



THE RAILWAY ENGINEERING-MAINTENANCE SUPPLIERS ASSOCIATION

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## THE RAILWAY ENGINEERING-MAINTENANCE SUPPLIERS ASSOCIATION

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### REMSA Members LT Resources, American TieTek host Congressman Gohmert for tour, rail discussion

**Marshall, TX** – On October 12, 2016, U.S. Congressman Louie Gohmert (R-TX-1) joined representatives from LT Resources, Inc., American TieTek LLC and other rail stakeholders to tour American TieTek's manufacturing facility, highlight LT Resources' environmentally friendly rail products, and discuss pressing rail and manufacturing issues. The Railway Engineering-Maintenance Suppliers Association (REMSA) coordinated the event.

The tour was led by Linda Thomas, President, LT Resources, and Dale Ramthun, Vice President of Operations, American TieTek. The group toured American TieTek's manufacturing facility, which produces recycled and recyclable composite products. LT Resources is a woman-owned small business specializing in the supply of environmentally friendly composite highway-rail grade crossings, railroad ties, and other products. These composite products are durable, cost-effective, utilize materials that would have otherwise been disposed of in landfills and are proudly made in the USA. LT Resources is American TieTek's exclusive distributor in the U.S., Canada and Mexico for sustainable composite railroad ties to meet industry standards. American TieTek is LT Resources' contract manufacturer for ENDURANCE® highway-rail grade crossings.

"We are honored to be joined by Congressman Gohmert to highlight manufacturing and rail issues in East Texas," said Thomas. "Our businesses are working around the clock to improve safety and make our industry more environmentally friendly with high quality composite products. We appreciate the Congressman taking the time to learn about the challenges we face in our industry."



Rep. Gohmert (middle) inspect quality control station

American TieTek and LT Resources employ approximately 50 employees throughout Texas.

Congressman Gohmert focused his remarks on encouraging economic development in East Texas, and ensuring a strong, efficient, and safe freight rail system to connect agriculture producers to the global market.

"A strong and efficient railroad is crucial for getting East Texas' goods to market," said Congressman Gohmert. "To see firsthand the extraordinary array of products TieTek is creating and the extent to which they literally help keep the economy rolling down the track in East Texas is simply stunning. Being the servant in Washington for such a phenomenal team of high-skilled, pride-driven producers is indeed a privilege."

The rail stakeholder group discussed the bipartisan and bicameral Building Rail Access for Customers and the Economy (BRACE) Act, which would make the Short Line Tax Credit permanent. This effort will allow the nation's small, local freight railroads to increase their reinvestments to upgrade and expand the "first and last mile" of their transportation infrastructure. The bill has garnered over 180 bi-partisan cosponsors in the House.



Composite railroad ties

The group also discussed recent regulation 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 supply jobs throughout the United States.

Also in attendance were: Chet Oaks, Trainmaster, R.J. Corman Railroad Group; Chad Sutton, Operations Manager, TieTek LLC; Mike Thompson, Owner, Texas Plastics Recycling LLC; and Sean Winkler, Grassroots Coordinator, REMSA.

In Texas, 49 freight railroads operate over 10,000 track miles and employ over 16,000.

#### Local Press:

1. **Marshall News Messenger:** Gohmert visits TieTek in Woodlawn, talks state of industry (<https://www.marshallnewsmessenger.com/news/2016/oct/16/gohmert-visits-tietek-talks-state-of-industry/>)

#### Industry Press:

1. **Progressive Railroad:** U.S. Rep Gohmert tours American TieTek facility ([http://www.progressiverailroading.com/supplier\\_spotlight/news/US-Rep-Gohmert-tours-American-TieTek-facility--49773](http://www.progressiverailroading.com/supplier_spotlight/news/US-Rep-Gohmert-tours-American-TieTek-facility--49773))
2. **RT&S:** American TieTek, LT Resources host Rep. Gohmert for tour, discussion (<http://www.rtands.com/index.php/news/american-tietek-lt-resources-host-rep-gohmert-for-tour-rail-discussion.html?channel=TESTED>)

#### PRESS RELEASES (GRASSROOTSPR)

- > **PortaCo Hosts Rep. Peterson's Staff for Tour and Discussion**  
(portaco)
- > **Congressman Joyce joins Iron Horse Engineering, MAGNET, and REMSA for tour, highlights rail and manufacturing in Ohio** (ironhorse)
- > **Sen. Graham, Scott staff joins GoRail and REMSA for Koppers tour**  
(koppersc)
- > **Sen. Corker's Transportation Staffer Joins UNITRAC for Tour, Discusses Rail Issues** (unitrac2016)
- > **Rep. Coffman's Chief and Sen. Gardner's Regional Director Tour**

**New RTD Maintenance Facility,  
Discuss Rail & Transit Issues  
(balfourrtd)**

**> Congresswoman Bustos tours  
REMSA member Rail Construction  
Equipment, discusses rail issues  
(rcebustos)**

**> Congressman Fitzpatrick joins  
REMSA member TRAC Lubricants &  
Coatings and the New Hope &  
Ivyland Railroad for demonstration,  
discussion (newhopetrac)**

**> Rep. Polis joins REMSA Member  
Encore Rail Systems for  
Demonstration, Discussion  
(encorepolis)**

**> Senator Debbie Stabenow Joins  
REMSA Member Harsco Rail, UAW  
Local 811 for Tour and Policy  
Discussion (harscostabenow)**

**> Congressman Rod Blum Joins  
REMSA Member HiRAIL for Tour and  
Rail Discussion (hirailblum)**

**> REMSA Member Flexovit USA hosts  
Congressman Collins for reopening  
tour, policy discussion  
(flexovitcollins)**

**> REMSA Members LT Resources,  
American TieTek host Congressman  
Gohmert for tour, rail discussion  
(tietekgohmert)**

**> Congressman Mike Rogers Joins  
REMSA Member Knox Kershaw and  
Alabama Railroads for Tour and  
Discussion (knoxkershaw)**

**> Congressman Flores Staff and  
Waco Mayor Kyle Deaver Join  
NRC/REMSA Member Axion  
Structural Innovations for Tour, Rail  
Discussion (axionflores)**

**PHOTOS (CONTENT.ASP?)**

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