# North American Freight Rail Industry

Talking Freight Seminar June 17, 2015

Jeff Moller AVP Transportation Systems & Practices AAR





### **Assn. of American Railroads** www.aar.org **AMTRAK**<sup>®</sup> ANSAS heeling & Lake Erie UNION FEC NORFOLK Florida East Coast SOUTHERN RAILWAY, L.L.C. One line, infinite possibilities. THE **BUILDING AMERICA®** RAILWAY IOUA PACIFIC PANAM Railways NACOSTI

The way to really fly

VERMONT RAILWAY



# Some of the AAR's Most Important Functions

- Set industry inter-operability and safety standards
- Represent the railroad industry before Congress, regulatory agencies, etc.
- Collect and distribute statistical data
- Public affairs
- Research and evaluate new technologies
- Provide information technology services



# A Fully Integrated North American Rail System

- Over 185,000 miles of Heavy Haul Infrastructure in U.S., Canada & Mexico
- 1.5 million freight cars
- 31,000 locomotives
- Technology / management / administrative processes identical in all three countries
- Seamless across borders except for Customs



# Large and Small Railroads Working Together

### The U.S. Freight Railroad Industry: 2012

			rieigin
	Miles		Revenue
Number	Operated*	Employees	(\$ billions)
7	95,311	163,464	\$67.6
567	43,213	17,800	\$4.0
574	138,524	181,264	\$71.6
	Number 7 567 574	Miles   Number Operated*   7 95,311   567 43,213   574 138,524	Miles Operated*Employees795,311163,46456743,21317,800574138,524181,264

\*Excludes trackage rights. Source: AAR

Fraight

# General Characteristics of North American Freight Railroads

- Vast majority privatelyowned
- Typically, the same company owns the track and operates trains over it
- One railroad does not have automatic access to another railroad's tracks
- Little government funding
- Don't carry passengers



# Privately Owned Firms on Privately Owned Infrastructure

	FreightRail	Trucks	Barges	Ocean carriers <sup>1</sup>	Air
Infrastructure – Line Haul	Private	Public	Public <sup>2</sup>	None / Public <sup>2</sup>	None / Public <sup>3</sup>
Infrastructure - Terminals	Private	Private	Public / Private <sup>4</sup>	Public / Private <sup>4</sup>	Public / Private <sup>4</sup>
Equipment / Operations	Private	Private	Private	Private	Private

- 1 Also applies to U.S. Coastal and Great Lakes shipping
- 2 Public component includes aids to navigation, channel maintenance, and safety
- 3 Public component includes the air traffic control network
- 4 Often consists of privately-developed terminals on publicly-owned property

# Gross Revenue for U.S. Railroads in 2013



# Rail Ton-Miles Have Surpassed Pre-Recession Peak

### (trillions of ton-miles)



Data are for Class I railroads. Source: AAR

# Railroad Capital Spending (\$ billions, current dollars)



Data are for Class I railroads. Source: AAR

# In 2014, U.S. railroads achieved their safest year ever by the following train accident yardsticks:

- Train Accidents and Accident Rates, down 6% and 8% respectively from 2013
- Track-Caused, Equipment-Caused, and Human Factor Caused Train Accident Rates, all down between 6% and 13% from 2013
- 10 Employee Fatalities, down from previous record low of 14 in 2013



### In 2014, 96% of Rail-Related Fatalities Were Grade Crossing Users / Trespassers





Source: FRA website (2014 data as of March 2015): <u>http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/OfficeofSafety/publicsite/summary.aspx</u> Note: Data for 2014 are preliminary.



### Train Accidents / Million Train-Miles Dropped 46% Since 2000; a New Low



Sources: <u>http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/officeofsafety/publicsite/summary.aspx</u> (2014 data). FRA, <u>Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report</u>, 1997-2010, Tables 1-1, 1-2. Note: Excludes grade crossing accidents. Data for 2014 are preliminary.



### Track-Caused Accidents / Million Train-Miles Dropped 54% Since 2000; a New Low



Sources: http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/officeofsafety/publicsite/summary.aspx (2014 data). FRA, <u>Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report</u>, 1997-2010, Tables 1-1, 5-9. Note: Excludes grade crossing accidents. Data for 2014 are preliminary.





### Human Factors Accidents / Million Train-Miles Dropped 45% Since 2000; a New Low



Sources: <u>http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/officeofsafety/publicsite/summary.aspx</u> (2014 data). FRA, <u>Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report</u>, 1997-2010, Tables 1-1, 5-9. Note: Excludes grade crossing accidents. Data for 2014 are preliminary.



### Since 2000, While the Total Number of Public Crossings Declined 17%, the Number with Gates Increased 36%



Sources: AAR Analysis of March 2015 FRA Grade Crossing Inventory Database. FRA, <u>Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report 2000</u>, and 2010, Table 9-3.







Sources: AAR Analysis of March 2015 FRA Highway-Rail Crossing Incident Database. FRA, <u>Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report 2010</u>, Table 7-9 for 2010 statistics. Note: All U.S. Railroads. All Collisions at Public Highway-Rail Crossings, including those with pedestrians.



6/17/2015



## Trespasser Fatalities Remain a Challenge





Sources: <u>http://safetydata.fra.dot.gov/officeofsafety/publicsite/summary.aspx</u> (2014 data). FRA, <u>Railroad Safety Statistics Annual Report</u>, 1997-2010, Tables 1-2, 10-3. Note: Excludes fatalities in highway-rail crossing collisions. Data for 2014 are preliminary.



### Hazmat Accident Rates Declined 62% Since 2000; a New Low

Train Accidents with a Release per Thousand Hazmat Carloads



Sources: AAR Analysis of FRA Train Accident Database. Notes: Carloads terminated are from the ICC/STB Waybill Sample, 1995-2012 and, for 2013, from TRAIN II via the 2013 BOE Annual Report, Exhibit 9, p. 13. Terminated carloads adjusted to counter known hazmat underreporting.





### Hazmat Incident Release Rates Have Declined 56% Since 2000

Incidents per Thousand Hazmat Carloads



Sources: USDOT, Pipeline & Hazardous Materials Safety Administration, Hazardous Materials Incidents by Year & Mode. <u>http://hazmat.dot.gov/files/hazmat/10year/10yearfrm.htm</u> 2002-2013. Includes primarily non-accident releases (leaks, spills) but also includes releases in train accidents. Terminated carloads from ICC/STB Waybill Sample, 1995-2012, adjusted to counter known hazmat underreporting. For 2013, from TRAIN II via the 2013 BOE Annual Report, p. 13.

20

### Since 2004, ATSI Helped Reduce Main Track Accident Rates from Broken Rail 65%, from Bearing Defects 42%, From Truck Hunting to Zero



ATSI = Advanced Technology Strategic Initiative Program managed by TTCI. Source: AAR Analysis of FRA Train Accident and Train-Mile Data, 1995-2014, U.S. Class I Freight Railroads. Note: Years are Oct. 1 to Oct. 1



6/17/2015





### Jeff Moller (202) 639-2375 jmoller@aar.org