

Annual RTA Field Trip Covers Lots Of Ground

RTA held its annual member-wide field trip June 5-8 in the Harrisburg, Pa., area, covering more than 700 miles in three days.

On Sunday, June 5, following meetings of the Research & Development Committee and the Manufacturing, Safety, Resources & Statistics Committee, attendees enjoyed a reception at the host hotel.

Activities began in full on Monday, June 6, with attendees traveling to Altoona, Pa., where they visited the Norfolk Southern Locomotive Shop. The next stop was Stella-Jones' Dubois, Pa., plant.

On Tuesday, June 7, attendees visited the Rosenberry Brothers Lumber Company in Fannettsburg, Pa. Shortly thereafter, they toured the Mellott Wood Preserving plant in Needmore, Pa., before departing to Gettysburg National Military Park for a tour to close the day.

On Wednesday, June 8, attendees visited the ArcelorMittal Steel Mill in Steelton, Pa., where they were able to tour the operations. Photos were not allowed. After the steel mill, they visited the Koppers plant in Muncy, Pa.

“Providing our members with an opportunity to see first-hand how their colleagues implement safety procedures and other manufacturing processes is an important RTA mission,” said RTA Executive Director Jim Gauntt. “We believe this hands-on experience plays a crucial role in our members’ success stories.” ■

RTA wishes to thank all those who played a role in organizing the trip. Sponsors are named on page 12.

DAY 1 ▶ Norfolk Southern & Stella-Jones



Norfolk Southern's Don Faulkner provides a virtual tour overview before we head out onto the Juniata Locomotive Shop floor.



Faulkner explains this shop can do complete locomotive rebuilds and overhauls (best quality provider status).



Attendees head inside a rebuilt locomotive.



RTA's Jim Gauntt says, "Thanks NS!"



Kristine Storm of Genesee & Wyoming, Jimmy Watt of Crosstie Connection and Dave Koch of Wheeler Lumber inside the cab with Faulkner.



Then it's onward to Dubois for a great lunch provided by Stella-Jones...



...and a tour by Division Manager Mike Rosiek.



The tour features the treating plant outside...



...and in...



...with a focus on bridge and...



...and crossing materials.

DAY 2

Rosenberry Brothers Lumber Company, Mellott Wood Preserving & Gettysburg National Military Park



The next morning featured a small crossie mill visit, Rosenberry Brothers...



...where the log inventory and



...mill were featured. Then, we were off to Mellott Wood Preserving in Needmore, Pa.



The group was met by Doug Mellott (shown here with Dave Koch) and Howard Tomlinson (center), who led the tour.



A fresh batch of dual-treated borate-copper naphthenate ties were on the drip pad.



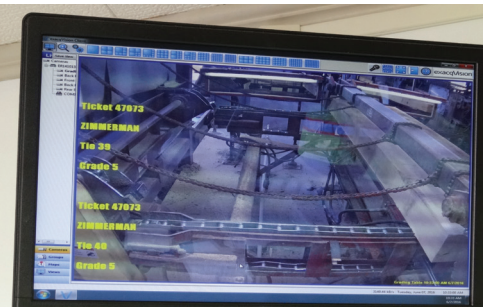
Two methods of injecting borates into ties are used here—dipping and...



...drilling holes for filling with borate reservoir then plugging.



Doug Mellott designed this stacking operation.



Mellott makes a video record of all the ties going across the grading station.



Here, Howard Tomlinson explains yard operations and layout to the group.



Thanks to the crew at Mellott for hosting a fabulous luncheon for the group.



Then it's off to Gettysburg for a private battlefield tour where our guide takes us to one of the first skirmishes at the "Railroad Cut."



Each state in the battle has its own monument (this is North Carolina's).



The renovated Cyclorama is incredible.

DAY 3 ▶ ArcelorMittal & Koppers Inc.



No pictures were allowed at ArcelorMittal, so our first picture is of the Koppers yard at their Susquehanna facility in Muncie, Pa.



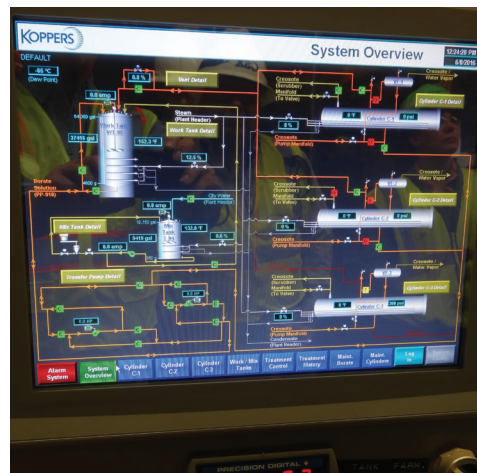
The grading and sorting station is extremely well lit.



And the plant is in great shape thanks to Allan Rutz (not shown). Note how clean the creosote offloading area and tank farm are.



Jerry Horning explains the new computerized operations at the plant ...



...that make the TruCore borate-creosote dual treating process even more efficient.

A Big Thank You From RTA!



RTA could not conduct successful member-focused events like this year's Annual Field Trip without a lot of volunteer efforts and support.

Volunteer Efforts are Critical to Success – Many Thanks to Trip Facilitators:

David Whitted and Kenny Dailey of Stella-Jones, Tim Ries and Allan Rutz of Koppers, and Doug Mellott and Howard Tomlinson of Mellott Wood Preserving, and the MSHS Committee Members.

We are thankful for our sponsors:

MiTek Industries for snacks on the bus; Stella-Jones Corp. for a reception; Brewco for the Monday night reception; Koppers Inc. for lunch at the plant and transportation; Gross & Janes Co. for transportation; Mellott Wood Preserving for lunch at the plant; Appalachian Timber Services for a

general sponsorship; JH Baxter & Co. for bus transportation; Wheeler Lumber, LLC for bus transportation; and Nisus Corp. for bus transportation.

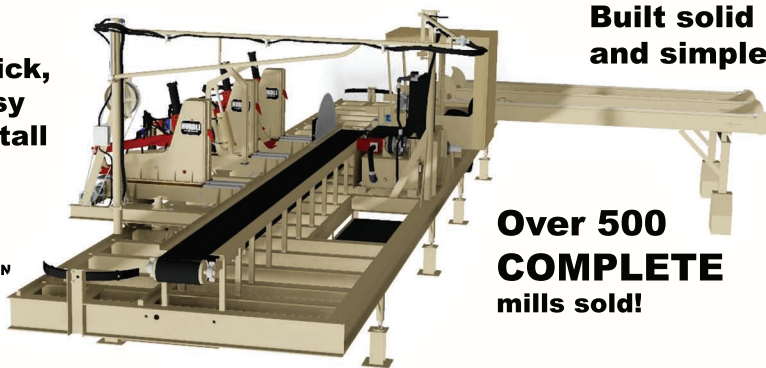
RTA would also like to recognize the members who took time from their schedules to attend the field trip: Rick Gibson and Roy Henderson of Appalachian Timber Services; Tim Carey of Arch Wood Protection; Hiro Yanagisawa of Arkansas Steel Associates; Paul Cabrol of Beasley Forest Products; Larry Fenwick of CSX Transportation; Gary Ginther of Eagle Metal Products; Kristine Storm and Matt Seinfeld of Genesee & Wyoming; Bill Behan and Mike Pourney of Gross & Janes Co.; Jeanne Olson of JH Baxter & Co.; Gary Ambrose, Tom Baron, Tim Ries and Allan Rutz of Koppers Inc.; Michael McNail and Matt Seal of Missouri Tie; Ken Jurgensmeyer and Bill Moss of MiTek Industries; Jeff Broadfood of Natural Wood Solutions; Ken Laughlin of Nisus Corporation; Jack Hughes of Norfolk Southern Corp.; Bob Coats of Pandrol USA, LP; Joe Fenwick, retired; Antonia Goulart and Renato Goulart of RPMT Solutions; Kenny Dailey, Jason Dallas, Darlene Metz, George Caric, Buddy Downey, Ken Peirson, Jim Raines and David Whitted of Stella Jones Corp.; Wendell Griffin of StrikerBilt, LLC; Yohei Tatefuji of Sumitomo Corp. of Americas; Jimmy Watt of The Crosstie Connection; Dave Koch and Jeff Parrett of Wheeler Lumber, LLC; and James McKay of Wood Products Industries. ■

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