## Current Rail Capacity Issues







## **Total U.S. Rail Carloads**

#### (average weekly originations) 360,000 340,000 320,000 300,000 280,000 260,000 240,000 220,000 200,000 2006 2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

Data are average weekly originations for each month, are not seasonally adjusted, do not include intermodal, and do not include the U.S. operations of CN and CP. Source: AAR



## **U.S. Rail Intermodal**



Data are average weekly originations for each month, are not seasonally adjusted and do not include the U.S. operations of CN and CP. Source: AAR



#### U.S. Rail Carloads Excluding Coal and Grain

#### (average weekly originations)



Data are average weekly originations for each month, are not seasonally adjusted, do not include intermodal, and do not include the U.S. operations of CN and CP. Source: AAR

#### Change in Originated Carloads for Class I RRs: (2010 + 2011) vs. (2012 + 2013)



#### U.S. Rail Traffic First Half 2013 vs. 2014

		Grain: 118,500 🕇				
	Coal: 84,118					
	Empty shipping containers: 70,263					
	Crude industrial sand: 41,310					
	Motor veh. & parts: 24,735 Crude oil: 24,058 Chemicals: 20,949	Misc. mixed shipments: 182,425* *Most intermodal is in this				
	DDGs: 18,246 Crushed stone: 11,138 Grain mill products: 9,887	category.				
Metallic ores: -41,468	<ul> <li>Paper products: 9,838</li> <li>Lumber &amp; wood: 9,345</li> <li>Cement: 7,212</li> <li>Primary metal products: 5,872</li> <li>Waste &amp; scrap: -2,855</li> </ul>					
	Source: AAR Freight	Commodity Statistics				



#### Traffic Growth and Mix Change Has Been a Challenge

- By and large, growth of this magnitude not anticipated.
- Different traffic mix, different locations.
- RRs did not always have resources in the right place to handle it.
- Severe winter, later flooding made things much worse.





#### Changing Markets = Harder to Plan and Manage Rail Networks

- Different train types
- Different service requirements
- Need for ongoing maintenance
- Traffic volumes not always foreseen
- Traffic mix changes

- Resource limitations
- Need for long lead times
- Regulatory requirements
- Railroads are networks



#### Four Steps to Increase Capacity

- 1. Identify and Implement Process Change,
- 2. Develop and Deploy New or Improved Information Technology,
- 3. Acquire and Deploy Assets Usable Throughout Network,
- 4. Plan, Design, Finance, Permit, Acquire, Build and Test Additional Infrastructure.

Steps are not sequential but they are interrelated.



### Four Steps to Increase Capacity (1)

- 1. Identify and Implement Process Change
- Rework the transportation plan,
- Update the interchange plan,
- Rework yard and terminal processing plans,
- Redesign freight car distribution strategies,
- Rethink locomotive assignment and deployment,
- Explore joint facilities opportunities,

Time to deploy – Weeks or months up to a year (+).



### Four Steps to Increase Capacity (2)

#### 2. Develop/Deploy New/Improved Information Tech.

- Dispatching and control systems,
- "Real time" movement planning technology,
- Terminal visibility and management systems,
- Maintenance planning technology,
- Locomotive distribution systems,
- Locomotive, freight equipment and track monitoring, fault identification, early detection and diagnostic systems.

Time to deploy – Six months to ten years.



#### Four Steps to Increase Capacity (3)

- 3. Acquire/Deploy Assets Usable Throughout Network
- Trained people,
- Locomotives,
- Additional freight equipment,
- Higher capacity freight equipment,
- High capacity/productivity maintenance machinery.

#### Time to deploy – Six months to three years.



#### Four Steps to Increase Capacity (4)

- 4. Plan, Design, Finance, Permit, Acquire, Build, Test Additional Infrastructure.
- Main line, terminal and terminal through route upgrades,
- New signal and control infrastructure,
- Locomotive/freight car maintenance/servicing facilities,
- Intermodal, automotive or transload terminals,
- Freight classification or unit train servicing capabilities,
- New bridges or tunnels and/or replacements/upgrades.
   Time to deploy Three years to ten years.



# Where is 2014 Rail Investment Going?

Asset Class	Activity in 2014		
People	13,300 Added		
Locomotives	1,730 Added or Upgraded		
Freight Equipment	19,000 Units Added or Upgraded		
Infrastructure Capital – Renewal	\$6 Billion		
Infrastructure Capital - Capacity	\$2 Billion		
Positive Train Control	\$1 Billion (+)		

Source: Estimates based on public announcements of rail carriers



## **Overall Rail Employment**

#### **Total Class I Railroad Employment**



Data in 2010 and later are not directly comparable to data prior to 2010. Source: STB



#### **More Locomotives**

## Number of Locomotives in Service



Data are for Class I railroads. Source: AAR







### How Does Winter Mess Up Rail Operations?

- Shorter trains
- Snow accumulation
- Frozen track switches
- Rail crews
- Rail customer problems





## **Chicago Was Epicenter**

- Dec. 2013 March 2014 = coldest four months on record; 26 days at or below zero.
- 82 inches of snow
- Big problem because
   ~ 25% of freight rail
   traffic passes through
   or near Chicago





## How Are Chicago Carriers Preparing Differently in 2014?

- Routing protocols to use alternative gateways.
- Develop and test winter response plans earlier.
- Investment in physical plant in Chicago both through CREATE and individually.
- Trigger Chicago alerts based on performance metrics rather than field estimates.
- Scheduling more maintenance capability.
- Where appropriate, deploy more weather resistant technology.
- Where appropriate, add people.



## **CREATE Program Status**

	Freight Railroad Projects	Passenger Projects	Highway / Grade Separation Projects	Other Projects	Project Totals
Environmental (IDOT Phase I)	4	4	5	0	13
Design (IDOT Phase II)	4	0	0	1	5
Construction (IDOT Phase III)	3	1	4	1	9
Completed Projects	19	0	3	0	22
Remaining Projects	5	3	13	1	21
Total CREATE Projects	35	7	25	3	70

