

LOCOMOTIVE ENGINEERS AND TRAINMEN



NEWS

APRIL
2004

PUBLISHED BY THE BLET, A DIVISION OF THE RAIL CONFERENCE, INTERNATIONAL BROTHERHOOD OF TEAMSTERS

Important notice from President Hahs regarding remote control locomotives

February 12, 2004

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

The BLET is currently participating in an important research study sponsored by the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA). The research will involve the investigation of six remote control locomotive-involved incidents sometime in 2004. The study is being conducted by an independent, third party firm called Foster-Miller, Inc. They are a research organization that has conducted numerous other studies for the FRA. We are aware of the study and its methods, and support this research.

If you are contacted by a Foster-Miller employee to discuss your involvement in, or knowledge of, an incident that they have chosen to investigate, you are encouraged to be open with them and share any information you have. If Foster-Miller would like to interview you, they wish to speak with you on a one-on-one basis. They have asked us to not provide a representative from our organization to sit-in with you, in order to assure the confidentiality of the information you share. They have also assured our organization that they will not record personally identifying information (e.g., your name) with the data they collect from you. This is standard protocol to protect the identity of research participants in any study. Keep in mind that Foster-Miller is not interested in what any one individual or railroad does; they are interested in looking at the industry as a whole, in order to improve operations.

If you have any questions or concerns about this project, or your potential participation, please feel free to contact our Washington, D.C., office at (202) 624-8776.

Should you be contacted by Foster-Miller, your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

Fraternally,

/s/

Don M. Hahs

National President

© 2004 Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers and Trainmen