US Congressman Bost Joins NRC/REMSA Member R. J. Corman Railroad Services for Tour, Rail Discussion

Caseyville, IL – On April 19, 2017, U.S. Congressman Mike Bost (R-IL-12), a member of the House Transportation & Infrastructure Committee, joined representatives from R. J. Corman Railroad Services, LLC, to tour their Caseyville Emergency Services facility, and discuss pressing rail and manufacturing issues with various rail stakeholders. The National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association (NRC) and the Railway Engineering-Maintenance Suppliers Association (REMSA) jointly coordinated the event.

The tour was led by Nathan Henderson, President, R. J. Corman Railroad Services, LLC. The Caseyville, IL division has over 40 employees and 50 pieces of heavy machinery. The division provides an array of services to one of the most dense rail network regions in the U.S., including emergency response re-rail services, maintenance of way services, and small scale rail construction jobs.

"It was a privilege hosting Congressman Bost, a leading infrastructure advocate, and sharing with him our commitment to southern Illinois," said Henderson. "R. J. Corman is committed to enhancing the safety of our nation’s rail network and, when the unthinkable happens, working with communities across the nation to safely respond to incidents. Safety is our industry's number one priority and we were pleased to share our commitment to safety with the Congressman."

R. J. Corman Railroad Group, LLC is headquartered in Nicholasville, Kentucky, and has field locations in 23 states. The company serves all seven Class I railroads, many regional and short line railroads as well as various rail-served industries. Their operations encompass a comprehensive suite of services, including: railroad construction, short line railroad operations, dispatch, industrial switching services, emergency response, track material logistics, distribution centers, signal design and construction, building eco-friendly locomotives, railroad worker training, and an excursion dinner train.
Congressman Bost focused his remarks on encouraging economic development in southern Illinois and ensuring that we have a strong, efficient, and safe freight rail system. Illinois’ 12th district is home to East St. Louis, the third busiest rail hub in the United States.

“It was a pleasure to learn more about R.J. Corman and the services they provide to railroads in Illinois’ 12th district and beyond,” said Congressman Bost. “As a member of the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee, I will continue to support surface transportation programs with certainty and stability to ensure that America’s businesses, workers and farmers are able to efficiently and affordably ship their products to consumers in the U.S. and the world.”

The rail stakeholder group discussed regulatory initiatives issued by the Surface Transportation Board (STB) on reciprocal switching and commodity regulation. These efforts risk creating major inefficiencies in the national freight network and artificially creating government-mandated price caps. These efforts would lead to reduced capital investment in freight rail which is critical to supporting high-paying rail construction and supply jobs throughout the United States.

Also in attendance were: Mike McCarthy, President, Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis; Asim Raza, Chief Legal Officer, Terminal Railroad Association of St. Louis; Lindsey Collins, VP of Grassroots Advocacy, NRC; and Sean Winkler, Director of Advocacy, REMSA.

In Illinois, 46 freight railroads operate and maintain over 7,100 miles of track and support over 13,000 jobs.

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- Congressman Quigley joins REMSA member Industry-Railway Suppliers, rail stakeholders and local officials for Elmhurst facility tour and rail discussion (irsquigley)
- US Congressman Bost Joins NRC/REMSA Member R. J. Corman Railroad Services for Tour, Rail Discussion (cormanbost)
- Congressman Pallone joins REMSA member Cembre and local railroad for tour, rail cutting demonstration (pallonecembre)
- Congressman Roger Marshall Joins NRC-REMSA member Dymax Rail and Local Railroad for Tour, Policy Discussion (dymaxmarshall)
- Congressman Trey Hollingsworth Joins NRC-REMSA member RJCorman and Local Railroad for Tour, Policy Discussion (hollingsworthli)