



**Don't Miss the 2015 RTA Conference  
Nov 2 - 5 in Tucson, Arizona**



**REGISTRATION FORM FOR THE 97<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL CONFERENCE**

*NOTE: CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FEES COVER ALL MEETINGS, BUSINESS LUNCHEON, PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION, AND ANNUAL BANQUET. Please complete both the Registration AND golf/activities form (next page) if you want to play in the golf tournament or attend the optional events*

**Hotel Info:**

**JW Marriott Starr Pass**

Make your reservations now! Reserve Online At: <http://bit.ly/1c9A3s9>

There is no guarantee of a room beyond **Oct 9, 2015**. Make hotel reservations under the RTA Room Block by calling (520) 792-3500. RTA Room Block Rate is \$175 + tax per night.

**Registration Info:**

**Please Check All Fees That Apply**

	<u>Before 9/1/15</u>	<u>After 8/31/15</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Producer, Supplier, Contractor & Consulting Member	\$575	\$625
<input type="checkbox"/> Associate Member	\$345	\$395
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member - Railroad, Government & Academic	\$575	\$625
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Member - Other	\$795	\$845
<input type="checkbox"/> Spouse Participation (Fee to attend conference & events) (No additional fee for spouse/guest breakfast at hotel on Wed. 4 <sup>th</sup> )	\$295	\$345

Early registration ends August 31, 2015

Full refund (minus \$50 admin fee) until 9/9/15. Half refund until 9/18/15. No refunds after 9/18/15

**Optional Events Info:** *Please see info on next page*

	<u>Advanced Registration</u>	<u>On Site Registration</u>
<input type="checkbox"/> Golf Tournament (11/3/15). Complete Info on Next Page	\$195/person	\$225/person
<input type="checkbox"/> Private Jeep Excursion into the Sonoran Desert (11/3/15)	\$105/person	\$135/person
<input type="checkbox"/> Private "Best of the Barrio" Tour (11/3/15)	\$105/person	\$135/person
<input type="checkbox"/> Tour of Sonoran Desert Museum & Raptor Free Flight Experience Occurs the morning & afternoon of first day of business sessions-for spouses and guests. Includes Transportation, Breakfast, & Lunch	\$150/person	\$175/person

**Payment Info:**  Credit Card  Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Registration Total For All Events**

Credit Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_

3 digit CVC on back of card: \_\_\_\_\_ 4 digit CVS on front of AMEX: \_\_\_\_\_

**Personal Info:**

Your Name for Badge: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Spouse Name if Attending: \_\_\_\_\_ Email for Confirmation: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2015 RTA CONFERENCE MEMBER SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES & EXHIBITOR FORM

November 2-5, 2015 \* Tucson, Arizona \* JW Marriott Starr Pass Resort & Spa

### CORPORATE EXHIBIT TABLE REGISTRATION

- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$550** Tabletop Exhibit space (30'x6'). You can start setting up at 8:00 a.m. Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup> & tear down by noon on Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup>.
- \_\_\_\_\_ **\$1,000** If you would like to sign up for one of the LIMITED number of Vendor- Mercial spots, you must first sign up for an Exhibit Table.

### CORPORATE SPONSORSHIPS (Previous Year's Sponsors Have First Right of Refusal Until July 15<sup>th</sup>)

_____ <b>N/A</b>	\$7,500	Banquet Bar (Full)
_____	\$7,500	Wednesday Business Luncheon & Speaker (Full)
_____	\$5,000	President's Reception Sponsor
_____ <b>N/A</b>	\$5,000	Conference App for Smart Devices - Exclusive Top Banner Ad
_____	\$4,000	RTA Registration & Welcome Refreshments
_____	\$3,750	Wednesday Business Session Luncheon (Partial - 2 available)
_____	\$3,750	Banquet Event Sponsorship
_____	\$3,750	Tech Clinic Sponsorship
_____ <b>N/A</b>	\$3,500	Logo Conference Bag
_____	\$3,000	Premium Conference Gift Sponsor
_____	\$2,950	Wednesday Continental Breakfast
_____	\$2,950	Thursday Continental Breakfast
_____	\$2,500	Railroad Purchasing Forum
_____	\$2,500	Railroad Engineering Forum
_____ <b>N/A</b>	\$2,000	Hotel Key Card Sponsorship
_____	\$1,750	Conference Gift
_____	\$1,500	Conference Gift
_____ <b>N/A</b>	\$1,500	Name Badge Sponsorship
_____	\$1,500	Audio/Visual Sponsorship (Logo Privileges)
_____	\$1,500	Spouse/Guest Hospitality Breakfast
_____	\$1,500	Conference Photography Sponsorship
_____	\$1,500	Speaker's Gift Sponsorship
_____	\$1,250	Bottom Banner Ads for Conference App (2 available sponsorships for this)
_____	\$1,250	Wednesday A.M. Coffee Break
_____	\$1,250	Spouse Gift
_____	\$975	Thursday A.M. Coffee Break
_____	\$975	Wednesday P.M. Refreshments
_____	\$975	Conference Signage Sponsorship
_____	\$975	Conference Programs
_____	\$850	Spouse Tour Transportation
_____ <b>N/A</b>	\$750	Optional Tour Transportation
_____	\$750	General Conference Sponsorship
_____	\$750	Awards Sponsorship
_____	\$500	General Sponsorship
_____	\$300	AMEX Gift Card
_____	\$200	AMEX Gift Card

### GOLF TOURNAMENT SPONSORSHIP

_____	\$1,250 Beverage Sponsorship Golf Tournament Lunch
_____	<b>\$750 GOLD LEVEL</b>
_____	<b>\$600 SILVER LEVEL</b>
_____	<b>\$295 BRONZE LEVEL (Individual Hole)</b>

Your Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Credit Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Security # \_\_\_\_\_

*(Security # is the 3-digit validation code from back of card or 4-digit from front of AMEX card)*

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**TOTAL SPONSORSHIP AND EXHIBIT COMMITMENT: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

*(If you are not including your credit card information, please include your check for payment)  
Please mail to the Railway Tie Association, 115 Commerce Dr., Suite C, Fayetteville, GA 30214  
If you wish to submit this form electronically, please click on our email address of [ties@rta.org](mailto:ties@rta.org)*



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**TO: RTA MEMBERS, ASSOCIATES and GUESTS**  
**SUBJECT: 97th Annual RTA Technical Conference & Symposium in Tucson, AZ**

Tucson is situated in the Sonoran Desert and is surrounded by five mountain ranges. Blessed with the natural beauty of the desert and an unsurpassed climate of 360 sunny days a year, Tucsonans embrace a rare lifestyle and are committed to preserving the quality of life. The history of Tucson, AZ begins thousands of years ago, but officially dates back to 1775 when Spanish soldiers founded Presidio San Augustin del Tucson. Since then many difference cultures have occupied the city.

**WHEN: TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD THRU THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5TH, 2015**  
QR Code



**WHERE: JW MARRIOTT STARR PASS, TUCSON, ARIZONA**

**CONFERENCE APP URL: <http://eventmobi.com/rta2015>**

**Download the conference app, with the QR code to the right, for all the speakers, attendee lists, surveys, and a LOT of other information to keep you up to date on events!**

**HIGHLIGHTS**

- ◇ Special Focus on the Economy with Presentations by Dan Meckstroth, Senior Manufacturer’s Alliance for Productivity and Innovation and ABH Consulting President, Tony Hatch
- ◇ Procurement, Resource, and Utilization Sessions featuring Judd Johnson (Hardwood Market Report), Don Finkell (President of Hardwood Federation), Jeff Hanks (Bill Hanks Lumber Co.), Jeff Edwards (Edwards Wood Products), Jack Shannon (JT Shannon Lumber Co.), Scott Jones (Forest Land Owners Association), and Robert Crosby (FLOA Member in Louisiana)
- ◇ Luncheon Keynote Address by Dick Maggiore, President/CEO of Innis Maggiore Ad Agency
- ◇ Class 1 Engineering and Purchasing Forums with special presentations and an update from incoming AREMA President Brian Lindamood, Director-Capital Projects at Alaska Railroad
- ◇ Industry Tabletop Exhibits and Product Demonstrations by RTA Member Suppliers
- ◇ Informative Reports from Railroad Supply Management Experts
- ◇ RTA Wood Preservative Research Session with In-Depth Presentations by Industry Leaders
- ◇ Spouse/Guest Continental Breakfast event on property. Separate optional visit to the Sonoran Desert Museum and Raptor Free Flight Experience
- ◇ Special Event Activities Including **Great Golf** on property; or you can choose to take a Private Jeep Excursion into the Sonoran Desert or go on a private “Best of the Barrio” Tour.
- ◇ Supplier Sponsored Hospitality Suites

**“Trio of Cultures” Culinary Experience with Banquet Entertainment  
by Comedian Rocky LaPorte**

**Come dressed in appropriate apparel from Western wear to culturally sensitive and appropriate Native American or Mexican attire and celebrate the melting pot of food and friendship the three cultures now enjoy in Arizona!**

Cordially,  
**Kenny Dailey**  
**RTA President**



**THE RAILWAY TIE ASSOCIATION INVITES YOU TO  
TUCSON, ARIZONA IN NOVEMBER**

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES INFORMATION**

Tucson is situated in the Sonoran Desert and is surrounded by five mountain ranges. A trip for the 2,389 ft. valley floor to the 9,157 ft. Mt. Lemmon summit (home to the southernmost ski area in the continental United States) traverses seven of the world's nine life zones. Blessed with the natural beauty of the Sonoran Desert and an unsurpassed climate of 360 sunny days a year, Tucsonans embrace a rare lifestyle and are committed to preserving the quality of life. **Come join us in November in one of the oldest towns in the U.S. and enjoy the rich cultural heritage that centers around a unique blend of Native American, Spanish, Mexican, and Anglo-American influences.**

**OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3<sup>RD</sup>  
REQUIRES ADVANCE REGISTRATION:**

**RTA Golf Tournament at JW Marriott Starr Pass Golf Club:** The Starr Pass Golf Club legend began more than 120 years ago when Richard Starr crafted a trail through the rugged wilderness of the Tucson Mountains. PGA Tour Commissioner Dean Beaman personally selected the Starr Pass Golf Club site. With the help of renowned golf course designer Bob Cupp and PGA Tour professional Craig Stadler, they created a world-class TPC golf facility. Starr Pass Golf Club hosted the annual Tucson Open between 1987 and 1996. A true desert course, natural elements are used as hazards while showcasing majestic vistas of the Catalina Mountains.

**\*\*\* If you plan to golf, please give us your handicap here \_\_\_\_\_ and the names of your preferred playing partners: \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_**

**Private Jeep Excursion into the Sonoran Desert:** Experience the desert first-hand! Our knowledgeable guides will lead you through the plants, animals, and history that make the Sonoran Desert unique. On the way you will learn about the life of the giant saguaro cactus, visit a thousand year-old Hohokam Indian occupation site, and see bountiful desert wildlife. Our guides will even bring along a critter or two! A box lunch is included.

**Private "Best of the Barrio Tour - A Culinary Romp thru the Authentic Mexican Cuisine of Tucson:** You will ride aboard one of our luxury vehicles through Tucson's Barrio while getting an insider's look at each location and their recipe for success. With tastings ranging from handmade pastries/tortillas, carne asada and Sonoran hot dogs, to chicken quesadillas, you will not go home hungry. This combination of cuisine, history, and fun has already proven to be a winner with visitors and locals alike. This tour is a Tucson Weekly "Best of Tucson" Award winner. In 2012, it inspired Visit Tucson's international marketing campaign, "The Best 23 Miles of Mexican Food", which proudly declares that the "Best 23 Miles of Mexican Food" north of the border is to be found in Tucson."

**OPTIONAL SPOUSE/GUEST EVENT WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup> (DURING BUSINESS SESSION)**

**Sonoran Desert Museum & Raptor Free Flight Experience.** Tour includes box **breakfast** on bus and special luncheon at the museum featuring ingredients that are indigenous to the Sonoran Desert region! Spend the day at the Sonoran Desert Museum and experience one of the wonders of the desert at the Raptor Free Flight. The Desert Museum is ranked on TripAdvisor.com as one of the Top 10 Museums in the country and the **#1 Tucson attraction**. Unlike most museums, about 85% of the experience is outdoors! The 98-acre Desert Museum is a fusion experience: zoo, botanical garden, art gallery, natural history museum, and aquarium.

**Don't forget to check which, if any, additional event(s) above you plan to attend & mark on the FIRST page of this registration payment form!**

# SYMPOSIUM & TECHNICAL CONFERENCE

## November 2-5, 2015 | SCHEDULE AT A GLANCE



#rtaxties for 2015 Conference Tweets

### TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 3

- 8:30 am** **RTA GOLF TOURNAMENT**  
JW Marriott Starr Pass Golf Club  
Additional activities for attendees during golf outing – see below
- 3:00-6:00 pm** **RTA GUEST SPONSORED HOSPITALITY SUITES**
- 5:30-7:00 pm** **RTA PRESIDENT'S RECEPTION**

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4

- 7:45-8:00 am** **RTA GENERAL BUSINESS SESSION AND WELCOME**
- 8:00-9:30 am** **ECONOMIC SESSION WITH ECONOMIC KEYNOTE ADDRESS**  
**Dan Meckstroth**, Manufacturer's Alliance for Productivity and Innovation  
**Tony Hatch**, ABH Consulting, "Railroad Investment Analysis 2014"  
**Salient MLP Presentation on Crude Oil - TBA**
- 9:30-11:15 am** **PROCUREMENT, RESOURCE AND UTILIZATION SESSION I**  
**Skipper Beal**, Moderator  
**Judd Johnson**, "Hardwood Market Report," Production & Consumption  
**Don Finkell**, American OEM & 2015 President Hardwood Federation  
**Jeff Hanks**, Bill Hanks Lumber Company  
**Jeff Edwards**, Edwards Wood Products
- 11:15-12:15pm** **NETWORKING AND EXHIBITION BREAK**  
(Lunch buffet opens at noon)
- 12:15-2:45 pm** **RTA WORKING LUNCHEON WITH KEYNOTE ADDRESS**  
**Dick Maggiore**, Innis Maggiore
- PROCUREMENT, RESOURCE & UTILIZATION SESSION II**  
**Jack Shannon**, JT Shannon Lumber Company  
**Scott Jones**, Forest Land Owners Association  
**Robert Crosby**, FLOA Member Louisiana

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 4 (CONT.)

- 2:45-5:30pm** **ENGINEERING FORUM**  
**Focus on Class 1, Regional & Short Line Infrastructure Partnerships**  
**David Fink**, Pan American Railways  
**Brian Lindamood**, Director Capital Projects, Alaska Railroad - AREMA  
**Walter Smith**, BNSF  
**Philip Merilli**, Norfolk Southern  
**Jim Holder**, Union Pacific  
**Tod Echler**, CSX Transportation

VENDOR PRESENTATIONS WILL OCCUR DURING THIS FORUM

- 7:15 pm** **ANNUAL RTA BANQUET & AWARDS CEREMONY**

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- 7:45-10:15 am** **RESEARCH FORUM**  
**Bror Moldrup**, Advances in Wood Treating Infrastructure  
**Nate Irby/Adam Taylor**, Best Handling Practices for Wood Ties  
**Mark Porter**, PVC Wraps for Ecologically Sensitive Treated Wood Piling and Railroad Applications  
**Jeff Lloyd**, Steam Accelerated 1.5 Step DOT Borate Tie Treatment  
**Bil Bushman**, Bridge Tie Design Services for the 21st Century

#### RECYCLING AND DISPOSAL TECHNOLOGY FORUM

**Dr. Nicole Labbé**, Recycling Wood Ties via Two-staged Pyrolysis for Fractionation of Wood Preservatives and Bio-oil  
**Stephen Smith**, Torrefaction Processing for Energy Production

- 10:15-10:30 am** **NETWORKING AND EXHIBITION BREAK**

- 10:30-12:30 pm** **RAILROAD PURCHASING FORUM**  
**Cory Thomas**, BNSF  
**Sheila Gudenrath**, Union Pacific  
**Larry Fenwick**, CSX Transportation  
**Kristine Storm**, Genesee & Wyoming  
**Corey Plunkett**, Norfolk Southern  
**Chris Laddish**, Kansas City Southern (Invited)  
**Bruce Emberly**, Canadian National  
**Rob Churma**, Canadian Pacific



Download the Conference App with this QR code and at <http://eventmobi.com/rta2015/>

### ATTENDEE/SPOUSE (Fee Included) AND OPTIONAL (Fee Not Included) ACTIVITIES:

The Golf Tournament, Desert Jeep Tour and Barrio Culinary Tour are on Tuesday, November 3rd. The Sonoran Desert Museum Tour & Raptor Free Flight Experience are on Wednesday, November 4th (during the Business Sessions). All of these activities are optional and require additional registrations. Minimums must be met for all events to run as planned and maximums may apply in some cases.

#### NOVEMBER 3, 2015

##### OPTIONAL - RTA GOLF TOURNAMENT - JW MARRIOTT STARR PASS GOLF CLUB

**9:00 AM - 3:00 PM**  
**Pre-event Cost is \$195 - At the Event \$225**  
The Starr Pass Golf Club legend began more than 120 years ago when Richard Starr crafted a trail through the rugged wilderness of the Tucson Mountains. PGA Tour Commissioner Dean Beaman personally selected the Starr Pass Golf Club site. With the help of renowned golf course designer Bob Cupp and PGA Tour professional Craig Stadler, they created a world-class TPC golf facility. Starr Pass Golf Club hosted the annual Tucson Open between 1987 and 1996. A true desert course, natural elements are used as hazards while showcasing majestic vistas of the Catalina Mountains. Legends such as Arnold Palmer, Phil Mickelson, Payne Stewart and Nancy Lopez have carved their way through this historic golf course.

##### OPTIONAL - PRIVATE JEEP EXCURSION INTO THE SONORAN DESERT (MINIMUM 6 - MAXIMUM 36)

**9:30AM - 2PM**  
**Pre-event Cost is \$105 - At the Event \$135**  
(Boxed or other Lunch Included)  
Experience the desert first-hand! Our knowledgeable guides will lead you through the plants, animals, and history that make the Sonoran Desert unique. On the way you will learn about the life of the giant saguaro cactus, visit a thousand year-old Hohokam Indian occupation site, and see beautiful desert wildlife. Our guides will even bring along a critter or two!

##### OPTIONAL - PRIVATE BEST OF THE BARRIO TOUR (MIN. 6 - MAX. 29) A Culinary Romp thru the Authentic Mexican Cuisine of Tucson

**9:30AM - 2PM**  
**Pre-event Cost is \$105 - At the Event \$135**  
You will ride aboard one of our luxury vehicles through Tucson's Barrio while getting an insider's look at each location and their recipe for success. With tastings ranging from handmade pastries/tortillas, carne asada and Sonoran hot dogs, to chicken quesadillas, you will not go home hungry. This combination of cuisine, history, and fun has already proven to be a winner with visitors and locals alike. This tour is a Tucson Weekly "Best of Tucson" Award winner. In 2012, it inspired Visit Tucson's international marketing campaign, "The Best 23 Miles of Mexican Food," which proudly declares that the "best 23 miles of Mexican food" north of the border is the food in Tucson.

##### NOVEMBER 4 SPOUSE & GUEST HOSPITALITY "LIGHT" CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST - will only be available to those Spouses & Guests not attending the below Sonoran Desert Museum Tour

**8:30AM - 9:30AM**  
**OPTIONAL (RECOMMENDED) - SONORAN DESERT MUSEUM AND RAPTOR FREE FLIGHT EXPERIENCE**  
**8:00AM - 2:30PM**  
(Boxed Breakfast on Bus at 8:00AM - Lunch at Museum also Included!) **Pre-event Cost \$150 - On Site Cost \$175**  
Spend the day at the Sonoran Desert Museum and experience one of the wonders of the desert at the Raptor Free Flight. The Desert Museum is ranked on TripAdvisor.

com as one of the Top 10 Museums in the country and the #1 Tucson attraction. Unlike most museums, about 85% of the experience is outdoors! The 98-acre Desert Museum is a fusion experience: zoo, botanical garden, art gallery, natural history museum, and aquarium.

**The Raptor Free Flight Experience** is THE Desert Museum presentation that must not be missed. Only conducted during certain times of the year, you'll have birds of prey fly so close that you can feel the rush of wind as they whiz by. The birds fly completely untethered, without leg straps, in an open desert presentation you must see to believe. Owls, hawks, falcons and the only raptor species that hunts as a family (like wolves) are featured with 2 separate presentations at 10am and 2pm the day of your visit.

##### RTA BANQUET - TRIO OF CULTURES DESERT SOUTHWEST CULINARY EXPERIENCE

**7:00PM - 11PM ON OCTOBER 16TH**  
Join RTA in celebration of the three incredible cultures that merge in the US Desert Southwest. Railroads and cowboys opened the American West; our Native American history that once flourished in the desert now enjoys a renaissance of understanding and growth; amigos who have immigrated from South of the Border bring a unique cultural flair of food and experiences. Feel free to dress in appropriate apparel from Western wear (denim, boots, hats, bolo ties, bandanas, etc.), to culturally sensitive/appropriate Native American (native-made jewelry, beaded shirts, dresses, moccasins, shawls, etc.) or Mexican attire (colorful cottons, Puebla dresses, mariachi clothing, serapes, sombreros, etc.) and celebrate the melting pot of food and friendship the three cultures now enjoy in Arizona.