

TABLE-TOP EXERCISE BRINGS TRANSPORTATION AND EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROFESSIONALS TOGETHER

One of the goals of the exercise was to test the Rail Traffic Control (RTC) incident procedures and 911 call system.



Photo courtesy Ian McCord

On January 26, members of Ottawa's emergency response professionals gathered for an elaborate table-top safety and response demonstration. Models were used to highlight exacting role-play.

"It came together quite nicely" said organizer Ian McCord. "A workshop in this kind of environment is a lot more cost efficient than to attempt a similar full-scale activity."

There were two key goals in Exercise Double "O". The first, to test the Rail Traffic Control (RTC) incident procedures and 911 call system. The second, to familiarize the city's Protective Services with the Ontario Chief Coroner's Rail Accident Protocol and issues surrounding safety on and around railway rights of way.

Participants in Exercise Double "O"

were the Ottawa Fire Service, the Ottawa Police Service, the Ottawa Paramedic Service, Rail-Term/Rail-Control, the Transportation Safety Board (TSB) and various branches of OC Transpo including Customer Service, Transit Operations and Security. Senior representatives from OC Transpo/CR, the TSB, Transport Canada, Rail-Control, the OCR and the Quebec Railway Corp. observed the exercise.

The mock scenario was conceived and organized by Barry Thomas from CR/OC Transpo and Ian McCord from the OCR. Mike Regimbal from the Railway Association of Canada (RAC), Jim Montgomery (police), Jim Littlewood (fire), Mario D'Angelo (paramedics), Real Morrisette (Rail-Control), Phil Lemenchick (RailTerm),

Gordon Robinson, Eric Lefebvre and Zahid Chaudhari (OC Transpo) provided technical advice and support.

The exercise lasted over two hours and was followed by a debriefing session.

See Observations Page 6

U.S. POLL SHOWS RAIL PREFERENCE

A February 2nd poll shows most Americans see railroads as the preferred future mode for moving passengers and freight.

"Freight railroads came far ahead of all other modes" (63%) said the Harris Poll. "They are followed by air freight (at 35%) and trucks (24%)."

See Poll on Page 4

LIGHT RAIL CONTINUES TO GROW IN U.S. MARKETS

Two key U.S. metropolitan areas recently announced expansions. The Maryland Transit Administration (MTA) on February 27th resumed service on a section of line closed for the installation of a second track as part of that project's final phase.

The MTA services the transit needs of the greater Baltimore area.

See LIGHT RAIL on Page 6

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No injuries in Quebec Incidents



Photo © Bernard Babin. Used with permission.

On February 18 in Val Alain, Quebec, suspected ice in a level crossing groove abruptly changed the direction of the second locomotive of CN 178. No one was injured as a half-dozen full tank cars derailed behind the locomotive. The Drummondville Sub was closed following the incident forcing passengers from an arriving VIA train to take the bus.

Meanwhile, within two days (below), high winds hampered CPR crew efforts to get 6 freight cars back on track on a line that runs next to the Mercier Bridge near Montreal. The line is used for rail commuter service and CPR links to the Eastern Townships, Maritimes and the U.S.

See Page 6 CLEAN-UP



Photo courtesy Robert Peloquin

OCR *Safety Rule!*

Jesse Krasilycz selected CROR Rule 113 (a) as the rule of the month*.

Before coupling to equipment at any point, care must be taken to ensure that such equipment is properly secured.

OCR's
Jesse
Krasilycz



* An OCR employee is picked at random each month to select a "Safety Rule".

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

(March)

Serge Beauchamp
Sean Gill
Brian Lavigne
Roy Murray



ANNIVERSARIES!

(March)

Sean Gill - 7 Years
Bernie Seguin - 5 Years
Mathieu Houle - 2 Years

*Congratulations from all
your friends at OCR!*



103.1. PUBLIC CROSSINGS AT GRADE WITH WARNING DEVICES

- a) When a train or engine passes over any public crossing at grade, equipped with automatic warning devices, it will be necessary, before making a reverse movement over the crossing, **for a crew member to provide manual protection of the crossing.**

backtrack |||||

By Dave Watts

GRAND TRUNK RAILWAY

It began in 1852 with a government announcement concerning an ambitious plan to build a railway between Montreal and Toronto. Within a year, while construction of the Montreal – Toronto line was underway, the new Grand Trunk Railway Company began acquiring other rail properties that would play an integral part in Grand Trunk’s overall evolution.

Within five years and in addition to its own line from Montreal to Toronto, the Grand Trunk had purchased the St. Lawrence and Atlantic, Quebec and Richmond Railroad Company, the Toronto and Guelph and the Grand Junction Railway. A line was also build from Portland, Maine to Sarnia on the U.S. side.

Debts in the early 1860s had escalated dramatically due to the company’s rapid expansion and correspondingly lower than anticipated rail traffic. Legislation was enacted to reorganize the company’s finances; the Railway survived but the debts continued to grow. In the 1880s, the Great Western and Midland Railways were added to the Grand Trunk system .

Ultimately, with an eye to competing with the Canadian Northern and Canadian Pacific across the country, the Grand Trunk Pacific Railway Company was formed but there was trouble ahead.

By 1920, the Grand Trunk had slid into bankruptcy and within 3 years, the Canadian government took charge of the railway and merged it with Canadian National Railways.



Fast Shrimp Dip

- 1 Package Philadelphia Cream Cheese (at room temperature)
- 1/2 Cup of mayonnaise (This is key! Use actual mayonnaise with this recipe)
- 1 Can cocktail shrimp drained and rinsed
- 1/3 Cup of green onions, finely chopped
- 1/8 Teaspoon of garlic powder (or garlic salt)

Simply place all ingredients into a mixing bowl and blend everything together with a fork, then cover place in the fridge for at least an hour. Can be made the day before and refrigerated until needed.

All Time Top 5 Railroad Songs !

- 1 Midnight Train to Georgia**
(Gladys Knight & The Pips, 1973)
- 2 Chattanooga Choo Choo**
(Glenn Miller, 1941)
- 3 City of New Orleans**
(Arlo Guthrie, 1972)
- 4 Canadian Railroad Trilogy**
(Gordon Lightfoot, 1967)
- 5 Long Train Running**
(Doobie Brothers, 1973)

(Compiled by Dave Watts)

Ottawa Central Railway
2005 Incidents/Accidents through January



	Jan 2006	Jan 2005	FINAL 2005	FINAL 2004	FINAL 2003	FINAL 2002	FINAL 2001		JAN 2006	TOTAL 2005	TOTAL 2004	TOTAL 2003	TOTAL 2002	TOTAL 2001
Main Track Accidents*	0	1	4	0	2	0	1							
Non-Main Track Accidents*	2	0	10	9	11	6	8	Human Factor	0	4	3	5	3	4
								Ice & Snow	1	0	0	0	1	1
Crossing Accidents	0	0	1	2	2	4	2	Track Conditions	0	1	1	0	1	1
								Vandalism	0	0	0	0	0	1
Trespassing Incidents	0	0	0	1	0	1	5	Equipment	0	0	0	0	0	0
								3rd Party	1	5	5	6	1	1
Employee Injuries*	0	0	3	2	5	8	0	Other	0	0	0	0	0	0
									2	10	9	11	6	8
Cardinal Rule Violations	0	0	1	0	0	0	2							
Hyrail Accidents	0	0	0	1	0	0	0							
Vehicle Accidents	0	0	1	1	1	0	1							
TOTAL	2	1	20	15	21	19	19							
Other	0	1	8	20	13	12	0							

POLL continued from Page 1

Asked to name two preferred means of passenger transportation, the poll respondents listed commuter trains (44%) and long-distance trains (35%). Local bus service and airlines were tied at 23%.

Harris said safety and energy efficiency were seen as top priorities for passenger transportation.

The poll also dealt with opinions on railroad financing. The poll was conducted in mid December, 2005.

(Railway Age 060209)(RAC)

Top world trainspotter passes away

One of the world's foremost trainspotters has passed away. *The London Times* reported February 22nd that Bill Curtis had spent more than 40 years collecting in excess of 100,000 engine numbers!

He was named the World's Greatest Trainspotter in 1999; a title he retained until his death.

Curtis was homeless, spending all his time traveling across Europe and Africa in his search for rare and unusual numbers.

He is also credited with persuading the writer of *Thomas The Tank Engine* to include a diesel engine in his stories.

The Rev Chris Wood, from the Christ Church Reformed Church in Clacton-on-Sea, a close friend, said: "He was the ultimate gentleman of the road."

"Inbox Top Pick"!

"Pino More"

a delightful new wine...

..especially for seniors!

Performance Indicators



December, 2005

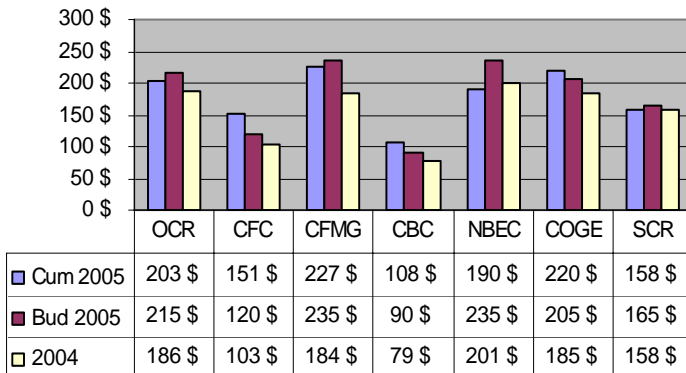
Our Mission:

To be our customer's preferred supplier of transportation logistics services to help them meet the needs of their own customers.

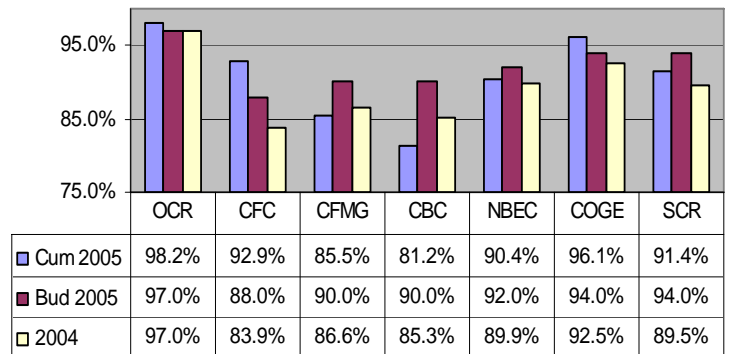
Basis of the Mission:

To make a significant contribution to our customer's commercial success by providing safe, efficient and cost-effective transportation logistics services.

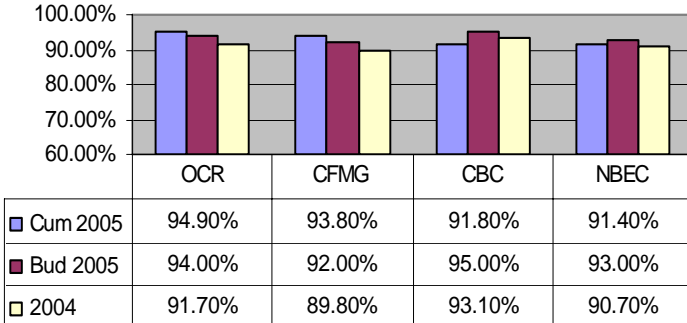
Actual Fret revenue/employee (000 \$)



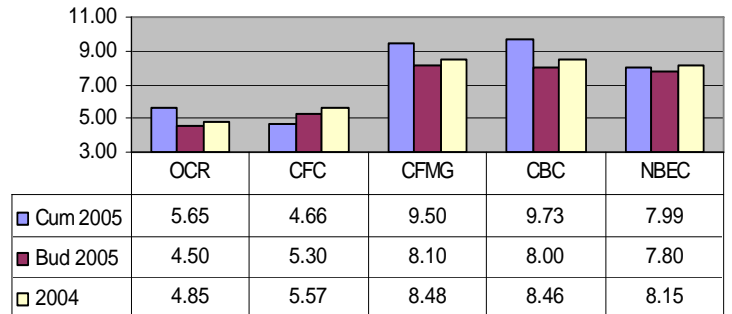
Attendance



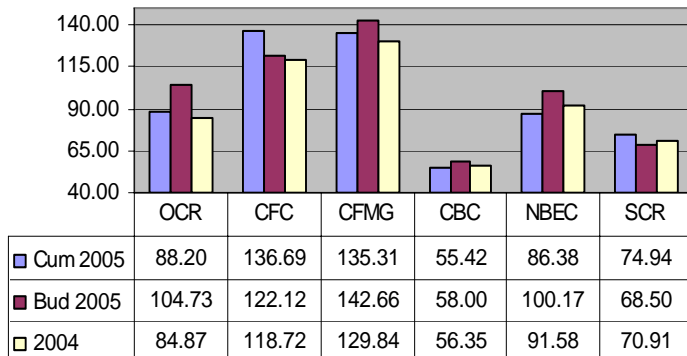
**Weekly Car Placements
(%Placed / Guaranteed)**



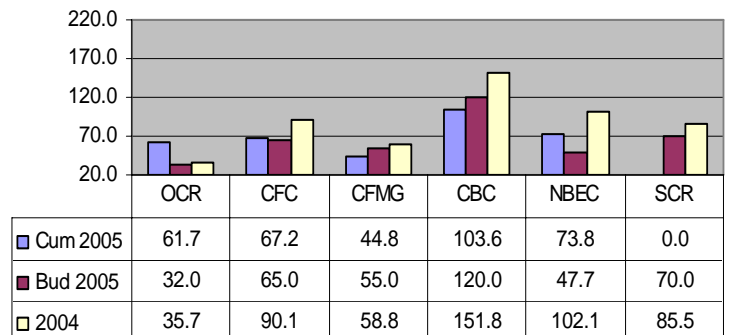
**Car cycle
(Days empty-load)**



Fuel Consumption (GTM/litre)



**Ratio - Train Accidents
(# Accidents / Train mile) X 1M**



FUN WITH WORDS!

Words with two meanings

1. THINGY (thing-ee) n.

Female..... Any part under a car's hood.

Male..... The strap fastener on a woman's bra.

2. VULNERABLE (vul-ne-ra-bel) adj.

Female.... Fully opening up one's self emotionally to another.

Male.... Playing football without a cup.

3. COMMUNICATION (ko-myoo-ni-kay-shon) n.

Female... The open sharing of thoughts and feelings with one's partner.

Male... Leaving a note before taking off on a fishing trip with the boys.

4. COMMITMENT (ko-mit-ment) n.

Female.... A desire to get married and raise a family.

Male..... Trying not to flirt with other women while out with this one.

5. ENTERTAINMENT (en-ter-tayn-ment) n.

Female.... A good movie, concert, play or book.

Male..... Anything that can be done while drinking beer.

6. FLATULENCE (flach-u-lens) n.

Female.... An embarrassing byproduct of indigestion.

Male..... A source of entertainment, self-expression, and male bonding.

Light Rail from Page 1

Vintage Streetcars return!

Further south, the Central Arkansas Transit Authority (CAT) launched construction on a second phase of the River Rail Streetcar Line. At just over a kilometer, the three-station extension will service two city buildings including the William Jefferson Clinton Presidential Library.

The line is a four-plus kilometer circuit exclusively served by three replica vintage streetcars. The streetcar line was opened in 2004. CAT serves the Little Rock, Arkansas area. The streetcars and line map can be found online at www.cat.org/rrail/.

From

The Corner Office

By James Allen

2006 is well underway and there is much cause for optimism. Revenues are on "track" although a mild January followed by a cold February has contributed to very icy conditions.

This makes life miserable for Serge and his crews as crossings keep getting packed with ice. Icy conditions also make for dangerous walking conditions for the train crews not only in Walkley yard but all along our right-of-ways.

We went on the ground at Commonwealth Plywood due to the ice build-up.

Lets us do everything in our powers to work safely and eliminate costly incidents. "Make every day a safe day"!

From Page 1

Double "O" Observations Received

"The Spareboard will touch on the Observations and Recommendations in the February Issue. The Tabletop Exercise was held in January.

Clean-Up from Page 1

Back to normal soon on the South Shore

Blown over rail cars removed

The six rail cars that tipped over last month on the bridge connecting Montreal to the South Shore have been removed.

The Montreal/Delton-Candiac commuter train will not resume this week, as crews repair the tracks. The cars were displaced by strong winds on February 17.

Buses have temporarily replaced the commuter trains along the line. (Montreal Gazette 060308)/(RAC)

Circle Saturday, April 29
on your calendar!



The 5th "OCR Safety Expo
& Open House"

...is Coming Up!

The Spareboard

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