



The Voice of the Railroad Construction Industry

NRC Bulletin - September 16, 2015

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2016 NRC Conference Registration

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.

***This year we have a new online registration process.** All registrations, including conference registration, golf and sailing tournament registration, golf club rentals, and spouse program registration can be completed together through the [online registration process](#). In addition, you can register fellow employees at your company within the same online registration process.*

New Member

Peak Performance Asset

Services LLC



www.PPASllc.com

Hardesty & Hanover
Construction Services,
LLC



www.hardesty-hanover.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:



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. NRC has secured a discounted rate for attendees of the Annual Meeting. **For hotel reservations, call Hotel del Coronado at 800-468-3533 or [go to our hotel event page at this link](#).**

Scam alert: The phone number and link above are the only ways to book into the NRC room block. If any "housing company" or "travel agent" or "convention authority" calls or emails you directly about a hotel room, that is a scam and should be ignored. It will cost you more money than necessary and may or may not result in you actually having a room.

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:

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.

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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. 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 cover, and space to distribute promotional literature or trinkets in the registration area. **2016 NRC Sponsorships will open next week.** 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/2016nrcconference.

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 Profiles

Peak Performance Asset Services LLC (PPAS) is a rail MOW consultant/value appraiser, specializing in mixed

fleet telematics implementation, MOW equipment solutions, and rail equipment specs/procurement best practices. PPAS enables the rail equipment management, distribution, and manufacturing industries to embrace technology and best practices for increased safety, reduced downtime, and quality enhancement.

PPAS performs Certified Appraisers Guild of America (CAGA) certified railroad MOW equipment fleet value appraisals, which are accepted by financial institutions. PPAS can provide the documentation needed for railroad contractors to access capital lines of credit and can provide an accurate fleet/asset valuation baseline for estimating life-cycle cost analysis.

For more information contact Daniel Samford, 816-387-3116, dansamford@gmail.com.

Hardesty & Hanover Construction Services, LLC has a long history of successfully administering, inspecting, and managing a wide variety of projects during their construction phase. Their project experience encompasses oversight for the construction of new facilities as well as replacement/rehabilitation of bridges and structures of all sizes and types: primary and secondary roads; storm drain systems; utilities; pavement and markings; sidewalks, plazas and bikeways; bridge, highway, and street lighting; traffic signals; coating removal and application; and erosion/sediment control installation.

For more information contact Charles Gozdziwski, 212-944-1150, charlieg@hardesty-hanover.com.

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FTA's XPEDITE Initiative

FTA is undertaking an effort to speed up planning, approval and delivery of its capital investments and better support innovative financing methods that support capital investments in transit. The multi-faceted Expedited Public Transportation Improvement Initiative (XPEDITE) will

enhance and increase the transit industry's access to:

- Improved public transportation technologies;
- Proven methods to speed up planning, development, approval and delivery of FTA supported capital investments; and
- Enhanced financing methods and opportunities for public-private partnerships through "value capture" that support improved capital project delivery.

To gather public comment on the initiative, FTA will host an online dialogue that is open now and lasts through Friday, October 16, 2015.

Click [here](#) for access to the online dialogue.

Source: FTA

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NRC Member Ragnar Benson Wins \$32.6M Contract from CTA

The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) board approved a \$32.6 million contract to Ragnar Benson Construction LLC to replace a 40-year-old signal system on a section of track along the Brown and Purple lines.

Known as the Ravenswood Loop Connector Signal Project, the work calls for installing a modern signal system on tracks between the Armitage and Merchandise Mart stations. Ragnar Benson will begin design work this fall. The project is expected to be completed by early 2018.

The project will enable the agency to move trains more safely and efficiently. Current signaling systems contribute to congestion issues that have developed along the Brown Line in the past decade.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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Maine DOT Contracts Central Maine & Quebec to Operate State-Owned Branch Line

The Maine DOT awarded a contract to the Central Maine &

Quebec Railway (CMQR) to operate the 58-mile Rockland Branch line between Brunswick and Rockland, and operate and maintain Brunswick Yard.

The department will negotiate a 10-year lease and operating agreement with CMQR, which will assume the new responsibilities on Jan. 1, 2016.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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NRC Member Rocla Concrete Tie Kicks Off Construction of Tie Manufacturing Plant in Florida

As part of a long-term supply agreement with All Aboard Florida and Florida East Coast Railway (FECR), Rocla Concrete Tie began constructing a new concrete-tie manufacturing plant in Ft. Pierce, FL.

Located along the FECR mainline, the facility will supply ties to the FEC, AAF, and rail transit agencies throughout the southeast region.

The location was chosen because it is midway between Orlando and Miami, making it an ideal site to manufacture and deliver ties to all of Florida's rail projects.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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FTA Awards \$19.5M in Grants to Bolster Transit-Oriented Development

The Federal Transit Administration (FTA) announced that 21 transit agencies and municipalities will receive a share of \$19.5 million in grants to support comprehensive planning projects aimed at improving access to public transit.

The funds were made available through the FTA's Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) Planning Pilot Program for

communities developing new or improved mass transit systems.

In partnership with the city of Tacoma, the Puget Sound-area transit agency will receive \$2 million in funding to support the development of a mobility and economic development plan for communities along the proposed 2.4-mile Tacoma Link expansion.

Other grant awardees include:

- The Sacramento Area Council of Governments, which is slated to receive approximately \$1.1 million to work with local partners to develop a set of policy and regulatory changes to encourage TOD in the areas surrounding the planned Downtown Riverfront Streetcar project. The changes include updated plans and guidelines for areas along the streetcar route, updated zoning codes that encourage TOD, an infrastructure assessment and an analysis of affordable housing.
- GoTriangle in Durham, N.C., which will receive about \$1.7 million to support its efforts to implement TOD along the Durham-Orange Light Rail project, which will link the cities of Durham and Chapel Hill.
- The Chicago Transit Authority, which will receive \$1.25 million to continue improvements to its Red and Purple lines
- Phoenix; Atlanta; and Ft. Lauderdale, Fla. are also slated to receive funding for TOD projects near streetcar lines.

A full list of grant recipients is available at http://www.fta.dot.gov/grants/15926_16564.html.

FTA's TOD Pilot Program was established under the current transportation funding authorization, known as MAP-21.

Sources: FTA, Progressive Railroading

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GE Transportation Names Jamie Miller President & CEO

Jamie Miller has been appointed president and CEO of GE Transportation. Miller succeeds Russell Stokes, who will lead GE's Energy Management business effective Oct. 1.

Miller, who joined GE in 2008, previously served as senior vice president and CIO overseeing the company's global information technology strategy, services and operations. She has been a leader in driving accelerated speed and productivity through software and manufacturing technologies at the company.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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