



RAILWAY TIE ASSOCIATION
2019 CROSSTIE GRADING SEMINAR
 August 5-8, 2019
 Amerities Plant in Hope, Arkansas

Monday, August 5th

5:30-6:30 PM

Reception at hotel, sponsored by ?

6:30 PM

Dinner on your own

Tuesday, August 6th

7:30-7:45	Welcome and Course Overview	[1]
7:45-9:15	Railroad Engineering Principles Used to Develop Tie Specifications	[6]
9:15-9:30	Break	
9:30-10:20	Continue with Railroad Engineering Principles	[6]
10:20-10:35	Break	
10:35-11:30	Continue with Railroad Engineering Principles	[6]
11:30-Noon	Tree to Track presentation	[5,7]
Noon-1:00	Lunch at hotel	
1:00-2:00	Wood Identification Basics (Tabs 3-5)	[2]
2:00-2:10	Break	
2:10-3:15	Wood Identification Basics (Tabs 3-5)	[2]
3:15-3:30	Break	
3:30-4:30	Wood Identification Basics (Tabs 3-5)	[2]
4:30-4:45	Break	
4:45-5:30	Wood Anatomy and One-Page Review (Tab 5)	[2]
5:30-6:30	Reception at hotel, sponsored by Brewco	
6:30	Dinner on your own	

Wednesday, August 7th

7:30-8:15	Wood ID with Cut-off blocks	[All]
8:15-9:00	Introduction to Crosstie Defects (Tab 6)	[4]
9:00-9:15	Break	
9:15-9:30	Tie Inspection and Grading 101 (Tab 7)	[4]
9:30-10:00	Tie Grading Station Video	[4]
10:00-10:15	Break	
10:15-10:45	Grading Quiz and Discussion	[4]
10:45-11:15	Demo of Tie Grading App	[3,9]
11:15-12:30	Lunch and get ready for plant	
12:30-1:15	Drive to Amerities plant in Hope, AR	
1:15-1:30	Get signed in and organized at Amerities plant	
1:30-2:00	Three groups of ties with defects	[All]
2:00-3:30	25 Ties to ID and Grade - Practice (Yellow Tab 8)	[All]
3:30-4:00	Answers for Practice Ties	[4]
4:00-4:45	Drive back to Hotel in Texarkana, TX	
Evening	Dinner on your own	

Thursday, August 8th

7:30-8:45	Large block wood identification test (Red Tab 8)	[All]
8:45-9:00	Break	
9:00-9:45	Insects, Fungi and Air Drying	[5]
9:45-10:00	Break	
10:00-10:45	Seasoning and Treating (Tab 9)	[8]
10:45-11:00	Full cell demo	[2]
11:00-11:30	Wood Tie and Timber Procurement (Tab 9)	[7]
11:30-12:30	Lunch and get ready for plant	
12:30-1:15	Drive to Amerities plant in Hope, AR	
1:15-1:30	Get signed in and organized at Amerities plant	
1:30-2:15	Tour treating plant	
2:30-3:30	25 Ties to ID and Grade (Blue Tab 8)	[All]
3:30-4:00	Answers for Final Test	[4]
4:00-4:30	Final words and Evaluations, Adjourn (Tab 10)	[1]

Instructors & Committee

[1] Marshall Allen [2] Terry Conners [3] Barbara Stacey [4] Robert Pearce
 [5] Jim Ringe [6] Michael Skeen [7] Nate Irby [8] Brad Crawford [9] Jim Gauntt