

2013 Employees of the Year

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Congratulations on being named a 2013 BNSF Railway Employee of the Year!



Tonight we celebrate your achievements, which reflect what we accomplished together in 2013. The individual and team accomplishments we recognize tonight truly exemplify our Vision, Values, Evidences of Success and Leadership Model, which guide who we are today and who we are striving to become, as a company and as a community.

Together, we faced many challenges in 2013, while we continued to concentrate on our Strategic Focus Areas: people and safety, service, return, franchise and the communities we serve. We also achieved our all-time-best safety performance in frequency and severity. You should be proud of the role you played and know that your contributions made a difference.

The Employees of the Year event was designed to recognize employees who demonstrate BNSF's Vision & Values through their commitment, leadership, and focus on working safely and efficiently to meet our customers' expectations. Tonight we honor 95 representatives from 18 outstanding individual and team achievements selected for recognition.



Also tonight, we recognize 36 leaders who were named Best of the Best for their safety leadership last year. These individuals exhibited exceptional safety focus with teams that demonstrated outstanding safety performance; each of these teams worked all of 2013 with no reportable injuries. These individuals are leading by example and represent the Best of the Best.

In addition, we honor seven Safety Employees of the Year, representing Telecommunications, the Intermodal Business Unit and different segments of Operations. These honorees are recognized for their efforts to improve safety within the industry and their communities.

Collectively, you comprise our 2013 Employees of the Year. Congratulations again, and thank you for making BNSF a leader in the rail industry.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Carl R. Ice', written in a cursive style.

Carl R. Ice

President and CEO



GE C4 Locomotive Issue Resolution

Ryan Baker played a key role in elevating an issue with General Electric (GE) C4 locomotives that was causing reduced velocity and affecting operators' experience. Baker effectively defined the issue, allowing it to be clearly communicated to GE for resolution.

Ryan Baker*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Winslow, Ariz.
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Assisting at the Scene of a Vehicle Crash

While taking a lunch break during a signal installation near Brainerd, Minn., this team assisted at the scene of a head-on collision. They drove by the accident just minutes after it happened and immediately stopped to render aid and contact emergency responders. One accident victim was airlifted from the scene while the other three were transported by ambulance to a local hospital for treatment.

Terry Conley*	Communication/Signal Foreman	Engineering	Omaha, Neb.
Shane Divoll*	Signal Maintainer	Engineering	Lincoln, Neb.
Brandon Eriksen*	Signal Maintainer	Engineering	Lincoln, Neb.
Chris Smith*	Signal Maintainer	Engineering	Omaha, Neb.
Jordan Stutzman	Signal Maintainer	Engineering	Mobile Gang (N.D.)

Development of the High-Lift Track Machine

This 27-member team developed a high-speed track lifting machine using retired equipment from the THS-2000 (tie-handling system equipment). The machine lifts track more than two times higher than a regular tamper and is three times more efficient, greatly reducing the amount of time track is out of service for repair. The team was involved in every aspect of the project, including design, construction and placing the machine into service.

Michael Anderson	Electrical Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Mac Caughey	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Derrick Cherne	Carman	Mechanical	Brainerd, Minn.
Jamie Cole*	Boilermaker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Joe Derosier	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Josh Foote	Boilermaker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Justin Francis	General Laborer	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Scott Herron	Carman	Mechanical	Brainerd, Minn.
Greg Hillman*	Sheet Metal Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Todd Hinch	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Justin Horsman	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Will Horsman*	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Joe Hynes*	Boilermaker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Daaron Johnson*	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Travis Larson	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Mark Mankowski	Electrical Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.

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Dennis Mills*	Mechanical Foreman, Equipment	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Rodney Nelson*	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Glenn Newby*	Planned Maintenance Coordinator	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Jerry Prentice	Electrical Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Corey Rakow	Sheet Metal Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Paul Rudolph*	Machinist	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Michael Schlueter*	Electrical Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Jeff Schurman*	Shop Superintendent	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Bruce Segler	Carman	Mechanical	Brainerd, Minn.
James Teas*	Electrical Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.
Craig Weigel	Sheet Metal Worker	Engineering	Brainerd, Minn.

Casselton Derailment and Fire Response

This team went above and beyond when responding to a crude oil unit train derailment on Dec. 30, 2013, near Casselton, N.D. The collision occurred when the train struck railcars that had derailed from a grain train on the adjacent track. Eighteen of the tanker cars were punctured in the incident, resulting in a major fire, which added to the complexity of the response. The employees' actions helped reduce the potential consequences of the incident.

Geoff Andersen*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Bruce Anderson*	Conductor	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Thomas Cooks*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Minot, N.D.
Ron Davis	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Paul Douglas*	Road Foreman of Engines	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Nick O'Connell*	Trainmaster	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Gary Rosenfeldt*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.

Improving Capacity and Velocity between Minot and Dilworth

This 26-person team developed and implemented a train crew familiarization program for an alternate route for rail traffic between Minot, N.D., and Dilworth, Minn. This new route improved capacity and velocity in the area, currently one of the busiest stretches of track on the network.

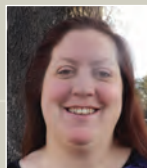
Scott Boser*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Minot, N.D.
Duane Buckley*	Assistant Superintendent, Corridor Operations II	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Dave Dannewitz*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Minot, N.D.



Bruce Anderson



Rick Batten



Stacey Benningfield



Gerald Breeden



Kevin Burrin



Marcus Clay

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Ron Davis*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Jake Demarais	Trainmaster	Transportation	Grand Forks, N.D.
Paul Douglas	Road Foreman of Engines	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Mark Fleet Jr.	Manager, Corridor Operations I	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Chad Fossen	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Dave Johannes	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Minot, N.D.
Shawn Koppelman	Road Foreman of Engines	Transportation	Aberdeen, S.D.
Mike Lund*	Superintendent, Operating Practices	Transportation	Minneapolis
Zane Mai	Manager, Corridor Operations I	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Jenny Martin*	Manager, Crew Management	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Reginald Means	Manager, Corridor Operations I	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Brandon Moonen	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Northome, Minn.
Chadd Nelson	Road Foreman of Engines	Transportation	Superior, Wis.
Mike Propeck*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Erik Rasmussen	Manager, Corridor Operations I	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Gary Rosenfeldt	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Jan Ruby	Superintendent, Corridor Operations II	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Tracey Sanders	Supervisor, Service Scheduling	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
Gregory Seiffert	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Minot, N.D.
Lance Staus	Road Foreman of Engines	Transportation	Minneapolis
Dawn Thompson*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Dilworth, Minn.
Baron Vonharz II	Trainmaster/Road Foreman of Engines	Transportation	Grand Forks, N.D.
Joseph Waruimbo	Conductor	Transportation	Northome, Minn.

Heroic Efforts Following a Tornado

These employees assisted individuals in their community in the aftermath of the tornado that struck Moore, Okla., on May 20, 2013. They also worked diligently to get BNSF track back in working order, restoring train operations in the area.

Gerald Breeden*	Supervisor, Signal	Engineering	Oklahoma City
Scott Briggs*	Special Agent in Charge	Resource Protection	Haslet, Texas
Jerry Goodwin	Special Agent I	Resource Protection	Oklahoma City
Michael Orlikowski*	Terminal Manager	Transportation	Oklahoma City
Kellen Smith*	Manager, Operations Service Excellence	Transportation	Haslet, Texas
Paul Stephens	Gang/Section Foreman	Engineering	Mobile Gang (Okla.)
Steven Tyler	Gang/Section Foreman	Engineering	Guthrie, Okla.
Dave Webb	Signal Maintainer	Engineering	Oklahoma City
Wally Woxland	Chief Dispatcher	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas

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Safety Excellence in 2013

The Powder River Division Safety Coordinator team helped TY&E (train, yard and engine) employees across the division realize an all-time-best division Transportation reportable-frequency ratio and total injury-frequency ratio.

Jan Abel*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Greybull, Wyo.
Rick Batten*	Yardmaster	Transportation	Lincoln, Neb.
Pat Engebrecht*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	La Junta, Colo.
Michael LaCrue*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Trinidad, Colo.
Brad Merriman*	Locomotive Engineer	Transportation	Edgemont, S.D.
Steve Waller*	Brakeman	Transportation	Sterling, Colo.

Implementing Crude-by-Rail Customer Tools

This team developed and implemented a suite of tools for BNSF crude-by-rail customers. They improved the current suite of tools, adding new functionality that leads the industry, and worked with customers to implement these solutions.

Rick Anderson	Consulting Systems Developer I	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Michael Burch	Senior Manager, Performance Systems	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
Jackie Crouch*	Project Manager	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
Allison Freeman*	Senior Manager	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
Shane Markham	Manager, Sales	Industrial Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Warrick Nance Jr.*	Director	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
John Stonecipher*	Consulting Systems Developer I	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas

Successfully Locating a Crude Unit Train Facility

This team successfully negotiated a long-term contract with the True Companies to move unit trains of crude oil originating at Fort Laramie, Wyo. The contract, which will be worth nearly \$2 billion in revenue over the next 10 years, strengthens BNSF's position in the crude oil market and helps protect the company's Bakken franchise.

Shane Markham*	Manager, Sales	Industrial Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Charley Moore	Director, Sales	Consumer Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Patrick Moynihan	Director, Marketing	Industrial Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Iram Rahmatullah*	Manager, Marketing	Industrial Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Jesus Uribes*	Manager, Marketing	Industrial Products	Fort Worth, Texas



Jamie Cole



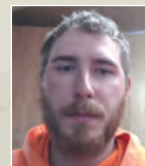
Terry Conley



Ron Davis



LaDonna DiCamillo



Shane Divoll



Paul Douglas

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Securing New Automotive Business

This team secured a seven-year contract with Chrysler worth \$1.5 billion in revenue. They identified the opportunity, built a solid business relationship, worked to understand the carmaker's needs and created a successful proposal, achieving the first significant new business opportunity in the Automotive group in a number of years.

Bryon Arita	Manager, Product Planning & Development	Consumer Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Todd Glissman	Director, Intermodal/Automotive Operations	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
Kevin Karkkainen*	Senior Manager	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
Dan Meyers*	Director, Intermodal/Automotive Operations	Business Unit Operations	Fort Worth, Texas
Lindsey O'Connor*	Project Manager, Strategic Studies	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Jim Pang	Director, System Hub Operations	Business Unit Operations	Fort Worth, Texas
Laura Pomerville*	Director, Sales	Consumer Products	Plymouth, Mich.
Cory Thomas*	Director, Strategic Studies	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Morgan Weber*	Project Manager, Marketing	Consumer Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Adam Weiskittel*	Senior General Attorney I	Law and Corporate Affairs	Fort Worth, Texas

Slover Land Acquisition

This team identified, facilitated and negotiated the purchase of 649 acres of property near Colton, Calif. The property, which is strategically located and can be used for multiple purposes, greatly supports BNSF's growth in a crucial area in the Inland Empire.

Kevin Burrin*	Director	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Sandra Bye*	Director, Acquisitions	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Matt Graham*	Director, Environmental Project Controls	Environmental	Fort Worth, Texas
John Hovland*	Director, Marketing Facility Development	Business Unit Operations	Fort Worth, Texas

Leveraging Fuel-Equalization Technology

Over the past several years, BNSF has improved its locomotive fleet by adding electronic fuel tank gauges with remote monitoring and reporting capabilities. A cross-functional team developed programs to leverage this technology to evaluate fuel equalization for traffic interchanged with partner railroads. As a result, BNSF will save approximately \$25 million annually.

John Barnard*	Director, Fueling Operations	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Stacey Benningfield*	Assistant Manager, Fuel Management	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Celeste Holland*	Analyst	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Joe Johnston*	Manager, Locomotive Utilization	Transportation	Fort Worth, Texas
Susan Odom*	Manager, Contracts & Joint Facility	Environmental	Fort Worth, Texas
Kevin Pitsch*	Senior Manager, Performance Systems	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas
Kevin Potts*	Senior Systems Developer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Kristi Radford*	Director, Planning & Forecasting	Marketing Support	Fort Worth, Texas
Ryan Reese	Senior Manager	Service Design	Fort Worth, Texas

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SCIG EIR and 50-Year Lease

This cross-functional team contributed directly to the successful certification and approval of the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for a near-dock intermodal facility at the San Pedro Bay ports and the negotiation of the 50-year lease for approximately 100 acres with the Port of Los Angeles. Once constructed, Southern California International Gateway (SCIG) will be the greenest intermodal facility in the U.S.

Kevin Burrin	Director	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Sandra Bye	Director, Acquisitions	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Brian Decker*	Director, Marketing Facility Development	Business Unit Operations	Fort Worth, Texas
LaDonna DiCamillo*	Executive Director	State Government Affairs	Los Angeles
James FitzGerald*	Program Manager	Business Unit Operations	Fort Worth, Texas
Mark Ganaway*	Director, Marketing	Consumer Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Matt Graham	Director, Environmental Project Controls	Environmental	Fort Worth, Texas
R.D. Griffith	Director, Accounting	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Marjorie Hensleigh	Senior Manager, Accounting	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
John Hovland	Director, Marketing Facility Development	Business Unit Operations	Fort Worth, Texas
Trini M. Jimenez*	Director	State Government Affairs	Los Angeles
James Johansson*	Regional Director, Hub and Facility Operations	Business Unit Operations	Los Angeles
Lena Kent*	Regional Director, Public Affairs II	Corporate Relations	San Bernardino, Calif.
Jennifer Lee	Manager, Marketing Facility Development	Business Unit Operations	Fort Worth, Texas
Keith Miller	Superintendent, Operations II	Transportation	Wilmington, Calif.
Ben Murray*	Director, Marketing	Industrial Products	Fort Worth, Texas
Scott Murray	Manager, Marketing	Coal	Fort Worth, Texas
Cory Thomas	Director, Strategic Studies	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas

Insourcing GE Locomotive Maintenance

This team negotiated and implemented a \$1.8-billion, multi-year agreement for technical support and maintenance materials parts pricing for GE locomotives in BNSF's maintained fleet. The agreement also insources locomotive maintenance as part of a key improvement initiative, offering increased flexibility and helping BNSF realize significant savings.

Zachary Abel*	Attorney I	Law and Corporate Affairs	Fort Worth, Texas
Steve Brannan*	Manager II, Mechanical Locomotive Maintenance Contract	Mechanical	Fort Worth, Texas
Kenny Compton	Manager I	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
David Gelande*	Director	Strategic Sourcing & Supply	Fort Worth, Texas



Brandon Eriksen



Matt Graham



Rex Hayter



Celeste Holland



Trini M. Jimenez



Lena Kent

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Paul Kuhn	Director, Strategic Studies	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Sonya Lovejoy	Manager II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Tim Meyers*	Manager	Strategic Sourcing & Supply	Fort Worth, Texas
Abid Raza*	Project Manager, Strategic Studies	Finance	Fort Worth, Texas
Jim Stenger*	Director, Locomotive Maintenance & Reliability	Mechanical	Fort Worth, Texas
Chad Thompson*	Director, Locomotive Maintenance & Reliability	Mechanical	Fort Worth, Texas

Transition Rail Cost Reduction

Transition rail is a specialized type of rail that connects—or transitions—from one rail size to another. This team cut the cost of transition rail for maintenance and rail replacement projects by \$2 million annually by purchasing rail directly and paying to have it machined or milled rather than purchasing the already-milled product from a supplier. They also realized savings by transporting large storehouse orders of transition rail by train, eliminating third-party trucking expenses.

Bill Haralson	Manager	Strategic Sourcing & Supply	Springfield, Mo.
Rex Hayter*	Supervisor, Rail Complex	Engineering	Pueblo, Colo.
Robert Johnson	Senior Analyst	Strategic Sourcing & Supply	Springfield, Mo.
Michael McClary*	Manager	Strategic Sourcing & Supply	Fort Worth, Texas
Ace Spriggs*	Manager, Rail Complex	Engineering	Pueblo, Colo.
Jennifer Walsh	Manager	Strategic Sourcing & Supply	Fort Worth, Texas

Implementation of the ClassOne Dispatchers System

This three-person team made significant contributions to the implementation of the ClassOne dispatchers system, a project more than a decade in the making. The team implemented the new communication system for more than 100 dispatching positions, putting dispatchers on one voice control system—a first since the 1995 BNSF merger. The system gives dispatchers improved functionality and more flexibility in reroute capabilities, while laying a foundation for continued updates.

Marcus Clay*	Consulting Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Steven Muhr*	Consulting Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Darrell Pointer*	Consulting Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas

STARC Digital Radio Repeater Deployment

This team deployed the STARC digital radio repeater system, which provides increased radio connectivity and improved user flexibility. Additional benefits include increased portability and the option to enable features based on specific group requirements. First deployed at Hobart Yard in Los Angeles, the technology has now been installed at several facilities across the system.

Bill Barbour	Communication/Signal Foreman	Technology Services	Los Angeles
Mac Cabrera	Electrician	Technology Services	Los Angeles
Nick Chubb	Electrician	Technology Services	Kansas City, Kan.
Tony Guerrero*	Telecomm Maintenance Manager II	Technology Services	Los Angeles
Bob Leedham*	Consulting Systems Engineer I	Technology Services	Kansas City, Kan.

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Mike Paulus	Electrician	Technology Services	Los Angeles
Paul Taylor	Electrician	Technology Services	Los Angeles
Ryan Walvoord	Communication/Signal Foreman	Technology Services	Los Angeles
Roy Ward*	Communication/Signal Foreman	Technology Services	Kansas City, Kan.

MPLS Black Hole Solution Implementation

This team developed a process to protect BNSF from recent TELCO (Ethernet system) carrier events known as MPLS (Multiprotocol Label Switching) black holes. These events caused the failure of data delivery to critical applications, significantly impacting the business and requiring time-consuming, manual resolution. Notably, the team's solution was developed and implemented in only 10 business days.

Doug Baxter	Consulting Systems Engineer I	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Richard Farry*	Consulting Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Jerry Fuselier	Consulting Systems Engineer I	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Michael Griffin*	Consulting Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Christopher Rittenour*	Senior Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Rob Rutledge	Consulting Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Mike Satchell	Consulting Systems Engineer II	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
Don Schroer*	Senior Consulting Systems Engineer	Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas



Michael LaCrue



Bob Leedham



Brad Merriman



Steven Muhr



Darrell Pointer



Mike Propeck



Kristi Radford



Gary Rosenfeldt



Dawn Thompson



Roy Ward

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2013 Employees of the Year | Best of the Best

These individuals are being recognized for their outstanding safety leadership, with work teams that achieved exceptional safety performance in 2013. Each work group was injury-free.

Transportation

Jon Bonnar	Terminal Superintendent I	San Bernardino, Calif.
Christopher DeLargy	Terminal Superintendent I	Vancouver, Wash.
Dave DeVault	Terminal Superintendent II	Tulsa, Okla.
Tony Fulton	Terminal Superintendent II	Galesburg, Ill.
Darren Hale	Terminal Superintendent II	Dayton, Texas
Scott Hendrickson	Terminal Superintendent I	Memphis, Tenn.
Kyle E. James	Terminal Superintendent I	Temple, Texas
Keith Miller	Superintendent, Operations II	Wilmington, Calif.
Bret Winters	Terminal Superintendent II	Denver

Mechanical

Dave Bertholf	General Foreman I	Seattle
Andy Callahan	Manager II, Service Excellence	Denver
Carlos Canchola	General Foreman II	Minneapolis
Roman Cisneros	General Foreman II	Haslet, Texas
Jack Frank	General Foreman II	Cicero, Ill.
Mike Hale	General Foreman I	Superior, Wis.
Sherwin Hudson	Shop Superintendent I	Lincoln, Neb.
Dale Larsen	General Foreman I	Vancouver, Wash.
Harold Lederer	General Foreman II	Richmond, Calif.
Denny Luft	General Foreman II	Springfield, Mo.



Greg Britz



John Christensen



Dave DeVault

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Aaron Marshall	General Foreman II	Temple, Texas
Dave Moreno	Shop Superintendent I	Havre, Mont.
Jack Murray	General Foreman I	Havre, Mont.
Larry Perez	General Foreman I	Clovis, N.M.
Mark Riley	General Foreman I	Newton, Kan.
Brandon Schwartz	General Foreman II	Seattle
Charles Sherrill	General Foreman II	Barstow, Calif.

Engineering

John Christensen	Manager, Structures	Fort Madison, Iowa
Bill Cruttenden	Manager, Signal	Seattle
Scott Hawthorne	Manager, Roadway Equipment	Kansas City, Kan.
P.J. Lovato	Manager, Signal	Albuquerque, N.M.
Rob Millinder	Manager, Signal	Kansas City, Kan.
Joe Moore	Manager, Signal	Gillette, Wyo.
Paul Robinson	Manager, Signal	Fort Worth, Texas
Dennis Skeels	Manager, Signal	San Bernardino, Calif.
Russ Sweet	Manager, Signal	Lincoln, Neb.

Telecommunications

Greg Britz	Director, Technology Services	Fort Worth, Texas
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Jack Frank



Scott Hendrickson



Denny Luft

George Eaton South Region



George Eaton, conductor, Haslet, Texas, joined BNSF in 2003 and immediately became a major contributor to the Texas Division's success. He helped create "New Hire Family Night"

and produced several videos that have been used in the division's Enhanced Safety Training (EST) class. He is chairman of the site safety team for the Fort Worth-Madill, Okla., crew base, as well as a United Transportation Union local chairman. George is also the new-hire conductor training coordinator, an EST/Approaching Others About Safety facilitator and has assisted the division with developing a new timetable and industry playbooks.

Jason Harris Telecommunications



Jason Harris, electronic technician, Memphis, Tenn., joined BNSF in 2006. His approach to safety was shaped in part by his earlier career with the Air Force as well as

his leadership in BNSF's Memphis Diversity Council, both of which encourage peer-to-peer communication. Today, he works with employees from all crafts and from across a broad region, and when the Springfield Division needed input from a Telecommunications employee for its safety plan, Jason was tapped to represent his team. Most recently he has volunteered to train co-workers in Approaching Others About Safety.

Phillip Gabel Central Region



Amarillo, Texas, Locomotive Engineer Phillip Gabel has been a leader of the Trinidad, Colo., site safety team for five years. He and the team have developed many programs that

have been so successful locally that they have been implemented across the entire Powder River Division – and some have been elevated to the System Safety level. In addition, Phillip serves on the division's Leadership Advisory Team as a labor representative. He previously served on the Kansas Division as an Enhanced Safety Training facilitator. Phillip has been with BNSF since 1996.

Steve Jewell System Engineering



Steve Jewell joined BNSF in 2002 and today is a signal maintainer on a complex territory that covers 70 miles of busy BNSF main line as well as the line to Phoenix.

His duties include maintaining the crossings at Williams, Ariz., home to the Grand Canyon Railway, ensuring the crossing signs there are highly visible and the gates in working order. He looks out for the safety of the general public as well as his co-workers, frequently mentors new hires and is considered the "go-to guy" for job safety briefings.

Michael Lunak North Region



Grand Forks, N.D., Locomotive Engineer Michael Lunak joined BNSF in 1970. In recent years, he has created storybooks to familiarize train crews with new territory. He takes

the existing hand-sketched storybooks and transforms them on his computer; his work is highly detailed, precise and informative, and supports safe operations. He also uses his skills on signal awareness forms. Outside of work, Michael frequently makes Operation Lifesaver presentations in the community.

Joe Sypal System Mechanical



In 2006, Joe Sypal was a carman apprentice at the Havelock Shops in Lincoln, Neb. Almost immediately, he demonstrated safety leadership by joining Havelock's site safety team.

Before long, he was voted co-chair, and today he is the Havelock safety assistant and leads the shop's Work Practice Observation Program. Joe not only helps with the Approaching Others About Safety training at the shop, he's provided feedback on the guide, training course and video used by System Safety. He also has an influence on safety on a system-wide basis as co-chair of System Mechanical's safety team.

Matthew Thomas Intermodal Business Unit Operations



Matthew Thomas, crane operator at Chicago's Corwith intermodal hub, has been in the business for 20 years, 17 with a service partner and three as a BNSF employee. Safety has

been important throughout his career, but when the hub experienced an increase in incidents three years ago, Matthew joined the local employee involvement team, which focuses on training and understanding risks associated with every task and how to eliminate them. The program had an influence as hub incidents were reduced. Today Matthew is one of the intermodal team's facilitators for the Approaching Others About Safety training.

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