Risk Reduction Program

Railroad Safety Advisory Committee
October 25, 2007

FRA Office of Safety
FRA Office of Research and Development
Objectives

- Provide a broad overview of FRA’s Risk Reduction Program
- Describe on-going RRP initiatives
- Discuss Next Steps
RRP Overview

- What is RRP?
- Why is this Program Being Created?
Readiness for Change in U.S. Railroad Industry

- 80,000 new employees to be hired in next 5 years: labor, management, senior leaders
- Strong organizational culture
- Recognition of need and opportunity for change
FRA History

- November 2005—Administrator requested VPP review
- FRA committee conducted review of VPP programs
- Conclusion: VPP concepts valid, but customized program needed for FRA
What is RRP?

**Definition**: An FRA-led industry-wide initiative to reduce accidents and injuries, and build strong safety cultures, by developing innovative methods, processes, and technologies to identify and correct individual and systemic contributing factors using “upstream” predictive data.
Vision

- Better management and use of precursor (predictive) data not just reactive data

- A safety learning culture that allows open disclosure about safety without fear
Basic Concepts of RRP

- Commitment from all stakeholders
- Systematic and objective data gathering, analysis, and reporting
- Problem solving and corrective action
- Long-term sustaining mechanisms
Why Is This Program Being Created?

Accident/Incident Rate Plateau

- Over 50% reduction from 1977-85
- Little change from 1985 to present
How to Reduce Accidents: Create Learning Culture

- Errors
- Working conditions
- Organizational factors
An Overall View

Reactive Risk Management Systems

- Reportable Accidents
- Accountable Accidents
- RR Records
- FRA Database

Proactive Risk Management

- Inspections and Audits
- Close Calls
- At-risk Behaviors
- Organizational/Workplace Factors
- Leadership Factors
- Leadership Training
- Culture Surveys
- CSA
- C3RS
- 225’s
How We Will Do This

Continue to strengthen regulatory enforcement approaches while adding complementary non-enforcement approaches
Example RRP Initiatives

- Confidential Close Call Reporting System
- Clear Signal Action (CSA)
  - UP CAB and STEEL processes
  - Amtrak Station Services
- Canadian Pacific ISROP
- Track joint bar inspection system
- Track Quality Index (TQI)
- Fatigue Risk Management Systems

CSA is FRA’s term for behavior-based accident prevention combined with continuous improvement and safety leadership
Design and Implementation Process

- Roles and Responsibilities
- Timeline
- Current Status
Structure of RRP
Decision-Making Groups

- Preliminary Planning Team
- FRA Executive Steering Committee
- FRA Working Group
- Industry Ad-Hoc Workshop Planning Group/Industry Working Group
Relationship of Decision-Making Groups

- FRA Executive Steering Committee (ESC)
  - Guidance and oversight
- FRA Working Group
  - Analysis, planning, and implementation
- Industry Working Group
  - Information, review, feedback, and implementation
- FRA Working Group Task Teams
Evaluation Logic Model:
FRA and Industry Change Over Time

- Organizational change at FRA
- RRP acceptance in railroads and FRA
- Implementation pilot
- Railroads generate solutions
  - 50% safety improvement
  - More productivity
  - Better public relations
- "Quick hit" improvements
- Sustainment

RRP Development
- Com. plan
- Steering Committee
- Governance
- Others

Policy / legislative environment
Influence other railroads

2008 2010 2013
Evaluation Logic Model:
Multiple Innovations, Same Long Term Impact

- FRA oversight
- RRP Pilot #1 C³RS + normal RR operations
  - Environmental factors
- Intermediate outcomes A, B, C

- FRA oversight
- RRP Pilot #2 BBS + normal RR operations
  - Environmental factors
- Intermediate outcomes C, D, E

- FRA oversight
- RRP Pilots 3, 4, 5... + normal RR operations
  - Environmental factors
- Intermediate outcomes C, F, G

Saftey

Safety culture

Productivity
Current Status of RRP Activities

- Created background Documents
- Conducted Stakeholder interviews
- Preparing White Paper on RRP
- Convened Executive Steering Committee
- Planning workshops
RRP Next Steps

- Learn from Railroad Experiences
  - Best Practices
  - Lessons Learned
    - Please help identify points of contact
- Identify and Remediate Barriers
- Plan Workshop
- Initiate Search for Pilot Projects
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Questions?