

Second call for Short Line/Regional Rail award nominees

February 2, 2009

Railway Age is now accepting entries for its annual Short Line/Regional Railroad of the Year competition. Short lines and regionals--and there are more than 500 of them--are invited to submit entries describing outstanding achievement in one or a combination of areas.

"Short line and regional railroads adapt quickly, and given the current economic climate that's a major advantage," says Managing Editor Douglas John Bowen. "As in past years, we're looking for examples of flexibility including, but not limited to, turnaround situations, consistent excellence, innovation in operations or maintenance, marketing, customer service, enhanced productivity, community relations, safety improvement, and ingenuity in dealing with the unexpected."

Small roads in Mexico, the U.S., and Canada are eligible for an award (and railroads can even nominate themselves). The 2009 winner (or winners) will be awarded a specially designed plaque at the American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association Annual Convention in Las Vegas April 25-28. Coverage will appear in *Railway Age's* April 2009 issue, which will be distributed at the show. We'll work with the winners to publicize the awards in online and national media.

"Award winners have ranged from large regionals to small short lines," says Bowen, "and we've recognized and honored carriers ranging from 20 miles to nearly 2,000 miles. In some years, separate awards have been given for regional and short line carriers."

Submit any entries to: Douglas John Bowen, Managing Editor, *Railway Age*, 345 Hudson Street, 12th Floor, New York, N.Y., 10014. Email: dbowen@sbpub.com. Fax: (212) 633-1863. Entries should contain the name, position, and contact information of the nominator and an approximately 500-word description of the achievement(s) of the nominated railroad. (Longer and short descriptions are admissible; 500 words is only a guideline.) Entry forms are not essential, but may be obtained from Bowen by fax or email. The entry deadline is Friday, Feb. 27, 2009, so please don't delay.