*Help Grow the NRC and Strengthen our Voice*

Three options to help recruit new members:

1. Reply to this email with names and contact information of potential members and we'll send them a membership information package.
2. Make a quick introductory call, email the potential member and CC [mbell@nrcma.org](mailto:mbell@nrcma.org).
3. Direct a potential new member to [www.nrcma.org](http://www.nrcma.org) where they can

**DATE/TIME:** Thursday, April 14 - starts at 9:00am and will finish around 1:00pm

**EQUIPMENT INSPECTION:** 8:00am - 5:00pm, Wednesday, April 13 officially, but practically speaking anytime in the weeks preceding the auction

### **HOTEL:**

Discounted room block available at Wyndham Riverfront Little Rock, 2 Riverfront Drive, North Little Rock, AR 72114 (address via Google Maps: <http://goo.gl/maps/alwzw>.) To make your hotel room reservation, call 1-866-657-4458 and refer to "NRCMA" to receive the discounted room rate of \$109/night+tax. You can also [make your reservation online](#) (follow the directions at the bottom of the webpage). The deadline to take advantage of this discounted rate is March 23. We recommend booking now.

### **HAPPY HOUR/SOCIAL EVENT:**

Wednesday, April 13 at 5:00pm to close at the Wyndham Riverfront Little Rock Hotel. Everyone who is attending the auction is welcome at the Happy Hour. We hold this happy hour every year the night before the auction, and it is always a good time and a good opportunity to talk about the equipment available the following day. Plus, drinks are on us!

**AIRPORT:** Little Rock National Airport (LIT) - 20 miles from auction location.

Equipment that has been available for purchase at past auctions includes adzers/cribbers, air compressors, backhoes, ballast regulators and compactors, clip applicators and removers, cranes, excavators and gradalls, hi-rail trucks, Mark I, II and III Tampers, rail heaters, rail manipulators, rail saws, rotary scarifiers, speed swings, spike drivers and pullers, tie handlers, tie removers/inserters, track liners, and track undercutters.

The auction will feature consignments from dozens of contractors, suppliers and railroads. Previous consigners have included AM-Rail Construction, Auto Truck Group, Balfour Beatty Rail, BNSF Railway, Canadian National

learn more about the NRC and join online.

Visit the NRC Bid Notifications page on the NRC website at:

[www.nrcma.org/bids](http://www.nrcma.org/bids)

Publicize your Rail Industry Event on

[www.nrcma.org/industry\\_calendar](http://www.nrcma.org/industry_calendar)

If you would like to submit an event for posting on the Industry Calendar, please email [info@nrcma.org](mailto:info@nrcma.org).

Railroad, Delta Railroad Construction, DM&E Railroad, Diversified Metal Fabricators, Esco Equipment Service, FCM Rail, Fleet Body Equipment, Great Lakes Rail Service, Harsco Rail, Hertz Equipment Rental, Herzog Contracting Corp, IC&E Railroad, JER Overhaul, Kanza Services, Kelly-Hill Company, Matweld, McHenry Truck Equipment, Nelson Rail Services, Nordco, Pocono Mohawk Construction, Progress Rail Services, Railroad Construction Company of South Jersey, Railway Equipment Services, RailWorks Corporation, and numerous others.

Anybody is welcome to attend the auction to bid on equipment. Also, all contractors, suppliers, and railroads are invited to sell and/or donate their equipment. For equipment consigned to sell, 1% of the Buyer's Premium and a 2% seller's fee goes to fund the NRC Safety, Training, and Education Program, and the seller keeps the rest. For donated equipment, 100% of the proceeds go to the NRC Safety, Training, and Education Program.

[To officially sign up to donate, consign, or purchase equipment at the auction, fill out and return this form.](#)

To register equipment for sale and/or find out more information, contact:

Thomas Blackmon Jr. (Auctioneer)

Blackmon Auctions, Inc.

Office: 501-664-4526

Cell: 501-352-4702

[thomas@blackmonauctions.com](mailto:thomas@blackmonauctions.com)

[www.blackmonauctions.com](http://www.blackmonauctions.com)

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## Save the Date for 2016 ASLRRRA Events

The American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association's 2016 CONNECTIONS Convention will be held April 3-6, 2016 at National Harbor, MD.

American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association's  
Regional Meetings are as follows:

Eastern Region Meeting  
Indianapolis, Indiana  
September 12-14

Southern Region Meeting  
Louisville, Kentucky  
October 24-26

Central/Pacific Region Meeting  
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma  
November 14-16

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## **NRC New Member Profiles**

EMI Inc. (Electro Mechanical Industries, Inc.) was founded in 1991 with the vision of providing reliable solution to clients' problems. EMI Inc. serves the railroad, oilfield, telecommunication, government, aerospace and other industries. EMI can provide a variety of electrical services, structural design services, fabrication services and field services.

For more information contact Fallon Egan, [fegan@emiproducts.com](mailto:fegan@emiproducts.com).

Rosenqvist Rail is a fully owned subsidiary of Pandrol International, a major designer and manufacturer of rail fastening systems. Rosenqvist specializes in fail fastening, rail handling, sleeper laying, sleeper replacement and Hy-Rail machines.

For more information contact Erika Berg, [erika.berg@rosenqvistrail.se](mailto:erika.berg@rosenqvistrail.se).

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## **FRA Launched New Online Website Feature for Bridge Inspection Reports**

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has launched a new website feature that allows states and municipalities to request rail bridge inspection reports.

The tool is one of the first provisions the FRA has implemented as part of the Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act, which Congress passed in December 2015. Additionally, the FRA announced it has requested additional resources in President Barack Obama's fiscal-year 2017 budget to double the agency's bridge specialist staff and create a national bridge inventory database and website.

According to the AAR, freight railroads have been complying with the FAST Act measure, which provides a workable framework for them to provide pertinent inspection information as requested.

"Freight railroads have been taking additional steps to enhance bridge information sharing, including having information readily available on their websites," AAR officials said.

AAR also noted that the industry shares the FRA's commitment to safety and is "steadfast compliant" with federal regulations of rail bridges.

Available information via the tool will include the date of a bridge's last inspection, as well as the bridge's length, location, type (superstructure and substructure), features crossed, general condition and railroad contact information.

[Click here to view the FRA FAST Act Bridge Inspection webpage.](#)

*Source: FRA, Progressive Railroading*

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## **USDOT: \$800 Million Available in FASTLANE Grants**

The U.S. Department of Transportation (USDOT) is soliciting applications for \$800 million in grants under the new Fostering Advancements in Shipping and Transportation for the Long-term Achievement of National Efficiencies (FASTLANE) program.

Included in the FAST Act passed by Congress in December 2015, the new program authorizes grants to be used to fund critical freight and highway projects. Authorized by the FAST Act's Nationally Significant Freight and Highway Projects (NSFHP) program, the grants will fund small and large projects. Large projects of \$100 million or more are eligible for a minimum award of \$25 million. 10% of the program is also set-aside for small projects under the \$100m threshold, which are eligible for a minimum award of \$5 million.

The availability of the dedicated grants marks the first time in USDOT history that a program establishes broad, multiyear eligibilities for freight infrastructure, including intermodal projects.

[Click here for more information and on details on how to apply for grant funding.](#)

*Source: FRA, Progressive Railroading*

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## **Transportation Research Board (TRB) is Accepting Proposals for the Rail Safety IDEA Program**

The Transportation Research Board (TRB) is accepting proposals for the Rail Safety IDEA Program, which supports the development and testing of innovative concepts and methods for improving railroad safety or performance. Rail Safety IDEA proposals are due September 15, 2016.

Rail Safety IDEA proposals will be considered for promising but unproven innovations to advance railroad practice. Such proposals can apply to any type of railroad, including high-speed rail, intercity passenger rail, or freight railroads.

Proposals are encouraged for innovations in a variety of areas in railroad systems: safety, security, and environment; human factors; rolling stock and components; track and structures; track/train interaction; grade crossings; hazardous materials transportation; train occupant protection; trespass prevention; signaling and train control systems; and employee safety.

IDEA stands for Innovations Deserving Exploratory Analysis. The Rail Safety IDEA Program provides funding at an early stage of the development process for promising but unproven innovative concepts or methods. IDEA proposals can be for up to \$100,000 in IDEA funds.

The Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) funds the Safety IDEA Program.

The IDEA Program Announcement, which includes instructions for preparing and submitting IDEA proposals, is available on the IDEA website at: [www.trb.org/idea](http://www.trb.org/idea). If there are questions about preparing Rail Safety IDEA proposals, they can be addressed to Jo Allen Gause at [jagause@nas.edu](mailto:jagause@nas.edu).

*Source: TRB, FRA*

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## **Harsco Rail Awarded Contracts for Two Maintenance Machines**

Harsco Rail has won two contracts for two separate projects on major transit railroads in the northeastern U.S. totaling approximately \$10 million in projected revenues.

Under the first award, a Harsco P811 Track Renewal System and its 24-person crew will replace approximately 22,000 ties and eight miles of rail in the greater New York City metropolitan area during 2016 and 2017. Together with its crew, the P811 will remove and replace old crossties, fasteners and rail in a single, self-contained set of units. The track renewal projects are scheduled to begin in early spring and finish by the end of May each year, such that the work is completed prior to the summer-season upturn in rail traffic.

In the second award, a Harsco New Track Construction machine and its 13-person crew will be working in New York and Connecticut building approximately five miles of new continuous welded rail (CWR) track in both 2016 and 2017. This project will entail laying approximately 12,000 new ties and installing the new CWR rail.

*Source: RT&S*

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## **Wabtec Signs \$97 million Contract to Build Tier 4 Locomotives for Metrolinx**

Wabtec Corp. announced that its subsidiary MotivePower signed a \$97 million contract with Ontario's Metrolinx to build 16 locomotives compliant with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) Tier 4 emission



standards. The unit marks the first commuter locomotive delivered in North America that's been certified to meet Tier 4 emission standards,

The locomotive is powered by twin Cummins QSK60 diesel engines that produce up to 5,400 horsepower for traction and auxiliary train power. The engines meet Tier 4 requirements using integrated selective catalytic reduction exhaust after-treatment technology, which removes nitrogen oxides from the exhaust stream.

*Source: Progressive Railroading*

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