



The Voice of the Railroad Construction Industry

NRC Bulletin - September 30, 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/2016nrconference** 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.

Danella Names Steve Bolte VP of Business
Development

Hanson Professional Services adds Jeff Easley as
VP

New Member

RCL Track Services, LLC



www.rclservicesgroup.com/trackservices

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



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: (Limited number of rooms left, we recommend booking today.) 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](#).

If you find that rooms are unavailable at the Del, we have recommended overflow hotel options available on our website at www.nrcma.org/2016nrcconference.

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

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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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 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/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 Profile

RCL Track Services, LLC is a full service rail and OTM service provider specializing in the safe and efficient removal of replacement rail and OTM from the railroad right of way. RCL Track Services also provides inventory management services and marketing of relay rail products.

For more information contact Mike Cook, 817-820-6300,

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NRC Grassroots Update - L.B. Foster Hosts Rep. McMorris Rodgers

L.B. Foster hosted Rep. Cathy McMorris Rodgers (R-WA-5) at their concrete tie facility in Spokane, WA. L.B. Foster arranged for a tent for the Congresswoman to meet their over 200 local employees and give formal remarks. The event concluded with a tour of their tie production capabilities. Representatives from two NRC member companies - RailWorks Track Systems and Shannon & Wilson, Inc. - were also able to attend. You can read more about the event [here](#).



As you know, Rep. McMorris Rodgers is one of the most prominent politicians in Washington. She is the fourth highest-ranking Republican in the House, and the highest ranking woman in Congress. We plan to follow-up with her office in DC soon to further build on our relationship and advocate on our issues.

Up next, NRC's VP of Grassroots Advocacy Lindsey Collins will travel to Paulsboro, NJ on October 15 for a tour with Congressman Donald Norcross (D-NJ-01) of the Railroad Construction Co. of South Jersey's project at the Port of

Paulsboro . On October 22, she will join TRAM Construction for a tour of their facility in Garrison, KY with Shane Noem, Field Representative for Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-KY).

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These congressional visits are coordinated and executed by the NRC staff, for more information on NRC Grassroots Events, please visit:

<http://www.nrcma.org/grassrootsevents>.

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 will be held on October 5, 2015 at 10:00 A.M. at Metra's Headquarters at 547 W.Jackson Blvd., Chicago, IL 60661. Questions regarding this RFP shall be submitted in writing to Rachel Shipley, Senior Contracting Agent via E-mail at rshipley@metrarr.com by October 9, 2015 at 4:00 P.M.

Bids 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

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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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Beyond Traffic Megaregion Forums

In September and October, the U.S. Department of Transportation will host 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 upcoming dates below:

Orlando - Florida, October 2nd
Seattle - Cascadia, October 6th
Boston - Northeast, October 14th
New Orleans - Gulf Coast, October 16th
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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2015 FRA Rail Program Delivery Conference

The FRA 2015 Meeting on Rail Program Delivery is scheduled for Tuesday, October 13, 2015 to Thursday, October 15, 2015. This year's meeting is structured into three tracks, so that it better serves transportation professionals in the various disciplines. Like last year, the meeting will bring

together a group from across the country of approximately 180 project directors, managers, and other key personnel on FRA-funded rail projects, rail industry leaders and experts, Federal oversight contractors, and Federal staff.

The FRA strongly encourages grantees to participate, as the meeting content directly relates to planning and environmental review; design, construction, operations; and policy, funding, financing. The content is vital to understanding FRA requirements for project development and delivery.

FRA's objectives are to help grantees successfully deliver projects; mitigate risks; and improve FRA's stewardship of taxpayer dollars. The meeting will:

- Provide a venue for sharing of technical expertise, best practices, and lessons learned;
- Help further define expectations for project development and implementation;
- Help ensure MTACs' (monitoring and technical assistance contractors) consistent use of oversight methods;
- Provide an opportunity for networking and building a culture of learning in the rail industry in the U.S.

For more information and to register, go to <https://www.regonline.com/builder/site/tab2.aspx?EventID=1740319>

For questions or to request access accommodation or services, email FRARailProgramDelivery@dot.gov.

Source: US DOT

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CP & NS Complete Delaware & Hudson South Line Sale

Canadian Pacific Railway Ltd. has completed the sale of a 282-mile segment of its Delaware & Hudson subsidiary to Norfolk Southern Corp.-the D&H South line, which connects Schenectady, NY, with Sunbury, PA.

The D&H South sale includes all branch lines and industrial spurs that connect to the Sunbury-Schenectady main line, plus some equipment, vehicles and parts. NS formally began rail operations on the corridor on September 19.

Approximately 45,000 CP carloads and shipping containers moved across the line annually, including consumer goods, salt, grain and forest products.

The acquired lines connect with the NS network at Sunbury, PA, and Binghamton, NY, providing NS single-line routes from

Chicago and the southeastern U.S. to Albany, NY, and NS intermodal terminals at Scranton, PA, and Mechanicville, NY.

Source: Railway Age

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Charlotte LYNX Blue Line Extension Receives \$180M TIFIA Loan

The Charlotte Area Transit System (CATS) in North Carolina will receive a \$180m Transportation Infrastructure Finance and Innovation Act (TIFIA) loan for construction of the LYNX Blue Line light-rail extension. The TIFIA loan will support the expansion of the light-rail system from Center City Charlotte to the UNC Charlotte Campus.

CATS officials estimate that the light-rail extension will create approximately 7,600 jobs during construction with total light-rail ridership at more than 18,900 additional riders each weekday when the extension opens in 2018. The 9.3-mile extension will add service along what will become an 18.6-mile light-rail corridor in Northeast Charlotte and will help to reduce congestion along Interstate 85 and US Route 29, where commercial and residential growth is expected to continue.

In addition to the \$180m TIFIA loan, the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) is providing \$580m for the \$1.16-billion project through FTA's Capital Investment Grant Program. The remaining cost is covered by state and local funding.

Source: RT&S

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SEPTA Names Jeffrey Knueppel as Next General Manager

The Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority (SEPTA) has named Jeffrey Knueppel, P.E. its next general manager. With this appointment, Knueppel will oversee 9,300 employees and full operation of the sixth largest transportation agency in the country.

Prior to his appointment, Knueppel, a 27-year veteran SEPTA employee, served as deputy general manager in charge of two divisions - Operations and Engineering, Maintenance, & Construction (EM&C), as well as several Staff Support Departments. He will succeed Joseph Casey, CPA, who retires as general manager on September 30, 2015.

Source: RT&S

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Norfolk Southern Appoints Philip Merilli VP Engineering

As part of a leadership restructuring, Norfolk Southern Corp. named Philip Merilli vice president engineering effective Oct. 1, 2015.

Merilli's department is responsible for the construction, maintenance and inspection of the rail network's tracks, bridges, and signal systems.

Merilli has been assistant vice president maintenance of way and structures since 2013. Before being named to his most recent position, he served in several engineering positions, including track supervisor, division engineer, and chief engineer line maintenance. He joined an NS predecessor line in 1981 as an assistant roadmaster.

In his new position, Merilli will report to Michael Wheeler, who will serve as senior vice president of operations Oct. 1 through Jan. 31, 2016, at which point he assumes his new duties as executive vice president and chief operating officer.

Source: RT&S

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NRC Member Progress Rail to Acquire RPS from Amsted

Progress Rail Services Corp., a Caterpillar company, on Sept. 28, 2015 entered into a definitive agreement to purchase Rail Product Solutions, Inc. (RPS) from Amsted Rail Company, Inc. RPS is a leading North America provider of track fastening products and integrated fastening systems.

Source: Railway Age

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Danella Names Steve Bolte VP of Business Development

Danella Rental Systems Inc. has named Steve Bolte vice president of business development, North America. A former publisher of *Progressive Railroading*, Bolte most recently served as senior director of North American sales for Harsco Rail.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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Hanson Professional Services adds Jeff Easley as VP

Hanson Professional Services Inc. opened an office in Miami and hired Jeff Easley as vice president to provide recruitment, business development and project management services for clients in that city and South Florida. Before joining the firm, Easley was vice president of a national engineering firm in Miami, where he provided similar services. He has almost 30 years of experience in project management, transportation planning, traffic engineering and traffic design.

Source: Progressive Railroading

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