

# PRINCIPLES COURSE

*April 22, 2026*

7:00 AM	ON-SITE REGISTRATION + BREAKFAST IN THE EXPOZONE
8:10 AM	WELCOME + INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
8:25 AM	INTRODUCTION AND PRINCIPLES COURSE OVERVIEW DAVID CASACELI (MODERATOR) NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
8:55 AM	SESSION 1: TRACK STRUCTURES AND COMPONENTS J. RILEY EDWARDS, UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS URBANA-CHAMPAIGN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY RAIL CENTER OF EXCELLENCE
9:50 AM	BREAK IN THE EXPOZONE
10:25 AM	SESSION 2: VEHICLE TYPES, SUSPENSIONS AND COMPONENTS DARRELL KRUGER, BNSF RAILWAY
11:20 AM	SESSION 3: WHEEL-RAIL CONTACT: AN INTRODUCTION KEVIN OLDKNOW, SIMON FRASER UNIVERSITY
12:15 PM	LUNCH IN THE EXPOZONE
1:20 PM	REVISITING OUR CASE STUDY DAVID CASACELI (MODERATOR) NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
1:35 PM	SESSION 4: VEHICLE-TRACK INTERACTION & DYNAMICS COREY PASTA, MXV RAIL
2:30 PM	SESSION 5: WHEEL-RAIL DAMAGE MECHANISMS RICHARD STOCK, PLASSER & THEURER
3:25 PM	BREAK IN THE EXPOZONE
4:00 PM	SESSION 6: VEHICLE-TRACK MEASUREMENT TECHNOLOGIES MATTHEW DICK, ENGINEERING SYSTEMS INC.
4:55 PM	SESSION 7: CASE STUDY WRAP UP AND DISCUSSION DAVID CASACELI, NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD
5:20-5:35 PM	CLOSING REMARKS
5:45-7:15 PM	HEAVY HAUL WELCOME RECEPTION & REGISTRATION

# HEAVY HAUL SEMINAR

*Day 1: April 23, 2026*

7:00 AM	ON-SITE REGISTRATION + BREAKFAST IN THE EXPOZONE
8:10 AM	WELCOME + INTRODUCTORY REMARKS
8:25 AM	SESSION 1: REFINING THE RAIL GRINDING STRATEGY TO IMPROVE SURFACE CONDITIONS AND REDUCE DEFECTS ON CSX DAN HAMPTON, CSX TRANSPORTATION
9:20 AM	SESSION 2 & 3: INFOZONES #1 + #2
10:25 AM	BREAK IN THE EXPOZONE
11:00 AM	SESSION 5: CURRENT NORTH AMERICAN WHEEL SERVICE ISSUES – THE RISE OF BROKEN FLANGES AND THE IMPORTANCE OF WHEEL HANDLING TO PREVENT PLATE FAILURES CAMERON LONSDALE, AMSTED RAIL
11:45 AM	SESSION 4: EXAMINING WHEEL FAILURES DUE TO FATIGUE CRACKS INITIATING AT THE BACK RIM SURFACE HUSEYIN GUZEL & ALICIA LOLLAR, BNSF RAILWAY
12:30 PM	LUNCH IN THE EXPOZONE
1:35 PM	SESSION 6: INTEGRATING ATGMS AND IWS IN A RAIL TECH PLATFORM DATA-DRIVEN APPROACH TO DETECTING HIGH-RISK AND HIGH DETERIORATION TRACK LOCATIONS YAN LIU & ALBERT WAHBA, NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL OF CANADA
2:15 PM	SESSION 7: WORTH AWARD PRESENTATION
3:00 PM	SESSION 8: INFOZONE #3
3:30 PM	BREAK IN THE EXPOZONE
4:05 PM	SESSION 9: DATA-DRIVEN ASSESSMENT OF RAIL GRINDING FREQUENCY FOR SUSTAINABLE TRACK INTEGRITY IN INDIA'S DEDICATED FREIGHT CORRIDOR SHRI PRAVEEN KUMAR, DEDICATED FREIGHT CORRIDOR CORPORATION OF INDIA LIMITED
4:50 PM	SESSION 10: FIRESIDE CHAT WITH INDUSTRY AND WRI VETERAN GARY WOLF GARY WOLF, WOLF RAILWAY CONSULTING
5:35-5:45 PM	CLOSING REMARKS
6-8:00 PM	GRAND BUFFET RECEPTION

# HEAVY HAUL SEMINAR

*Day 2: April 24, 2026*

<b>7:00 AM</b>	<b>ON-SITE REGISTRATION + BREAKFAST IN THE EXPOZONE</b>
<b>8:10 AM</b>	<b>WELCOME + INTRODUCTORY REMARKS</b>
<b>8:25 AM</b>	<b>SESSION 11: AUTONOMOUS TRACK INSPECTION PROGRAM (ATIP) STRATEGY – CANADIAN NATIONAL’S APPROACH TO ATGMS OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT</b> DAN LEEB, CANADIAN NATIONAL
<b>9:20 AM</b>	<b>SESSION 12 &amp; 13:</b> INFOZONES #4 + #5
<b>10:25 AM</b>	<b>BREAK IN THE EXPOZONE</b>
<b>11:00 AM</b>	<b>SESSION 14: INFLUENCE OF BRAKING SYSTEMS ON RAIL WEAR AND DERAILMENT POTENTIAL</b> JONATHAN SUNDE, STRATO, INC.
<b>11:45 AM</b>	<b>SESSION 15: TURNOUT MAINTENANCE IN HEAVY HAUL ENVIRONMENT AND BEYOND</b> RICHARD STOCK, PLASSER & THEURER
<b>12:30 PM</b>	<b>LUNCH IN THE EXPOZONE</b>
<b>1:35 PM</b>	<b>SESSION 16: VALIDATING TOP-OF-RAIL FRICTION MODIFIER PERFORMANCE USING NOVEL UNDER-RAIL ULTRASONIC STRESS MEASUREMENT</b> MARCO SANTORO, LB FOSTER
<b>2:20 PM</b>	<b>BREAK IN THE EXPOZONE</b>
<b>2:55 PM</b>	<b>SESSION 17: WHEEL–RAIL INTERACTION CHALLENGES AND GRINDING-BASED REHABILITATION ON AFRICA’S CAPE GAUGE HEAVY HAUL NETWORK: THE NACALA EXPERIENCE</b> B.P. AWASTHI, NACALA LOGISTICS - MOZAMBIQUE
<b>3:40 PM</b>	<b>SESSION 18: REMAINING USEFUL LIFE OF RAIL: LARGE-SCALE PREDICTION OF CURVE PATCH REPLACEMENT USING HIGH-FREQUENCY DATA AND CONDITION MATCHING</b> ZACH GARNER, VISIOSTACK
<b>4:25-4:45 PM</b>	<b>CLOSING REMARKS &amp; INFOZONE RAFFLE</b>
<b>4:45-6:15 PM</b>	<b>END OF THE LINE RECEPTION</b>