



The Voice of the Railroad Construction Industry

NRC Bulletin - July 22, 2015

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Table of Contents

[Save the Date: 2016 NRC Conference](#)

[New Member Profile: Bridge Access Specialties \(BAS\)](#)

[NRC Scholarship Program Now Open](#)

[FRA/NRC Webinar on Part 243 Training Standards Final Rule Confirmation](#)

[RFP: Wisconsin & Southern Railroad, LLC - Markesan Subdivision Tie, Crossing and Turnout Project in Fairwater, WI and Markesan, WI](#)

[RFP: Klausner Lumber Two Rail Infrastructure - Halifax, NC](#)

[RT&S Highlights NRC Members in "Focus on Fasteners" Article](#)

[RT&S Highlights NRC Members in "Special Trackwork" Article](#)

[RT&S Highlights NRC Members in "Extending Weld Life" Article](#)

[Rocla Acquires KSA Concrete Tie Business](#)

[BNSF Set to Begin Rail-Spur Construction in Kansas](#)

Save the Date: 2016 NRC Conference

The 2016 NRC conference will be held in San Diego, California at the Hotel Del Coronado from Wednesday January 6 and through Saturday January 9.

Attendance at the NRC Conference now tops 1,000 people, the conference features 125+ exhibitors and our conference program is lined with speakers from the rail industry including key engineering and procurement representatives from the Class 1 and short line freight railroads and major rail transit agencies.

If you are a rail industry professional you should be in attendance for this event. Attendees will be afforded many opportunities during the course of the 4-day event to reach out and introduce yourself to many of the industry's leaders face-to-face.

For now, just save the date. Registration will open later this month.

Check online at www.nrcma.org for more details.

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

NRC New Member Profile

[Bridge Access Specialties \(BAS\)](#) rents specially designed and manufacturer-certified Hi-Rail Under Bridge Inspection Trucks (UBITs) with highly experienced and factory-trained operators to supply access for bridge inspection and maintenance in the United

[CTA Purple Line Express to get \\$30 million Improvement Project](#)

[DOT Credit Council Recommends \\$26.8 Million in RRIF Funding for Two Short-Line Rail Freight Terminal Projects](#)

New Member

Bridge Access Specialties (BAS)



www.bridgeaccessspecialties.com/

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

States and Canada. BAS is adding a specially designed 70-ton self-propelled hi-rail lowboy trailer known as a Rail Rider to its rental fleet this fall. The Rail Rider will offer access via rail to otherwise inaccessible sites. BAS clients include Class 1, shortline railroads, engineering companies, and contractors.

For more information contact Jim Bunch, 541-232-5385, JimBunch@bridgeaccessspecialties.com.

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

NRC Scholarship Program Now Open

The NRC scholarship program is now open.

ELIGIBILITY

To be eligible for consideration, an applicant must:

- * be a son, daughter, grandson, or granddaughter of a current employee of an NRC member company; and
- * be enrolled at the time of application as a full-time college student at an accredited two-year college offering an associate's degree or an accredited four-year college or university offering a bachelor's degree, or as a recently graduated high school senior that is enrolled to start college this fall.

AMOUNT OF AWARDS

Three scholarships will be awarded as follows: the first place applicant will receive \$8,000, the second place applicant will receive \$4,000, and the third place applicant will receive \$2,000. Scholarship funds, awarded annually, will be sent directly to the student at the beginning of the next term of study. Students must be in attendance for a full year following receipt of the award.

THE APPLICATION

[Please click here to view and download the 2015 NRC Scholarship Application.](#)

Please compile the completed application with all required materials and send directly via electronic mail to: mbell@nrcma.org with "2015 NRC Scholarship" in the subject line.

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.

3. Direct a potential new member to www.nrcma.org where they can learn more about the NRC and join online.

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

www.nrcma.org/bids

Publicize your Rail Industry Event on

www.nrcma.org/industry_calendar

If you would like to submit an event for posting on the Industry Calendar, please email info@nrcma.org.

View our profile on 

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ALL MATERIALS MUST BE COMPILED IN ONE PDF AND EMAILED NO LATER THAN AUGUST 31, 2015.

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

FRA/NRC Webinar on Part 243 Training Standards Final Rule Confirmation

On Thursday, July 30, 2015, at 2pm EDT the NRC will be hosting a webinar briefing with FRA personnel for NRC members on the requirements of the FRA's Part 243 Minimum Training Standards for Safety-Related Railroad Employees regulation.

As a reminder, on November 7, 2014, the FRA published a final rule for training requirements for all railroad employees **and contractors** who perform safety-related work. The Final Rule requires railroad employees and contractors who perform safety-related work to be trained and qualified to comply with any relevant federal railroad safety laws, regulations, and orders. The rule represents the first time that railroad contractors will be directly regulated by the FRA.

The requirements include minimum training standards for each type of safety-related railroad employee, with the FRA reviewing and approving each employer's training program to determine that each employee will be qualified to measurable standards. The rule also calls for greater use of structured on-the-job and interactive training.

To register, go to <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/2424124439642272769>.

If you have questions on this rule or the webinar, please email the NRC's VP of Regulatory and Legislative Affairs Matt Ginsberg at mginsberg@nrcma.org.

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

RFP: Wisconsin & Southern Railroad, LLC - Markesan Subdivision Tie, Crossing and Turnout Project in Fairwater,

WI and Markesan, WI

Issue Date: July 16, 2015

Location: Fairwater, WI and Markesan, WI

Description: The contractor shall supply all supervision, labor, equipment, and material (except that material specifically designated to be supplied by the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad) to perform tie replacement, road crossing replacement, turnout replacement and continuously welded rail (CWR) installation on the Markesan Subdivision of the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad (henceforth RAILROAD) between Mile Post 165.34 in Fairwater to Mile Post 172.67 in Markesan, Wisconsin in accordance to the Project Documents. Work includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- Replace 4,000 CONTRACTOR-supplied crossties that have been previously marked by the RAILROAD for replacement;
- Replace six (6) at-grade railroad crossings;
- Replace six (6) AREMA turnout packages;
- Install continuously welded rail for approximately 400 linear feet;
- Establish necessary erosion control measures and perform any temporary road closures required to constructing the project;
- Any site restoration, if required.

Bid Due Date & Documents: Sealed bids must be returned to Mr. Marsh by 1:00 P.M. on Thursday, August 13th, 2015 at the Wisconsin & Southern Railroad, 1890 E. Johnson St. Madison, Wisconsin 53704. Contractors shall fully complete and sign the enclosed PROJECT BID FORM, incomplete bid forms shall not be considered. Bids shall be sealed in an envelope clearly marked "Markesan Subdivision Tie, Crossing and Turnout Project - Sealed Bid". All questions concerning the bid documents should be directed to Mr. Brent Marsh at (414) 750-6433.

Pre-Bid: A pre-bid meeting shall be held by Mr. Brent Marsh on Wednesday, July 29th, 2015 at 8:00 A.M., Local Time. The meeting shall be held at the WSOR Horicon Terminal located at 313 Clinton St, Horicon, Wisconsin 53032 (see attached Location Map).

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

RFP: Klausner Lumber Two Rail Infrastructure - Halifax, NC

Issue Date: July 13, 2015

Location: Halifax, NC

Description: The project includes approximately 8,673 track feet of industrial track, 3 switches, paving, clearing and grubbing, excavations, grading, importation of select fill material if not available on-site, storm drainage (pipes and structures) and associated sedimentation/erosion control measures and related appurtenances to serve Klausner Lumber Two in Enfield, Halifax County, North Carolina.

Bid Documents: Sealed bids for the project entitled "Klausner Lumber Two Rail Infrastructure" will be received by the Halifax County Board of Commissioners Thursday, August 13th, 2015 before 2:00 pm at Halifax County - Office of the County Manager located at 10 North King Street, Halifax, North Carolina and then at said location publicly opened and read aloud. All bids, including the bid deposit or bid bond, must be placed in a sealed envelope and must be marked clearly and boldly on the outside of the envelope: "Klausner Lumber Two Rail Infrastructure Bid". The contract documents may be examined at the following location: Halifax County - Office of the County Manager, Halifax, NC or go to www.dpibidroom.com to obtain contract documents and be added to the plan holder list to obtain addendums and other project updates.

Pre-Bid: A mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 28th, 2015 at 2:00pm at the Klausner Lumber Two site at 260 Piper Lane, Enfield, NC located at project construction office.

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

The NRC will post bid notifications as we receive them. If you would like to submit an RFP or other sourcing notice for posting to the NRC Bids feed, email info@nrcma.org.

To see the latest bid entries submitted to the NRC for rail construction work, please visit: www.nrcma.org/bid_notifications.

RT&S Highlights NRC Member in "Focus on Fasteners" Article.

A recent RT&S article highlighted NRC members Amsted RPS, L.B. Foster Company, Pandrol, and Vossloh Fastening Systems. The article talked about the improved fastener solutions of each company and how their products are helping freight and passenger railroads with cost savings and safety.

To read more of the article, [click here](#).

Source: RT&S

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

RT&S Highlights NRC Members in "Special Trackwork" Article

RT&S highlighted NRC members Atlantic Track & Turnout, Progress Rail Services, Unitrac and voestalpine Nortrak in a recent article. The article highlighted each company's special trackwork projects on turnouts, how they are subjected to high impacts that affect life-cycle costs, and how the suppliers are working to design products that minimize these impacts to reduce maintenance and improve longevity.

To read more of the article, [click here](#).

Source: RT&S

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

RT&S Highlights NRC Members in "Extending Weld Life" Article

RT&S highlighted NRC members Progress Rail Services, Holland, Orgo-Thermit, and Plasser in a recent article about rail welding. The article highlighted each company and their efforts in stepping up research and development in order to improve, enhance and even automate the welding process by bettering the equipment and software utilized.

To read the full article, [click here](#).

Source: RT&S

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

Rocla Acquires KSA Concrete Tie Business

NRC members Rocla Concrete Tie, Inc. acquired KSA Limited Partnership, a joint venture owned by Koppers Inc. and Lehigh Hanson, Inc. KSA, founded in 1992, manufactures concrete ties, concrete turnout ties, concrete grade crossing ties, as well as other concrete products for the railroad industry. Its customer base extends to Class 1 railroads, as well as to commuter and transit customers primarily in the Eastern United States. It is headquartered and has its manufacturing operation in Portsmouth, Ohio. Rocla says the acquisition will allow it to expand its customer base, as well as its product range.

Sources: RT&S, Rocla Concrete Tie

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

BNSF Set to Begin Rail-Spur Construction in Kansas

BNSF Railway Co. and NorthPoint Development will soon begin construction of an industrial rail spur and North Park near the Logistics Park Kansas City Intermodal Facility (LPKC) in Edgerton, Kan.

The rail spur will open 325 acres of rail-served property on Waverly Road north of 183rd Street known as North Park, BNSF officials announced late last week.

Source: Progressive Railroading, BNSF

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)

CTA Purple Line Express to get \$30 million Improvement Project

The Chicago Transit Authority's (CTA) Purple Line Express is set to

receive \$30 million for improvement to tracks between Lawrence and Jarvis stations, the latest, CTA says, in its ongoing investment in the Purple Line to improve service for customers.

The Purple Line Express Track Improvement Project will upgrade track infrastructure and will be the largest track renewal project for this section of track in 40 years. The work is just the latest of several improvements CTA has made to Purple Line service, which includes the ongoing Ravenswood Connector project that is rehabilitating tracks shared by Brown and Purple Line Express trains between Armitage and the Merchandise Mart. It also follows a major track improvement project completed in 2013 that rehabilitated tracks and eliminated slow zones between Howard and Linden.

The estimated four-month project is scheduled to begin July 20 with construction expected to be completed by the end of November 2015. The project includes the replacement of crossties, restoration of track alignment and partial replacement of running rail along aging Purple Line Express tracks that serve more than 3.5 million passenger trips each year.

Source: RT&S

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)



DOT Credit Council Recommends \$26.8 Million in RRIF Funding for Two Short-Line Rail Freight Terminal Projects

The Department of Transportation's Credit Council recommended approval of two federal loans for freight rail projects from the Railroad Rehabilitation and Improvement (RRIF) Program. The formal Credit Council recommendation is one of the major final steps in the process of approving a RRIF loan.

The first loan application is from the Stockton Port District in California. This inland deepwater port is located on the San Joaquin River, which provides a shipping channel leading directly to San Francisco Bay. This growing port serves both western Class I railroads and saw 230 vessel calls in 2014 with a throughput of over \$1.5 billion worth of freight traffic. The port switching railroad, short-

line carrier Central California Traction, handled more than 48,000 cars last year. The \$8.2 million loan will be used to make critically needed capacity improvements by reconfiguring and rehabilitating legacy rail lines and constructing brand new rail infrastructure. More information is available at <http://www.portofstockton.com/> or by calling the Port at (209) 946-0246.

The second loan application is for \$18.6 million to Peterson Industrial Properties, LLC and Rocky Mountain Rail Car & Repair, LLC. Rocky Mountain is an established operator of an AAR M-1003 certified railcar repair shop located at the former Tooele Army Depot, now the Peterson Industrial Depot, located just outside of Salt Lake City. Directly served by the Union Pacific Railroad, Rocky Mountain provides a wide range of railcar services including general inspections, maintenance and repair; tank car cleaning and disposal; food-grade conversions; hopper cleaning; wreck repair; rebuilds; and 286K upgrades. They have a large scale metal fabrication facility on-site enabling manufacturing of various major railcar components. They also provide short-line freight rail switching services to their various tenant shippers in the Depot property, which covers 350 acres and includes 1.9 million square feet of commercial and warehouse space. Another line of business offered by this growing enterprise is rolling stock storage, with track space in the Depot sufficient to accommodate over 300 railcars.

The RRIF loan funds will be used to increase facility capacity by constructing new rail spurs, yard tracks and associated improvements, and to refinance debt incurred for the original acquisition of the depot and development of parts of the facility. These investments will support further business expansion that is expected following receipt of M1002 (tank car) and S2034 (car building) certifications that have been applied for through AAR.

Sources: US DOT

[Click Here to Return to the Top](#)