



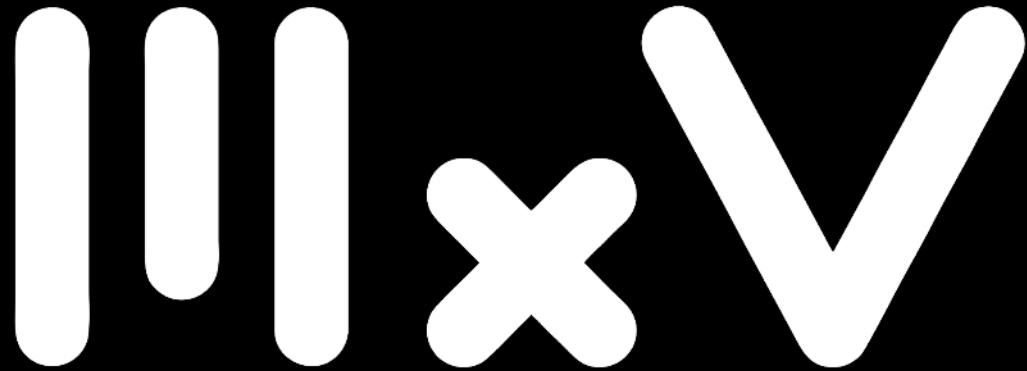
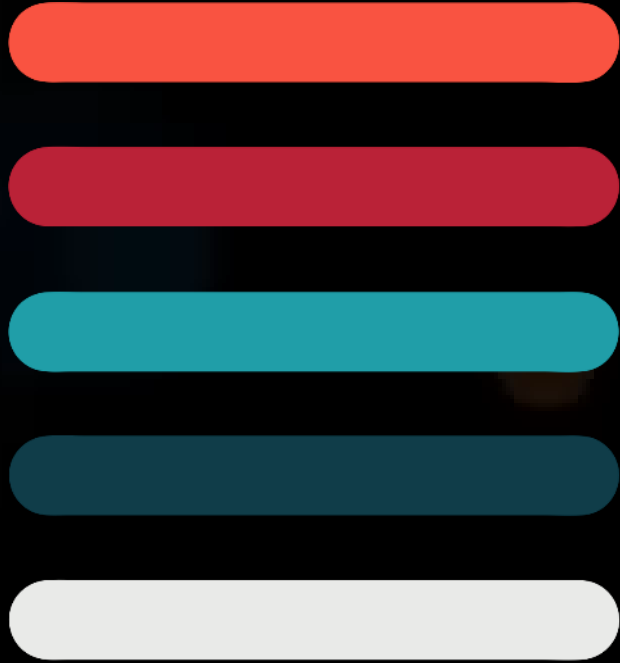
Quality Assurance Auditors & Industry Conference  
February 2023 | New Orleans



# MxV Rail Update

Kari Gonzales  
President & CEO

*MxV Rail is a subsidiary of the Association of American Railroads*



M x V R A I L

MOMENTUM | INSIGHT | TEAMWORK | RIGOR | PURPOSE



Always  
moving forward.

TESTING



CONSULTING



TRAINING



STANDARDS



RESEARCH



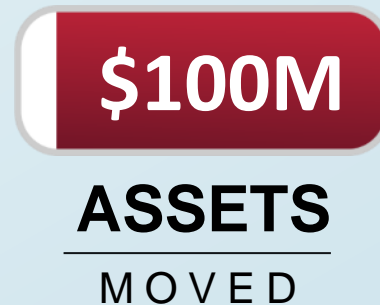


# Moving our legacy

↑ Former test site 12 mi.



4/15





# Enhanced Laboratory Environment

Damage  
Prevention  
Testing



Rolling Contact Fatigue Simulator



Cold Room



Load Cell Calibration Unit







# SERTC Training Space





# SERTC Training Grounds





# On-Track Testing Assets

## High Speed Loop

- 5.8 miles
- Class 6 track
- 110 mph tangent
- 65-69 mph curves
- 6-in. superelevation
- 2° 41 ft. to 3°

## Suspension Resonance Track

- Siding to HSL
- 3.4 miles
- 75 mph through perturbed test zones
- Pitch & Bounce, Twist & Roll, Yaw & Sway

## Curving Performance Track

- 2.15 mi.
- Curves of 3, 4, 5, 7.5, 10, & 12 degrees
- 34 mph

## FAST Loop

- 3.3 miles, 2.8 mi. main loop
- Self-contained
- Two loops:
  - Mainline outer loop
  - Mainline with bypass



# High Speed Loop (HSL)



## High Speed Loop

- Construction commenced: June 2022
- Construction completed: November 2022
- First customer testing: December 2022



# AAR Strategic Research Initiative Program



## Build Exemplary Teams and Facilities

### Empower Science-Based Solutions

- Identify and evaluate technologies
- Demonstrate understanding of root causes
- Support implementation
- Communicate findings



### Safety

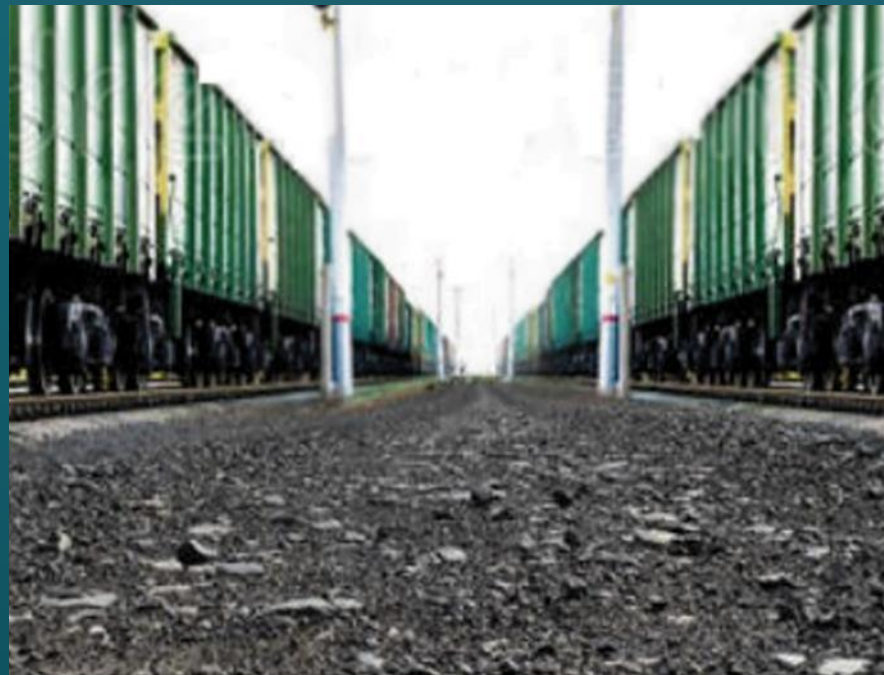
Reduce track and equipment-related derailments

### Reliability

Reduce/eliminate service interruptions

### Efficiency

Increase productivity, reduce costs



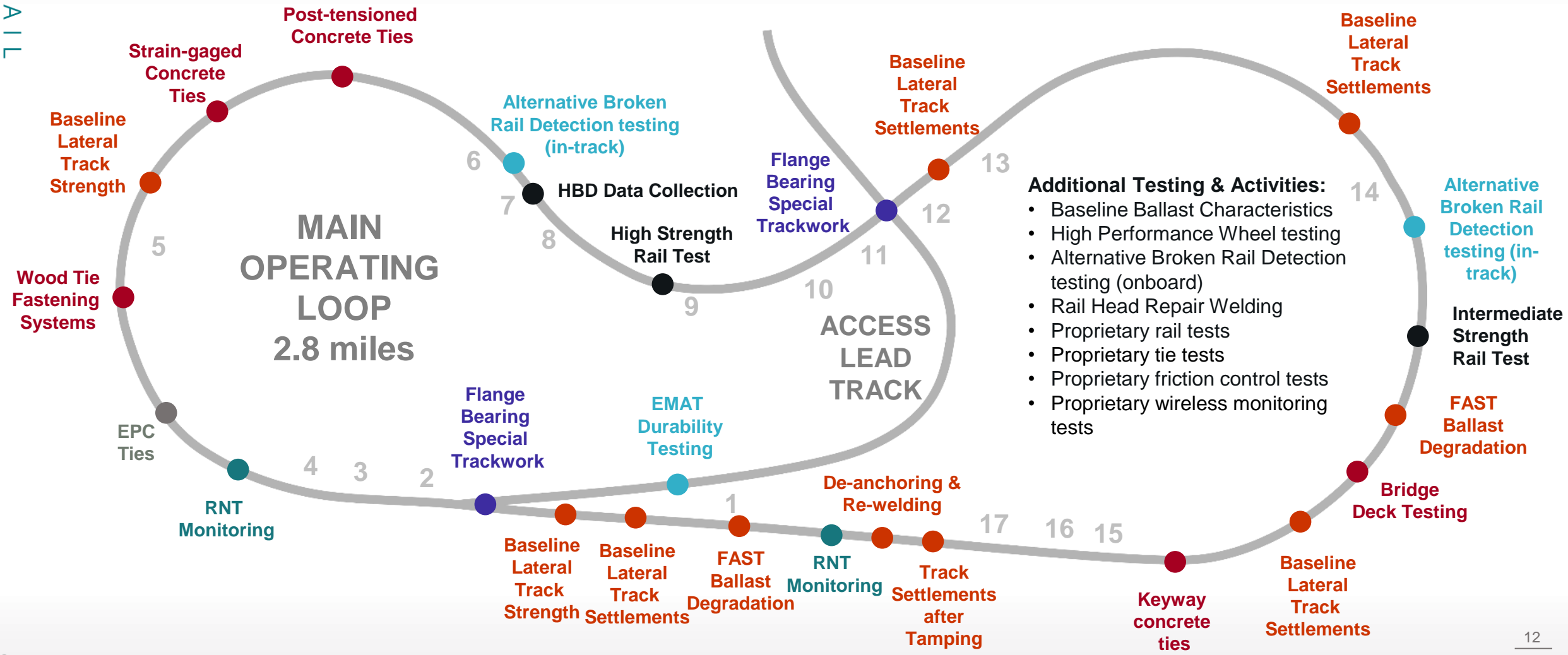
## Program Design & Approval Process

- Driven by industry input
- Safety and operational trends considered
- Projects/budgets approved by:
  - AAR Research Committee
  - AAR Safety and Operations Management Committee (SOMC)
  - AAR Board of Directors



# FAST Loop

- The industry's infrastructure and mechanical test bed
- Expected to be operational in late summer
- Over 28 experiments planned for 2023







RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS:

# Track Buckle Prevention



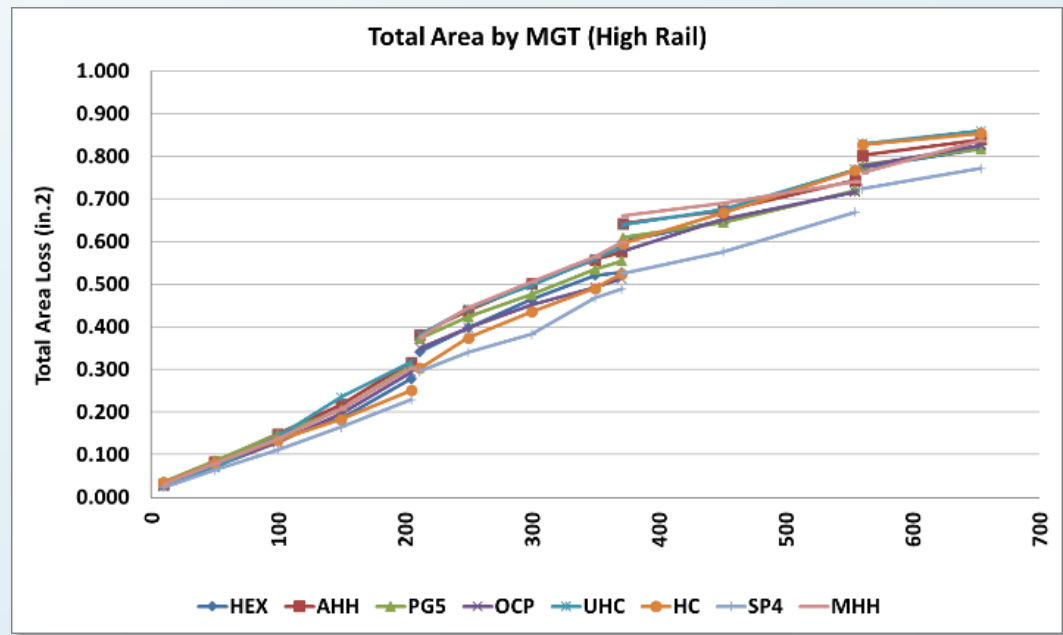
- **Lowered RNT to 40°F, skeletonized track, and induced rail running with burn ropes**
  - 1 1/4-inch buckle (1/4" initial misalignment) after rail temp reached 80 degrees above RNT
  - 30-inch buckle (1 1/4" initial misalignment) after rail temp reached 74 degrees above RNT



# RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS: Rail Performance

Testing began in 2018, concluding after 654 MGT

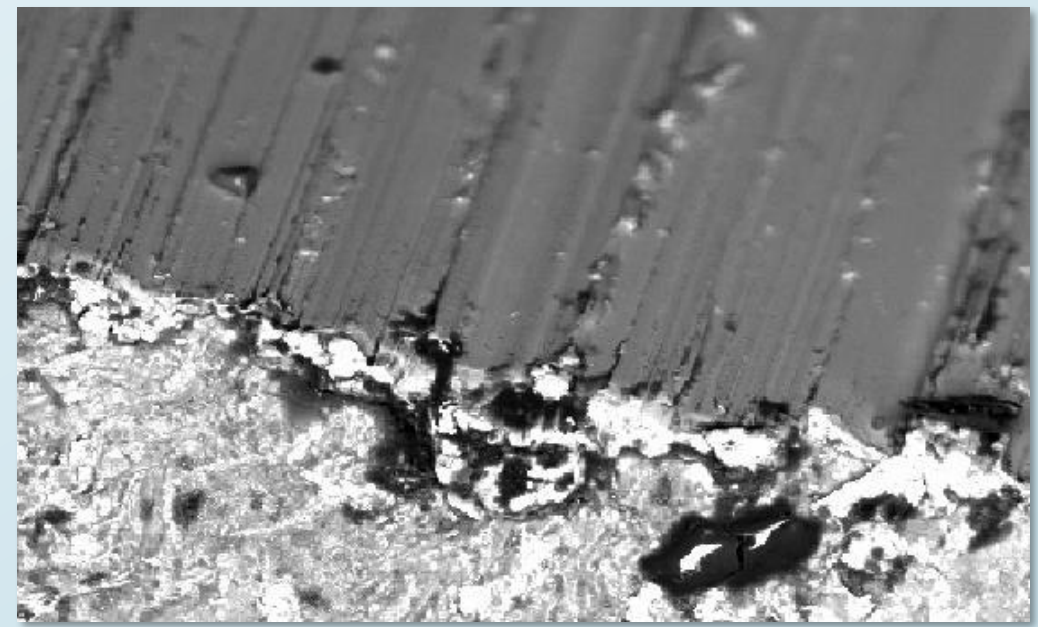
## High Strength (HS) Rail Tests



No internal defects found in rails, one electric flash butt (EFB) weld failure at 210 MGT

Testing began in 2021, 283 MGT accumulated  
Moving to new FAST loop in 2023

## Intermediate Strength (IS) Rail Tests



One base break in low rail at 228 MGT and one EFB weld developed a web defect





RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS:

# Draft & Coupling Systems

- EOC Energy Management Task Force on potential standard development
- Conduct slack action tests to evaluate in-train performance
- Impact tests with Damage Prevention and Loading Services Group





RESEARCH HIGHLIGHTS:

# Communications & Train Control

## MxV Rail Core Functions

**INDUSTRY  
RESEARCH**

**INDUSTRY  
TECHNICAL  
SUPPORT**

**COMMERCIAL  
SUPPORT**

## Industry Focus Areas

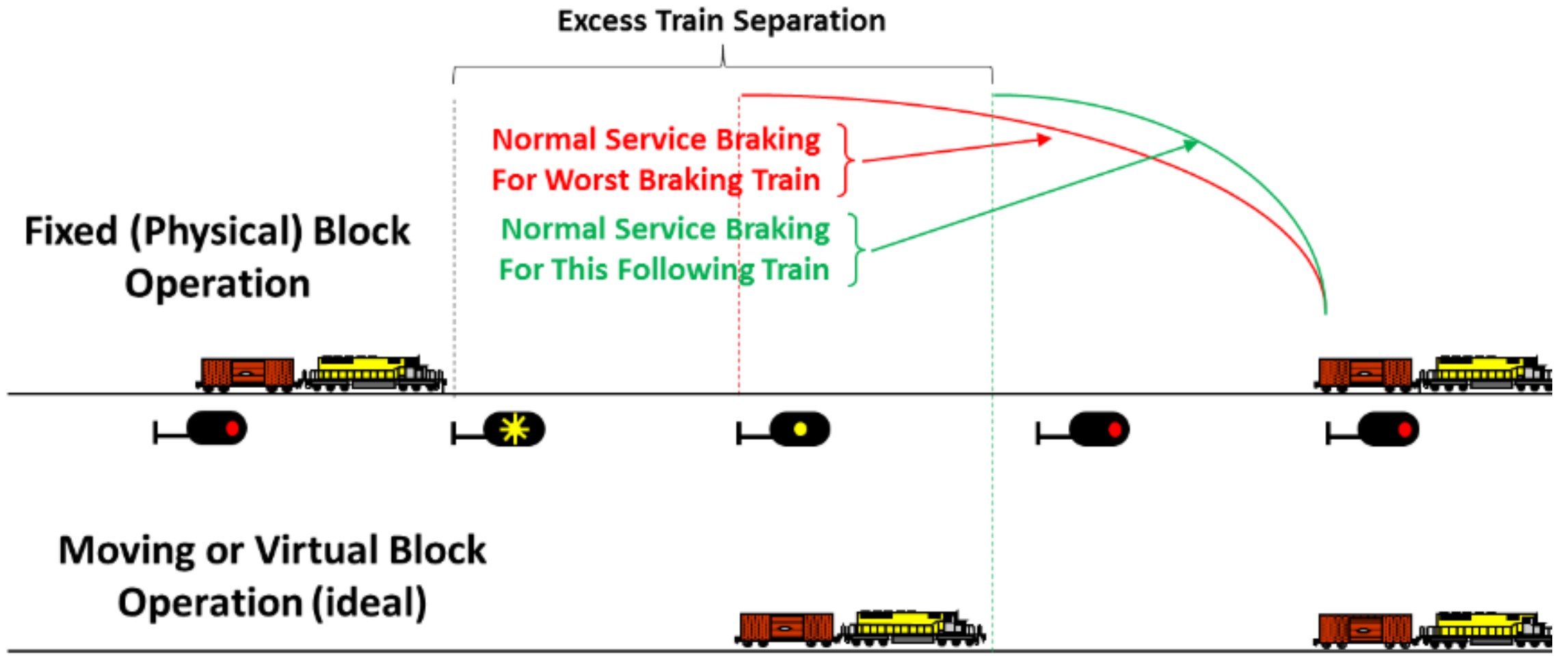
**Address  
Operational  
Issues  
Resulting  
from PTC**

**Address  
Train Control  
Technology  
Lifecycle  
Implications**

**Leverage  
Technology  
for Advanced  
Operations**



# Higher Reliability & Capacity Train Control





*Save the date*

28th Annual Association of American Railroads

# RESEARCH REVIEW

June 26-28 | Pueblo, CO



# *Thank you*



ASSOCIATION OF  
AMERICAN RAILROADS