



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### TRB PUBLISHES ARTICLE BY PHIL DAUM ON RISK MITIGATION IN THE RAIL TRANSPORT OF HAZARDOUS MATERIALS



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**AURORA, IL** – September 14, 2014. High profile train derailments have helped to spotlight the importance of implementing robust strategies for managing risk when transporting hazardous materials, including flammable liquids such as crude oil and ethanol. Ensuring the safe transport of these materials by rail requires extensive coordination between chemical/ energy producers, shippers, tank car suppliers, railroads, and regulatory agencies. ESI Principal Philip J. Daum, P.E. explores the contributions of cooperative research projects to the safe transport of these important energy commodities in his article, “Energy Transportation Safety on the Rails: Historical Perspectives on Applied and Cooperative Research,” copyrighted and published by TR News, and posted [here](#) with permission of Transportation Research Board.

From the establishment of the Inter-Industry Rail Safety Task Force (IIRSTF) to the chartering of the RSI-AAR Tank Car Safety Research and Test Project (The Safety Project), the collection and analysis of data about the design and performance of tank cars have augmented our ability to predict expected performance of new and existing tank car designs. Mr. Daum shares how these programs have helped drive development of important tools, methodologies, and risk reduction programs, and significantly advanced efforts to manage risk and improve containment of hazardous materials during a rail event. Critical information about the performance of tank cars damaged in derailments is now stored in a Tank Car Accident Database, which now includes over 40 years of data, and private and government entities are extending the cooperative research model to other programs.

Mr. Daum is a seasoned veteran of the rail industry, with over 35 years of combined industrial rail experience, including work in key technical and leadership roles for G.E. Railcar Services Corporation and Union Tank Car Company. At ESI, his technical expertise and strong industry focus have allowed him to conduct complex, multidisciplinary investigations into accidents involving freight and transit railroads, cargo and portable tanks, transportation equipment systems, and hazardous materials. Mr. Daum is a member of the Transportation Research Board, and has been an invited member of investigative teams for the National Transportation Safety Board and the Transportation Safety Board of Canada.

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