

OTHER ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Alerted RTOA Contractors to rail-related contracting opportunities.
- Coordinated safety training courses required by project owners and industry standards.
- Briefed participants in LIUNA's 2010 Tri-Fund Conference on the status of rail-related infrastructure funding.
- Represented Laborers and Operating Engineers on the NRC's Railroad Incident Responders Committee, which is developing best-practice standards for those responding to rail-related incidents and emergencies.
- Promoted LIUNA, IUOE and RTOA signatory contractors at industry trade shows and conferences.



RAILCET

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Railroad Cooperation and Education Trust

The Railroad Cooperation and Education Trust (RAILCET) is a labor-management partnership between the Laborers' International Union of North America (LIUNA), the International Union of Operating Engineers (IUOE), and the member contractors of the National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association (NRC), all of whom are signed to the Rail Transportation and Operation Agreement (RTOA).

RAILCET Fights for Competitive Bidding on Federal Rail Jobs

As the federal government began to pump \$12 billion into the development of high-speed rail service in the United States, RAILCET worked to give Laborers, Operating Engineers, and their signatory rail contractors an opportunity to bid on the projects that spending will create.

Since the development of new high-speed rail infrastructure involves both construction of new rail infrastructure and upgrades to existing infrastructure, it is unclear whether the Federal Rail Administration (FRA) will require that upgrades be competitively bid in the same way as new construction. Without such a requirement, Laborers, Operating Engineers, and their signatory rail contractors stand to lose the majority of work funded by the federal high-speed rail program.

RAILCET worked with LIUNA, IUOE, and NRC to arrange a meeting with FRA to discuss contracting guidelines for the federal high-speed rail program, and to offer its input on any contracting guidelines the agency develops. Should the FRA decide not to require competitive bidding of high-speed rail upgrade projects, RAILCET will work with Laborers, Operators, and RTOA signatory contractors to address the issue at the state level.