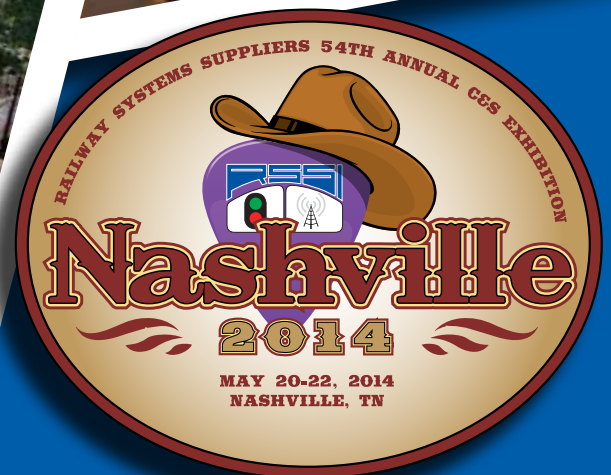


# THE RSSI Communicator

SUMMER 2014

## Nashville Exhibition Huge Hit with RSSI Members and Customers!





# Record number of exhibitors and customers attend RSSI annual exhibition at Gaylord Opryland Resort



On Tuesday evening May 20<sup>th</sup> the Nashville Gaylord Opryland Resort and Convention Center opened its doors and welcomed RSSI's members, customers and special guests to the RSSI Exhibition opening event which included a reception, buffet dinner and high energy Casino event.

The Nashville location continued its trend as one of the most popular locations for the RSSI Annual Exhibition as a record number 179 exhibitors displayed their products and services to over 450 rail and transit customers. There were a total of 1803 pre and on site registered attendees.

The opening reception included Bluegrass music provided by Fireball Mail. The Gaylord banquet staff lived up to its five star food rating and provided a buffet dinner that was enjoyed by everyone.

Bob Barranco and John Marsh of BPI, Inc. kept the evening moving by hosting the always popular Las Vegas style Casino event. The table games, slot machines, cash box, horse racing and interactive games kept everyone entertained until the night ended with a raffle of several prizes including a 50" internet ready HDTV, a laptop and several iPads.



At 8:00am on Wednesday May 21<sup>st</sup> the exhibits opened in the Ryman C exhibit hall. The exhibit hall contained the 179 exhibitors' booths and four food courts where breakfast, lunch and dinner were served. Refreshments were available throughout the day.

A new decorator to RSSI, GENESIS Inc., did an outstanding job handling the freight and setting up the exhibitor booths. The Gaylord staff commented several times on how immaculate and well organized the exhibit hall appeared.

The new member pavilion was located in the center of the exhibitor hall where twenty-one new RSSI member companies exhibited their products to the many customers who attended the exhibition.



RSSI received a lot of positive feedback from the new member companies who commented on the number of customers and how well the exhibition was organized. They especially liked the meals, wine and beer served in the food courts.

On Thursday May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 8:00am the exhibit halls and food courts again opened to the customers and guests. Several exhibitors commented that they enjoyed a steady stream of customers.

Special thanks go out to TSReg and the registration staff who handled registration for all attendees, Curtis Ryals who kept the WiFi, charging stations and Kiosks operating and the Gaylord staff who made sure hotel and exhibit hall issues were promptly corrected.

RSSI is looking forward to the 2015 exhibition which will return to the Minneapolis Convention Center where RSSI will join REMSA, RSI and AREMA in the third Railway Interchange Exhibition and Conference. The dates for the 2015 event are October 4 – 7.





# 2014 Show Gallery





## RSSI Hosts NTSB Seminar in Nashville

In conjunction with the fifty-fourth annual RSSI exhibition held in Nashville, TN. RSSI hosted an NTSB Accident Investigation Seminar.

The seminar took place on Tuesday May 20<sup>th</sup> at the Gaylord Resort Hotel and Conference Center prior to the opening of the RSSI exhibition on Wednesday May 21.

Mark Jones, FRA Deputy Chief, Railroad Division, Ruben Payan, NTSB Accident Investigator and Ted Turpin, NTSB Accident Investigator, presented the seminar to the group of 170 rail and transit managers and suppliers.

The six hour seminar covered NTSB accident investigation procedures, recent accident investigations, and testing procedures.

The seminar provided insight into the methods used by the NTSB in investigating rail accidents and how they depend on the involved railroads to have the necessary materials, equipment and manpower to conduct a proper investigation.

Feedback from the attendees indicated that the seminar was very informative. Many of the senior rail managers stated that they wish they had received this training earlier in their career.



## Update Your Address Lists and Phone Books!

At the March 2014 Board of Directors meeting it was decided to combine the RSSI Louisville and Jacksonville offices into a single office located in Jacksonville, Florida. Jacksonville is a strong railroad community with several RSSI member companies being headquartered or having an office located there. In addition, CSX, The Florida East Coast and The Genesee and Wyoming Railroads are headquartered in Jacksonville.

The new office will be up and running in early August. We will send out an email notification when the office is operational. If you are visiting Jacksonville or are traveling through the Sunshine State stop by to see the new office and say hello to our new office manager Dorothy (Dot) Frenette. Dot's first day with RSSI will be August 1st. The address and phone numbers for the new office are:

**RSSI**  
**13133 Professional Drive, Suite 100**  
**Jacksonville, FL. 32225**  
**Office phone: 904-379-3366**  
**Fax: 904-379-3941**



# Railway Interchange 2015

In 2015 RSSI will once again join with AREMA, REMSA and RSI at the Minneapolis Convention Center to host the third Railway Interchange Conference and Exhibition.

The dates for the conference and exhibition are October 4 to 7, 2015.

Railway Interchange will be returning to the Minneapolis Convention Center for a second time. The initial Railway Interchange Conference and Exhibition was held in Minneapolis in 2011.

As in 2011 the Minneapolis Marriott will be the headquarters hotel for RSSI attendees. The nearby Radisson and Graves hotels will also be used for RSSI exhibitors, members and customers.

Booth sales will open on October 1, 2014 and registration will begin on January 5, 2015.

Additional information will be available on the RSSI website at [www.rssi.org](http://www.rssi.org) in August 2014.



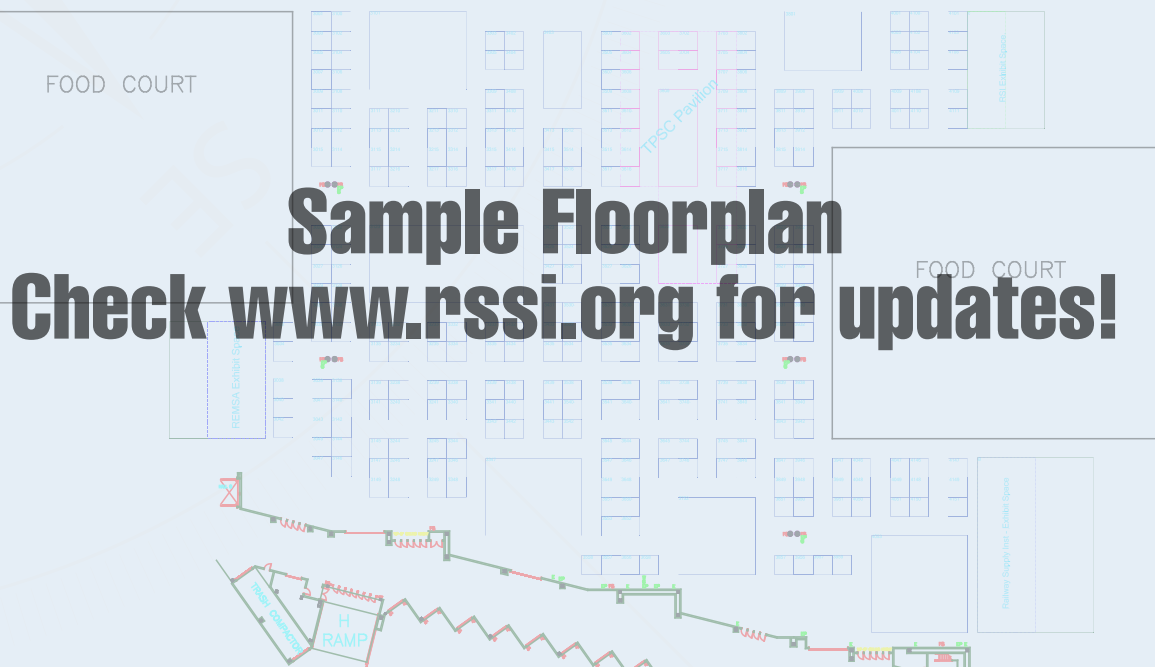
IN CONJUNCTION WITH

Railway/2015  
Interchange

AREMA/RSI/REMSA/RSSI

## REMINDER!

**BOOTH SELECTION STARTS OCT. 1, 2014 @ 8:30 EST**





# 2014 Show Gallery



# 2014 Scholarship Winners

The RSSI Scholarship Program, since its inception in 1992, has proven to be a valuable service offered to RSSI member company employees. Sixty-three young adults have been awarded the \$8,000 scholarships (\$1,000 per semester) since the introduction of the program.

The RSSI board has awarded two new scholarships for 2014 from the twenty-five qualified applications received. The winner of the 2014 W. Ed Rowland scholarship award is Ashton Mensinger and the inaugural winner of the James R. Higginbottom scholarship is Elisabeth Wydotis.

## The 2014 RSSI W. Ed Rowland Memorial Scholarship



### Ashton Mensinger

Ashton is a June 2014 graduate of Berwick Area Senior High School in Berwick, PA.

She graduated from high school with a 4.0 GPA. She was involved in a wide variety of activities and organizations including: National Honor Society, Student Council, and Girl Scouts. She has an interest in business and journalism having been a member of her schools newspaper and yearbook staffs for four years. She was a varsity member of the softball team gaining honorable mention on the All-Star team and was a second team all-conference all star.

Ashton will be attending Penn State University in the fall of 2014 where she will be an accounting major.

Ashton's parents are John and Amy Mensinger who are employed by G&B Specialties a subsidiary of Wabtec.

## The 2014 RSSI James R. Higginbottom Scholarship



### Elisabeth Wydotis

Elisabeth graduated from Ballard High School in Louisville, KY in June 2014.

She earned a weighted GPA of 4.0 while taking honors and A/P courses. She held many offices in several groups and organizations in which she participated including: Captain of the swim team, President of the Chemistry club, and Secretary of the National Honor Society. She was also first violinist of the All-County Orchestra and volunteered as a high school math and elementary school tutor. She was an active member and Aide-Leader of the Girl Scouts.

Elisabeth will be attending the University of South Carolina as an Environmental Engineering Major in the fall of 2014.

Elisabeth is the daughter of Lenny and Heidi Wydotis. Lenny is employed by Siemens Rail Automation Corporation in Louisville, KY.

### In addition to the two new scholarships, the following are also active:

- Holly K. Avins - Okonite/Purdue University
- Jenna C. Bekeny - GE Transportation/University of Chicago
- Steven J. Chandler - Arthur N. Ulrich Company/Ohio State University
- Anne H. Davis - Transportation Technology Center/California Institute of Technology
- Heather R. Hourdequin - Okonite/University of California Los Angeles
- Kevin Li - Transportation Technology Center / Yale University
- Brent M. Henderson - GE Transportation/Truman State
- Samuel Altland - Hatch Mott MacDonald/University of Pennsylvania

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Siemens Rail Automation

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Ansaldo STS USA

Thomas Ulrich  
Arthur N. Ulrich Company



### Railway Systems Suppliers, Inc.

13133 Professional Drive, Suite 100  
Jacksonville, FL 32225

Michael Drudy  
Executive Director

Phone: 904-379-3366  
Fax: 904-379-3941

[www.rssi.org](http://www.rssi.org)





MINNEAPOLIS, MINNESOTA  
OCT 4-7, 2015

THE 55TH ANNUAL RSSI C&S  
**2015 Exhibition**  
MINNEAPOLIS, MN • OCT 4-7, 2015

IN CONJUNCTION WITH



# REMINDER!

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