



JIM HANSEN

Chairman, National Railroad Construction and Maintenance Association (NRC)



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Save the date for May 13: The 17th Annual NRC Railroad Equipment Auction

The NRC's Annual Railroad Equipment Auction is one of my favorite industry events. Maybe it is because everyone involved comes out a winner. Railroads and contractors have a convenient way to recoup money for unneeded equipment, and others can easily find bargains to augment their fleet. More importantly, the NRC generates invaluable funds for resources that improve safety across the entire industry. Proceeds from the NRC's annual equipment auction fund our safety training video collection as well as safety programs for our membership. It's a win-win-win.

Everyone was disappointed last year when we had to cancel the 2020 auction due to the COVID-19 pandemic. But the NRC sees blue skies ahead. The 2021 Annual NRC Railroad Equipment Auction—the 17th in our history dating back to 2004—is set for May 13, 2021.

RELAM's Chief Operating Officer Danny Brown heads up the NRC's Auction Committee. Brown confirms the upcoming auction will be worth the wait and will produce some other unexpected wins, too.

Here's what you need to know:

Virtual—This year's auction will be virtual and administered by experienced auctioneers Blackmon Auctions. They've had great success in the past year with virtual auctions. The good news is, with this approach, sellers can avoid the time and expense of shipping items to the auction site. In some instances, sellers may be able to accommodate in-person inspections. Please refer to the NRC website—www.nrcma.org/nrc-events—for updates and instructions.

Big—Based on feedback from potential sellers, we anticipate a large auction inventory due to pent-up demand from last year. Many contractors are looking to get under-utilized equipment off their books. Expect hi-rail trucks, tampers, rail cranes, tie/rail gang equipment, new and used parts, and much more.

Easy—The virtual approach means all the information is at your fingertips with no additional travel or expense required.

Act now—The NRC is already taking consignments and donations. To consign or donate equipment and parts, please contact Danny Brown at dbrown@relaminc.com and Mike McGonagle, the NRC's senior director of operations, at mmcgonagle@nrcma.org.

The NRC is all about making positive industry connections. The annual auction brings together buyers and sellers for their mutual benefit. But best of all, the auction makes our industry safer. It has empowered the NRC to invest more than \$250,000 since 2004 to produce more than 30 high-quality safety training videos and produce training resources and templates relevant to our membership, such as the NRC's CFR Part 243 Minimum Training Standards templates.

The NRC is off to a strong start in 2021. Thanks to everyone's involvement and support of the NRC's Annual Railroad Equipment Auction, it's sure to be a winner.

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