

# NATIONAL COAL TRANSPORTATION ASSOCIATION

## OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE CONFERENCE



*"Conferences with Character"*



**JUNE 7-9, 2021**

**The Grand Hotel, Point Clear, Alabama**

### **Monday, June 7**

- All Day** Conference Registration Packets  
At Check-In Counter
- 9:00 am** Private Car Owner Roundtable  
Voting Members – Magnolia Ballroom
- 11:30** Lunch by individual arrangement
- 1:00 pm** Private Car Owner Roundtable  
All Members – Magnolia Ballroom
- 5:30 to 6:30 pm** Welcome Reception  
Julep Point

### **Tuesday, June 8**

- 7:30am** Breakfast – Magnolia Ballroom
- 8:00** General Session – Magnolia Ballroom
- Welcome & Opening Remarks  
John Ward – Exec. Director  
Cathy LeFevers – O&M Ex. Committee  
Chairperson  
Safety Brief- Kevin Kopeke, ARS
- 8:15** Welcome to Alabama  
Fred Shulte
- 8:30** Updates on *Wayside Detectors*  
Kim Bowling, Director in Mechanical  
CSX
- 9:00** *Over Age Brake Valves*  
Nichole Fimple, Executive Director Rules  
& Standards  
AAR
- 9:30** Coffee Break
- 10:00** *Golf Pairings*  
Tournament Organizers

**Karl Van Norman and DeWayne Bradford**

- 10:15** *Effects on End of Car from Longer Trains*  
John Deppen, Director Engineering  
Amsted
- 10:45** *Draft Gears- Background, Purpose, Function,  
Challenges, and Future*  
Bob Novinsky, Regional Sales Manager  
Miner
- 11:15** *Preventative vs. Reactive Wheel Maintenance; A  
Case Study for Asymmetric Wheel Wear and Life  
Extension*  
Steve Dobies, VP Technical Services  
A. Stucki
- 12:00 pm** Lunch by Individual Arrangement
- 1:30** *Rail Industry Insight: Storage, Transloading,  
Leasing, and Scrapping*  
Martin Lew, CEO & Founder  
Commtrex
- 2:00** *Precision Train Builder- Longer/Safer Train  
Operations*  
Jon Jensen, VP Sales & Business Development  
PS Technology Inc.
- 2:30** Coffee Break
- 3:00** *Observation of Field Inspections and Best  
Practices*  
Randy Quaife, Director, Parts Sales  
FreightCar
- 3:30** *Wayside Detection Systems*  
Pat Whelan, Director Mechanical Engineering  
BNSF
- 5:30** Reception  
The Sky Lounge: Main Building, 3<sup>rd</sup> Floor

## Wednesday, June 9

8:00 – Breakfast

8:30 am Magnolia Ballroom

**General Session – Magnolia Ballroom**

8:30 *Counter Billing Authority & Auditing of Repair Bills*

**Michael Shirley, Railroad Damage Administrator  
Alltranstek**

9:00 *Life Cycle of a Wheelset: Wheelshop Operations*

**Jakob Schoenfeldt, Sales Director  
Wheelworx**

9:30 **Coffee Break**

10:00 *Repair Shop Panel Discussion*

**Justin Goertz, LCRA  
Kevin Koepke, ARS  
Greg Mayo, High Country Railcar**

10:30 *The Role of the Shop in an Efficient and Successful Maintenance Plan*

**Kevin Koepke, Vice President Sales  
Appalachian Railcar Services**

11:00 *“DOUBLING-UP” OF POWDER RIVER BASIN COAL UNIT TRAINS AND RELATED SHIPPER CONCERNS*

**Peter Pfohl, Partner  
Slover & Loftus, LLP**

11:30 **Conference Adjournment**

**NCTA Golf Tournament:  
LAKEWOOD GOLF CLUB:  
AZALEA COURSE**



**Golfer's Burger Lunch 12:00 pm  
Shot-gun start at 12:30 pm**

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**2021 27<sup>th</sup> Annual Business Meeting and  
Conference  
September 20-22, 2021  
Scottsdale, Arizona**