



The Voice of the Railroad Construction Industry

NRC Bulletin - October 19, 2015

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2016 NRC Conference Registration - Hotel del Coronado Wait List and Overflow Hotel Information Available

Please register now and make your travel plans for the **2016 NRC Conference & NRC-REMSA Exhibition - January 6-9, 2016 at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego, California.**

The NRC will be holding its 38th Annual Conference on Wednesday, January 6, 2016 through Saturday, January 9, 2016 at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego, California. **Please visit the 2016 NRC Conference webpage at www.nrcma.org/2016nrcconference to register and for detailed conference information.**

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New Member

ABC Tie Tech International,
LLC



Registration: Registration for the 2016 NRC Conference can be [completed here on the NRC website](#), or by completing and [mailing in this form](#) . Completed forms should be sent to our office at 500 New Jersey Ave NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20001. Checks may be made payable to: NRC. NRC accepts Visa, MasterCard and American Express for credit card payments. If you have any questions, please contact Matt Bell at mbell@nrcma.org or 202-715-1264.

Hotel Information: The conference will be held at the Hotel del Coronado, conveniently located on Coronado Island about a 10 minute drive from downtown San Diego. The NRC block is currently full, but **to be put on the waiting list, call Hotel del Coronado at 800-468-3533**. *While not guaranteed, it is likely that some hotel rooms will become available in mid-to-late December as the conference approaches, and at that time the hotel will contact individuals from the waiting list.*

Overflow Hotels:

As our recommended overflow option, the NRC has reserved a limited number of discounted rooms at the **Glorietta Bay** Inn, which is directly across the street from the Hotel del Coronado at 1630 Glorietta Boulevard, Coronado, CA 92118l. **To book, call 800-283-9383**. The NRC rates are \$210/night for a suite or a bay view king room, or \$179/night for a deluxe king room.

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.
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:

Two additional overflow options are below:

Best Western Plus Suites Hotel Coronado Island - 1.3 miles away

<http://book.bestwestern.com/bestwestern/US/CA/Coronado-hotels/BEST-WESTERN-PLUS-Suites-Hotel-Coronado-Island/Hotel-Overview.do?propertyCode=05481>

275 Orange Avenue

Coronado, California 92118

Phone: 619-437-1666

Price: \$180 (King Room)

Nights Available: 1/5/16-1/10/16

Loews Coronado Bay Resort - 4.7 miles from the Hotel del Coronado

www.loewshotels.com/en/Coronado-Bay-Resort

4000 Loews Coronado Bay Road, Coronado, CA 92118

Phone: 619-424-4000

Price: \$219 (2 Doubles); \$239 (1 King w/ Pool View); \$249 (1 King w/ Marina View) as of 10/7/15

Nights Available: 1/5/16-1/10/16

Exhibition: Exhibit space for the 2016 NRC-REMSA Exhibition is on sale now. You may view the full [floor plan](#) and sign up for a booth online by [clicking here](#). The Exhibition begins with a reception the evening of Wednesday, January 6 and concludes the morning of Friday, January 8. For more information about reserving an exhibit space, booth pricing, show hours, and more, please visit www.remsa.org/nrc-remsa2016. Please contact Urszula Soucie with REMSA at 202-715-2921 or soucie@remsa.org for all exhibition related questions.

***Please note that the exhibit hall this year will be held in a tent in the Hotel del Coronado parking lot. The 35,000 square foot tent will be constructed by Classic Party Rentals, the premier name in event tent rentals. This is apparently what happens when the size of a conference grows every year - we're running out of ballrooms that can fit us!

Event Sponsorships: The NRC offers its members the opportunity to sponsor a specific conference function. Conference event sponsors will receive signage and oral recognition at the event, sponsor ribbons on their badges, their logo imprinted on the 2016 NRC Conference Program front

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 

Follow us on 

cover, and space to distribute promotional literature or trinkets in the registration area. **2016 NRC Sponsorships are open.**

Please contact Matt Bell at mbell@nrcma.org or 202-715-1264.

Golf Tournament: NRC's 2016 Golf Tournament will be held on Friday January 8 at the Sycuan Golf Course (3007 Dehesa Rd, El Cajon, CA 92019), located approximately 24 miles from the Hotel del Coronado.

Golf play will begin at 12:00 pm with a shotgun start. The Tournament format is a four-person scramble, allowing players with varying ability the opportunity to play and have a great time. A box lunch will be provided prior to the Tournament. Rental clubs are available. The Tournament registration fee includes carts, green fees, lunch and refreshments, driving range, putting green and prizes.

To register for the tournament, [please sign up as a part of the 2016 NRC Conference registration process](#), [fill out this form](#) or contact Matt Bell via email at mbell@nrcma.org.

Sailing Tournament: The first ever NRC Sailing Tournament will also be held on Friday, January 8th from 1:00pm to 5:00pm. Group transportation departs the hotel at 1pm, with expected return by 5pm.

The sparkling waters of the San Diego Harbor will provide a perfect backdrop the sailing event. Each person will be an official "crew member" of their vessel, vying to push their team into the winner's circle. The teams will tackle an exciting two-mile course over a period of 2 hours.

Sailing boats come with a captain who will brief the crew on strategy, techniques and sailing instructions before the race. The Tournament registration fee also includes a box lunch, snacks and beverages on the boat.

To register for the tournament, [please sign up as a part of the 2016 NRC Conference registration process](#), [fill out this form](#), or contact Matt Bell via email at mbell@nrcma.org.

NRC Membership - Did we mention discounted conference registration and exhibit booths rates for NRC members? If your company is not already a member of the NRC, [you may](#)

[join online by clicking this link.](#)

For all 2016 NRC Conference information, please visit www.nrcma.org/2016nrconference.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding the 2016 NRC Conference. You can also contact NRC President Chuck Baker at 202.715.2920 / cbaker@nrcma.org.

Thanks, and we look forward to seeing you all in January!

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NRC New Member Profile

ABC Tie Tech International, LLC offers temperate hardwood Oak and Beech creosote treated cross ties and bridge timbers for the railroad industry. They also provide consulting for Creosote, Borate and Copper Naphthenate preservative treatment systems. ABC Tie Tech International, LLC looks forward to servicing the railroad industry.

For more information contact Tony Chambers, 304-531-9254, tonybchambers@gmail.com.

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NRC 2015 Scholarship Winners

NRC awards merit-based scholarships for tuition assistance to children or grandchildren of employees of NRC member companies. This year we had a record number of individuals apply. Thank you to all 42 individuals who applied!

The three winners of the 2015 Scholarship Program in Memoriam of Vinnie Vaccarello and Patsy Crisafi are listed below.

First Place - \$8,000 Scholarship Award

Laura Isdahl

Gustavus Adolphus (St. Peter, MN)
NRC Member Sponsor: Loram Maintenance of Way

Second Place - \$4,000 Scholarship Award

Jack Taylor

University of South Carolina (Columbia, SC)
NRC Member Sponsor: Modern Railway Systems

Third Place - \$2,000 Scholarship Award

Derrick Horvath

Trinity University (San Antonio, TX)
NRC Member Sponsor: Whitmore

The NRC would like to acknowledge and thank those companies and individuals that have contributed significant funds to initiate and support this valuable program:

Roadway Worker Training
ARS Corp.
RJ Corman
Land Clearing Specialists, Inc.
Loram Maintenance of Way
Southeast Railroad Supply, Inc.
Danny Brown (V&H Trucks)
Joe Daloisio (Railroad Construction Co., Inc.)
Van R. Sorrells (Dixie Precast)
Richard & Nancy Zemencik
Thomas & Lyria Lee
Balfour Beatty Rail
William & Karen Tarvin

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**Request for Bids - Wisconsin & Southern Railroad
Markesan Subdivision CWR Installation Project,
Fairwater, WI to Markesan, WI**

The Wisconsin & Southern Railroad LLC. (WSOR) issues a request for Sealed Bids for furnishing all tools, equipment, materials, labor, supervision, transportation, and permits required for the Markesan Subdivision CWR Installation Project, Fairwater, WI to Markesan, WI.

[Please find the Bid Advertisement by clicking here.](#) In addition, to view more information please view the bid posting on the [NRC website by clicking here.](#)

A pre-bid meeting (including a project site tour) which is mandatory for all prime contractors to attend, shall be held at the WSOR Horicon Terminal, 313 Clinton Street, Horicon, WI on Wednesday, October 28th at 8:00 A.M., Local Time. Please RSVP to bjmarsh@watcocompanies.com if you plan to attend this meeting.

Qualified individuals and/or companies are invited to submit physical Sealed Bids as detailed within the Bid Documents for said activities no later than **Thursday, November 12th, 2015 at 1:00 P.M.**

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METRA CREATE B1 Project, Interlocking Signal System Upgrades, in West Franklin Park, IL

Location:

Franklin Park West, IL

Pre-Bid Meeting: A Pre-Proposal Meeting was held on October 5, 2015 at Metra's Headquarters in Chicago. Questions regarding this RFP were due to be submitted to Rachel Shipley, Senior Contracting Agent via E-mail at rshipley@metrarr.com by October 9, 2015.

Bids Need to be Received by: November 6, 2015.

For More Information, go to

<http://www.createprogram.org/bid.htm?> and
<https://www.metrarr.com/engineering/>

Or Contact:

Rachel Shipley

rshipley@metrarr.com

PH: (312) 322-6658

FAX: (312) 322-6619

NRC 2015 Safety Award Applications Now Open

The NRC is inviting all member contractors to participate in the 2015 NRC/RT&S Contractor Safety Award Contest.

[2015 Safety Awards Application](#)

[2015 Safety Awards Criteria](#)

Underwritten by Commercial Insurance Associates, these awards seek to recognize those NRC Contractor Members with strong workplace safety programs. In addition to honoring our own members, we believe this safety contest helps demonstrate our commitment to safety and sends a positive message to the railroads and transit authorities with which we do business. It is also an excellent way to let government regulators know that we understand the importance of providing a safe work environment.

Companies that participate in the contest typically find that it is a useful way to make sure that their safety program is keeping up with industry best practices, and also find that winning an award in the contest can be a very effective marketing tool.

Note that applicants must be NRC member companies. No project entities/JVs are allowed to apply. Companies can include information and data from project entities/JVs in which they are the managing partner.

Awards are presented to applicants in four different categories, based on the number of employees. The categories will be evenly split based on average number of employees in the time period of January 1, 2015 through September 30, 2015.

We will publicly announce the winners at the upcoming NRC Conference and Exhibition (www.nrcma.org/2016nrcconference) at the Hotel del Coronado in San Diego, CA, in addition to publicizing the winners on the NRC website and in the industry trade magazine Railway Track & Structures (RT&S).

The application must be received in our Washington, DC office no later than November 30, 2015. *This year, digital submissions are encouraged as outlined in the application criteria, for your convenience.*

Please don't hesitate to contact me (mbell@nrcma.org, 202-715-1264) or David Armstrong of Commercial Insurance Associates (darmstrong@com-ins.com, 615-515-6048) if you have any questions.

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NRC 2015 Railroad Construction Project of the Year Award Applications Now Open

The Railroad Construction Project of the Year Award has two categories: the Large Project Category (projects with budgets over \$10 million) and the Small Project Category (projects with budgets of \$10 million or less). The purpose of this award is to honor innovation, expertise, and quality project management applied towards the successful execution of a rail construction project by NRC member companies in 2015. Any type of rail construction project is eligible for the award, including freight rail, industrial track, rail transit, commuter rail, intercity passenger rail, rail on port facilities, and rail on military facilities.

For **Large Project award criteria**, [click here](#).

For **Small Project award criteria**, [click here](#).

For a list of **past winners**, see the [Awards Page](#).

[Click here](#) to apply for a project award. Applications are due by November 13, 2015.

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NRC 2015 Field Employee of the Year Award Applications Now Open

The purpose of this award is to recognize and honor the rail contracting employee who has demonstrated the most dedication and excellence in his/her field. The NRC Field Employee of the Year goes above and beyond what is required of him/her on a regular basis, demonstrates innovation and perseverance, is a team leader, and a great asset to the company. He/she must also possess a strong commitment to safety and customer satisfaction. Any field employee of an NRC member company is eligible for the award. Only one award will be given to the employee who best addresses the stated criteria.

[Click here](#) for Field Employee of the Year criteria. For a list of the

past winners, see the [Awards Page](#).

[Click here](#) to nominate someone. Nominations are due by November 13, 2015.

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NRC Hall of Fame

The purpose of the NRC Hall of Fame is to recognize and honor those individuals who have made significant contributions to the NRC and the rail construction and maintenance industry. Any current or former employee or owner of a NRC member company is eligible for induction to the Hall of Fame. Members will be inducted into the Hall of Fame when the NRC Hall of Fame Induction Committee deems it appropriate. In any given year, multiple members may be inducted, but in other years there may be no inductees.

For NRC Hall of Fame criteria, [click here](#). To submit a nomination, [click here](#). **Nominations are due by November 13, 2015 for the Class of 2016.**

Past NRC Hall of Fame Inductees include:

James J. (Jim) Daloisio
Chairman and CEO,
Railroad Construction Co. of South Jersey

Bill Herzog
Founder and Owner,
Herzog Contracting Corp

Thomas Philip Stout ("Phil") Stout
Executive,
Atlas Railroad Construction and Marta Track Constructor

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FTA Transit Asset Management Proposed Rule

The FTA has issued a proposed rule that would establish a National Transit Asset Management System to monitor and manage public transportation capital assets to achieve and

maintain a state of good repair, improve safety, and increase reliability and performance. In addition, this notice includes proposed amendments to the National Transit Database regulations to conform to the proposed reporting requirements for transit asset management. Comments must be received by November 30, 2015.

[Click here to view the proposed rule.](#)

Source: FTA

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NRC Member Herzog wins \$15.8M KC Streetcar Operations Contract

The Kansas City Streetcar Authority (KCSA) has signed a five-year, \$15.8 million operations and maintenance agreement with Herzog Transit Services.

The fixed-price agreement includes required start-up activities and support, as well as operations and maintenance for the first five years of streetcar passenger service. The base costs of operations and maintenance for the first year are estimated at \$2.6 million, which is on target with original cost projections.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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Beyond Traffic Megaregion Forums

In September and October, the U.S. Department of Transportation is hosting forums, one in each of the megaregions identified in Beyond Traffic. These events will facilitate conversation, solicit feedback, and inform our final Beyond Traffic report on key transportation trends and potential policy considerations.

You can find the list of host cities, megaregions, and remaining dates below:

Indianapolis - Great Lakes, October 21st
Charleston - Piedmont-Atlantic, October 23rd
Denver - Front Range, October 27th

Please [click here](#) to view more details or to register for the Beyond Traffic Megaregion Forums.

Source: US DOT

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NRC Member Rajant Corporation Hosting Webinar on Kinetic Mesh Networking for Railroads

3 Vital Train Network Components with Rajant Kinetic Mesh

Join Rajant for a webinar beginning on Oct 21, 2015 at 2:00 PM EDT or Oct 22, at 8:00 EDT

To register:

<https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/5772172532648811778>

Rajant's Kinetic Mesh technology is a mobile aggregate mesh system that delivers value for broadband train networks.

With a single part number, Rajant provides:

- wayside to train connectivity
- train car-to-car connections
- cellular and wayside load balancing

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Source: Rajant

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AGT Acquires Canadian Shortline Operator

AGT Food and Ingredients, Canada, announced that its Alliance Pulse Processors subsidiary has reached a \$C 57m (\$US 43.7m) agreement to acquire Mobil Capital Holdings and its subsidiaries, including shortline operator Mobil Grain.

Mobil Grain was established in 2005 to provide mobile grain handling facilities, but the company became a railway operator in 2009 when it acquired and reactivated the 136km former Canadian National (CN) line from Regina to Davidson in Saskatchewan, which is now known as the Last Mountain Railway (LMR).

Following the successful revival of the LMR, Mobil Grain went on to acquire 402km of CN branch lines south west of Saskatoon, which operate under the Big Sky Rail brand. To connect BSR with the LMR, Mobil Grain has running rights to operate over CN's Saskatoon - Davidson and Saskatoon - Delisle lines.

Source: International Railway Journal

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Early Planning for New Hudson Rail Tunnel Is Underway

USDOT Secretary Anthony Foxx said that officials were taking important initial steps to accelerate long-stalled plans to build a new rail tunnel under the Hudson River. Sec. Foxx said that New Jersey Transit had agreed to lead the project's environmental study and that Amtrak would oversee engineering work.

Click [here](#) to view the full article.

Source: New York Times

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New York City and State Reach Agreement on M.T.A. Capital Plan

New York state and NYC city officials announced a deal to pay for the authority's ambitious plans to repair and expand the nation's largest transit system, with New York City agreeing to sharply increase its contribution to the authority, a move state officials had demanded.

The agreement resolves a long and publicly contentious standoff between Gov. Andrew Cuomo and Mayor Bill de Blasio over whether the city should pay significantly more toward the five-year \$29 billion capital plan - the authority's largest ever - which will cover the cost of maintenance and improvements to the sprawling network of subways, buses and commuter rail lines.

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

Source: New York Times

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Ohio Panel OKs Rail Crossing Improvement Projects

The Public Utilities Commission of Ohio (PUCO) approved the upgrade of nine rail crossings in Henry, Wayne and Wood counties - work that will be completed by CSX Transportation and Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway.

The improvements, which will include mast-mounted flashing lights and roadway gates, are scheduled for completion in July 2016.

Federal funding for the projects is being provided through

the Ohio Rail Development Commission.

CSX will upgrade four rail crossings in Bartlow Township, Henry County, and a crossing at Weston Road/Township Road 42 in Milton Township, Wood County. Wheeling & Lake Erie will upgrade four crossings in Wayne County.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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Wabtec Acquires Track IQ

Wabtec Corp. has acquired the assets of Track IQ, a manufacturer of wayside sensor systems for the global rail industry.

Track IQ's products use acoustic sensors on the track to monitor and measure the operating condition of bearings and wheels on freight- and passenger-rail vehicles. These products provide data that the railroads use to improve preventive maintenance and safety performance. Track IQ systems have been installed at more than 150 locations around the world.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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HNTB to Oversee Next Phase of California High-Speed Rail Construction

The California High-Speed Rail Authority (CHSRA) board awarded HNTB Corp. a contract to provide design and construction oversight for the next 22 miles of construction in the Central Valley. Under the contract, HNTB could receive up to \$30 million based on work performed over a period five years.

Known as Construction Package 4, this phase of the project extends the route through the valley beginning near the Tulare-Kern County line and continuing south to Shafter, Calif.

As part of the contract, HNTB will work with the agency and the design-build contractor to identify, manage and mitigate project risks and ensure that technical and contract requirements are met.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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NRC Member Progress Rail Services Acquires Haynes

Corp.

NRC Member Progress Rail Services Corp. has acquired Haynes Corp., a manufacturer of precision diesel fuel injection systems for heavy-duty engines.

Haynes Corporation products include fuel injection pumps, injector assemblies, nozzle assemblies, delivery valves, plungers and barrels, electronic injectors and contract manufacturing.

Source: Railway Age

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DCTA selects CTC for Signal Enhancement Project

CTC, Inc. (CTC), a provider of signaling, communications crossing warning systems, products and services to the rail industry, announced that the company has been tapped by Denton County Transportation Authority (DCTA) to implement signal systems enhancements to the A-train, its 21-mile commuter rail line.

During this project, CTC will implement a cloud-based Track Circuit Monitoring System (TCMS) for real-time alarming, interactive data analysis and historical trending services for DCTA's passenger rail line, which connects Denton and Dallas counties. The system employs IP-connected x-TCM units to detect and report track anomalies such as loss-of-shunt or degrading track conditions. The x-TCM equipment also interfaces directly to the wayside signal control equipment to enhance safety, ultimately serving as an important element to Positive Train Control (PTC). The signal systems enhancement project is under way and is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2016.

Source: Railway Age

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South Carolina Floods Claims Lives of Two R.J. Corman Employees

In the early hours of Oct. 7, an R. J. Corman truck carrying five employees fell into a large hole in the road created by floodwaters. Three of the five men were able to get out of the truck and to safety. Unfortunately, two of the employees were not able to escape the floodwaters. They were located later, following an extensive search and rescue effort.

The employees who lost their lives were Ricky McDonald, 53, of Chesapeake, Ohio, and Bob Vance, 58, of Lexington, Ky. They

had been employed with R. J. Corman for six years and three years, respectively.

Source: RT&S

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