

Wasatch Railcar Repair Contractors Hosts Elected Officials for Grand Opening

Shoshoni, WY - On October 15, 2015, Railway Engineering-Maintenance Suppliers Association (REMSA) member Wasatch Railcar Repair Contractors (WRRRC) hosted a grand opening event for community, industry, and government officials. The event featured demonstrations of WRRRC's repair capabilities and formal remarks by WRRRC Founder John Rimmasch and Ben Avery, on behalf of Governor Matt Mead.

Mr. Rimmasch delivered an overview of WRRRC, shared the importance of a recently enacted Wyoming tax credit to the re-opening of their Shoshoni facility, and outlined WRRRC's plans for future growth in Shoshoni. WRRRC specializes in railcar repair and restoration, with locations in Stearns, KY, Cheyenne, WY, and Shoshoni, WY. In Stearns, WRRRC recently restored a segregation-era railway car that will be featured in the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture in Washington, DC. In July, WRRRC announced that it had acquired its Shoshoni railcar repair facility from Dimec Railcar Repair Operations.



John Rimmasch formal remarks

"We are extremely pleased to host this open house and share our goals and growth plans with the community and our elected officials" said John Rimmasch. "Relationships are key to our business and we will continue to work with the local community to grow and give back to the state and Fremont County."

He was later joined by Mr. Avery, representing the Office of the Governor, who spoke to Wyoming's state rail plan and the need to invest in intermodal infrastructure:

"The Wyoming Business Council has been very proactive the last decade in working with local communities to develop rail parks throughout the state," said Avery. "We understand the value and the need for rail parks in order to have and grow our robust manufacturing distribution logistics economy. We also recognize and value the rail car refurbishing facilities in the state, and look forward to all facets involving the rail industry playing a role in diversifying and continuing to grow Wyoming's economy."

Representatives from the Bighorn Divide & Wyoming (BDW) Railroad and REMSA spoke to the importance of extending the Positive Train Control deadline and supporting the Short Line Railroad Rehabilitation Investment Act of 2015. The tax credit enables small railroads, like BDW, and their customers to continue to reinvest more of what they earn to improve infrastructure, “last mile” service, and safety.



Green, Sen. Enzi, Rimmasch, and Buline, Sen. Barrasso

In Wyoming, four freight railroads operate over 1,800 miles of track and employ over 2,800. Coal represents 96% of all freight tonnage originated in Wyoming, followed by chemicals.

Attendees included:

Ben Avery, Director – Business and Industry Division, Wyoming Business Council
Pam Buline, Field Representative, U.S. Senator John Barrasso
Rep. Rita Campbell, Wyoming Legislature, District 34
Reagen Green, Field Representative, U.S. Senator Michael Enzi
Sherlyn Kaiser, Field Representative, U.S. Representative Cynthia Lummis (WY-AL)
Edward “Oscar” Kelsey, President, Bighorn Divide & Wyoming Railroad
John Rimmasch, Founder & Owner, WRRC
John Tinsley, Business Development Manager, RJ Corman Derailment Services
Sean Winkler, Grassroots Coordinator, REMSA
Rep. Nathan Winter, Wyoming Legislature, District 28

Industry Coverage:

1. [Progressive Railroad: Landoll, Railroad Construction Co. of South Jersey, Wasatch railcar host congressional visits](#)
2. [Railway Age: Wasatch Railroad Contractors Celebrates Grand Opening](#)

Local Coverage:

1. [County 10: Shoshoni Railcar Repair Facility opens with tours, lunch on Thursday](#)
2. [Wyoming Business Report: Railcar repair facility opens with promise of 50-60 jobs](#)