



THE NEXT CHAPTER: NEW ENGLAND'S RAILS IN TRANSITION

2025 RAIL TECH CONFERENCE

Tuesday, March 25th • DCU Center, Worcester, MA

The Rail Tech Conference is a one-day, industry-oriented event for rail and transit professionals, consulting companies, suppliers, state and federal agencies, and college students looking to start a career in transportation. The 2025 conference will feature an afternoon of seminars with timely topics highlighting new technologies and happenings in the industry followed by the traditional Hosted Networking Reception. The day will conclude with the Engineering & Transit Night Dinner and keynote presentation by CSX's Christina Bottomley, Vice President of Business Development and Real Estate.

You can keep up to date with the latest information about the event on our LinkedIn page or our website: www.nerailroadclub.com. We'll update the site to include speakers, topics, and participating companies. We hope you can join us for this unique event highlighting some of the changes coming to the railroad industry in New England.



Follow us on Linked In for Rail Tech news and updates: New England Railroad Club

KEYNOTE SPEAKER



Christina Bottomley

Vice President, Business Development
& Real Estate, CSX

Christina Bottomley has an extensive background in accounting and business development. In her current position with CSX, she oversees a large portfolio of properties, joint facilities, short line development, and industrial projects aimed at expanding rail-served sites. Christina joined CSX in 2020 as the Head of Real Estate. Since that time, she has nearly doubled strategic investments in growth and played a key role in onshoring and reshoring initiatives. She holds a Master's degree in Accounting from the University of Florida and completed an Executive Development Program in Business Administration and Management from Harvard Business School.



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 RAIL TECH SPONSORS:



Schedule of Events

All events are on the third floor of the DCU Center. Visit our website for updates to speakers and seminar topics.

PREFUNCTION AREA

12:00pm

► Rail Tech Opens*

**Registration opens early at 11:00 to allow access to railroad employees who can only get a few late morning/lunch hours off from work.*

GRAND BALLROOM SEMINAR ROOM

2025 Seminar Series

Presented by Transload X

12:45-1:30pm

► Conference Kick-Off Presentation

Battery/Electric Technology and How it is Changing the Industry

1:45-2:30pm

► Seminar #1

Where Maintenance of Way Meets AI

2:45-3:30pm

► Seminar #2

IRAP (Industrial Rail Access Program) Funding

3:45-4:45pm

► Seminar #3

State DOT Roundtable

PREFUNCTION AREA

5:00-6:00pm

► Networking Reception

6:00pm

► Exhibitor Pavilion Closes

GRAND BALLROOM

► Doors Open 6:15pm

6:30pm

► Engineering & Transit Night Dinner

Presented by Keolis

Keynote Speaker:

Christina Bottomley

Vice President

Business Development & Real Estate

CSX

Tickets

Tickets are available online until March 18, 2025.

Conference Only tickets will be available on the day of the show. A limited number of dinner tickets may also be available for purchase the day of the show, but don't take the chance - buy your tickets early!

2025 Ticket Prices

- **Conference Only:** \$40
- **Dinner (Includes Conference):** \$125 / \$1,250 table of 10
- **A limited number of free tickets are available for students** who wish to attend the show and/or Dinner. Please email jbudzyna@aol.com to reserve your ticket

Sponsorships

Put your company's name front and center and help the Club!

Event sponsorships allow us to offer more events and seminars at the Expo. By purchasing a sponsorship, you can showcase your company's name and logo and receive added recognition throughout the event. Visit our website for detailed information and to purchase sponsorships.

Hotel

The Club has reserved a block of rooms at the Hilton Garden Inn, directly adjacent to the DCU Center. Exhibitors and attendees can either book online using the **group code NRRC3** at hgi.com or by calling reservations at **1-800-HILTONS** and referencing the group code or use your AAA if applicable.

Reservations must be received by Monday, March 3, 2025. After this date reservations will only be accepted on a space a rate available basis only.

Join Us As An Exhibitor

The Rail Tech Conference's one-day show and tabletop display format make it easy for companies to set up and staff their displays with as little as one person. All events are held on the same floor, and we have designed the floor plan to maximize face time with attendees.

- **Tabletop display spaces are available for \$350/table.**
- **The price includes an 8'x30" table, skirting, chairs, electrical, and two complimentary Conference-only tickets for your exhibit staff.**
- **Visit our website to reserve your space.**
- **To reserve your table visit www.nerailroadclub.com.**

Visit www.nerailroadclub.com for tickets

The 2025 Seminar Series Presented by TransloadX

12:45-1:30pm

Battery/Electric Technology and How it is Changing the Industry

Battery technology is rapidly changing how we live and work. Advancements in battery size, power, and life have allowed the technology to be applied to everything from hand tools, to lawnmowers, to trucks. The rail industry is no exception. Starting with experimental designs a decade ago, battery locomotives and passenger multiple units have slowly but steadily been advancing in reliability.

The Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority (MBTA) Board of Directors has approved a \$54 million initiative to introduce battery-electric trains on the Fairmount Commuter Rail Line. This plan, put forward by Keolis Commuter Services, aims to increase service frequency and reduce emissions in the communities served by the line. Keolis submitted their proposal in December 2023, outlining a vision for integrating battery-electric multiple unit trains (BEMUs) into the Fairmount Line operations. The new trains are expected to provide quieter, faster, and more reliable service while significantly lowering air pollution levels. The first battery-electric train is anticipated to enter service in early 2028.

This project is part of a broader effort to decarbonize the rail network, contributing to the state's clean energy and climate goals. The introduction of BEMU trains is expected to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 17,700 tons annually compared to the current diesel-powered trains.

Keolis will manage the new fleet and infrastructure as a Project Delivery Partner (PDP), overseeing both the preparation and delivery phases of the project. Representatives of Keolis will be joining discuss this exciting new technology and what we can expect to see coming down the rails in the near future.



1:45-2:30pm

Where Maintenance of Way Meets AI

Mass Coastal Railroad has embraced a new approach to tracking the status of its system's maintenance of way needs and projects providing for safer and more reliable operations. Working with partner and supplier Esri, the railroad is leveraging cloud-based geographic information systems (GIS) to allow employees to easily input, view, and prioritize MOW issues that needs to be addressed on its lines throughout eastern Massachusetts. Geomapping pinpoints the exact location of each issue. Data can be easily leveraged for analysis, providing detailed analytics that increase safety.

The flexibility and adaptability of the technology can offer a host of benefits to both freight and passenger railroads, especially our region's short lines and regionals who may not have the resources to employ the same technology used by the Class 1's. Calvin Corrigan from MassCoastal and Eric Henderson from Esri will join us to offer an overview of the system and how it performs in daily operations.



Visit www.nerailroadclub.com for tickets

2:45-3:30pm

Industrial Rail Access Program (IRAP) Funding - How to Navigate the Application Process

Each year, Maine and Massachusetts award funding for rail improvements through their Industrial Rail Access Programs (IRAP). The programs are overseen by the Department of Transportation in both states. IRAP is a public/private partnership that combines funding to help eligible applicants invest in industry-based freight rail infrastructure improvement projects located on, within or adjacent to the general railroad system. The goals of the programs are to stimulate economic development, grow corporations, keep manufacturing jobs and create new jobs through increased efficiency, production capacity, and improved distribution logistics, and enhance intermodal transportation. State investment is matched with a percentage of local and/or private industry funds. Typically, two to three million dollars has been set aside for the programs in each state.

2025 recipients included transload projects in Framingham, MA, and Ware, MA, and expansion of a company's rail infrastructure in Haverhill, MA.

IRAP is a competitive program with applications scored based on state-specific criteria. An example of these include: job creation/retention, anticipated decrease in air emissions and highway congestion,, transportation and logistics cost savings, improvements in rail service, and benefit-cost ratio.

John Weston, Rail Program Specialist at MassDOT, and Nathan Howard, Director, Rail Transportation at MaineDOT, Office of Freight & Passenger Services, join us to offer an overview of each state's program and provide insight on how railroads can navigate the application process.

3:45-4:45pm

State DOT Roundtable

New England's six states have been working to build and better integrate their transportation networks, providing capacity that can answer the challenges of an increasing population, all while staying within tightening budgets. This includes expanding rail capacity: bringing regional and commuter passenger rail back to locations that haven't seen service in decades while encouraging the growth intermodal freight and "last mile" trucking to help ease highway congestion. These types of environmentally-responsible ways of connecting people and locations will be key to managing future economic and social growth.

Interstate partnerships and public-private partnerships are essential in this endeavor. The State DOT Roundtable will bring together representatives to discuss the future of rail in New England and touch on some of the local and regional initiatives currently underway.

Moderator:

Ryan Coholan, Chief Operating Officer
Massachusetts Bay Transportation Authority

Panelists from Vermont Agency of Transportation, New Hampshire Department of Transportation, Maine Department of Transportation, and have been invited to participate and will be added as they RSVP.

Confirmed Panelists:

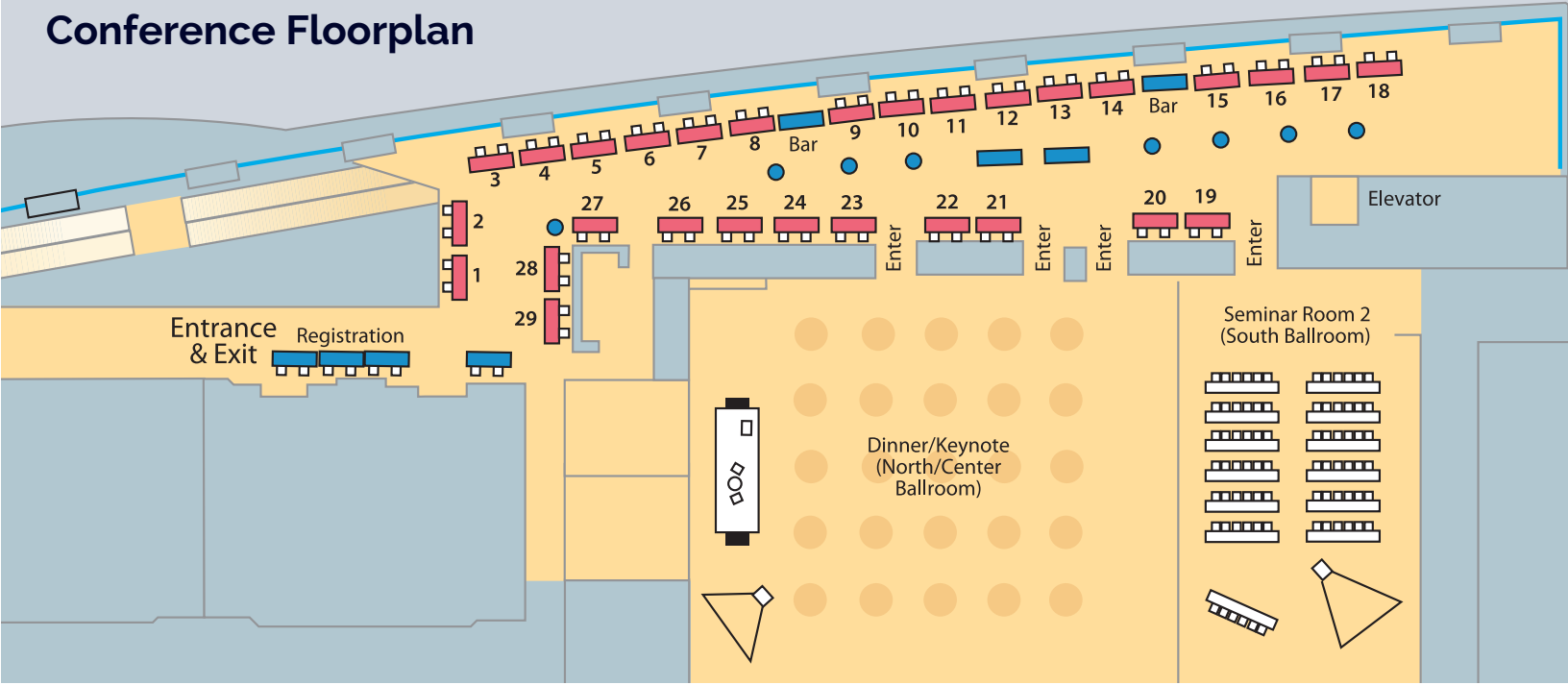
Andrew Koziol, Director of East-West Rail Project
Massachusetts Department of Transportation,
Rail & Transit Division

Pamela Cotter, Administrator of Planning
Rhode Island Department of Transportation

Rich Jankovich, Rail Administrator
Connecticut Department of Transportation
Office of Rail

Visit www.nerailroadclub.com for tickets

Conference Floorplan



Who's Coming...

Attendees

Acorn Engineering
 AECOM
 Amtrak
 ATDA
 Belden
 Bergman Associates
 Colliers Engineering & Design
 Connecticut DOT
 CSX
 Dagle Electrical Construction Corp.
 DC Bates Equipment
 EEC Corporation
 Esri
 Finger Lakes Rail
 FreightCar America
 Genesee & Wyoming
 Grafton & Upton Railroad
 HDR
 HNTB
 Holland LP
 JAB Rail Services
 J. Mikulsky Railway Supply Co.
 Keolis Commuter Services

Loram Maintenance of Way
 Mass DOT
 Maine DOT
 MBTA (Railroad Ops)
 MBTA (Subway Ops)
 MBTA (Engineering & Maintenance)
 Milford-Bennington Railroad Co., Inc.
 National Railway Supply Co.
 Northern Tree
 Powell Electrical Systems
 Rail Safety Technologies
 Railroad Construction Company
 RenStar
 Rhode Island DOT
 Rolling Stock Solutions
 Seaview Transportation Company
 Siemens
 SMART Transportation Division
 SSES Inc.
 StreamlinedDesign
 STV
 T3 Professional Railway Services
 TEC Associates
 TransloadX

Unity Railway Supply & IRECO
 Vermont Rail System
 VHB
 Weston & Sampson
 WJ Riegel Rail Solutions LLC
 WSP
 Yusen Associates
 Zebra Safety Solutions

Exhibitors

2 WSP
 3 MBTA
 6 Operation Lifesaver
 7 Rail Safety Technologies
 8 SSES/Bonomi Group
 9 SICUT North America
 10 ARUP
 11 Colliers Engineering
 14 Yusen Associates
 22 DC Bates
 28 S & C Distribution Company
 29 Transload X

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