Chicago South Shore & SouthShore Freight South Bend Railroad

Power to Move

2026

News for Customers, Employees & Friends of the Chicago South Shore & South Bend Railroad

Partner Spotlight: Chicago Port Logistics

Chicago Port Logistics is a new company with a longstanding mission. Founded in 2025 by Jim Morgan, the company provides logistics support for the U.S. government's food aid program, moving beans, peas, lentils, and cornmeal grown across the Midwest from remote farms and co-ops to an export-ready port facility.



Rail plays an important role in Chicago Port Logistics' success.

For a program built around lowest landed cost per metric ton, rail is what makes the math work. "With rail, you can ship more at a lower cost," says Morgan, Principal, who runs the company out of the Illinois International Port. Trucking often can't compete with rail on the volumes and distances this program demands.

That's the role CSS plays for Chicago Port Logistics: receiving loaded cars from suppliers, staging them, and delivering them on request, while tracking every shipment from origin to arrival. But for Morgan, the partnership goes well beyond moving cars.

"I think rail is an indispensable part of the supply chain, and Chicago South Shore does an excellent job in filling that role for a third-party provider like us," Morgan said.



Chicago Port Logistics provides critical support for the government's food aid program.

When Chicago Port Logistics launched as a brand-new company with no credit history, CSS was willing to take a chance when others wouldn't. "Chicago South Shore gave us an opportunity when we were just getting started. Their willingness to partner with us not only helped us get off the ground, but also gave us significant credibility in the marketplace," Morgan said. "There are not many companies that would be willing to work with a startup like that."

That responsiveness has stayed constant. "You can get someone on the phone at Chicago South Shore," Morgan said. Asked what his business is built on, Morgan doesn't hesitate: labor, facility infrastructure, and rail service. "We couldn't be successful without rail service," he said. "I guarantee you that."

Source: AAR

President's Column



I hope this note finds everyone well and that you are having a successful and productive 2026. I wanted to take a moment to recognize and reflect on the quality work our employees perform every day to make CSS a strong organization, operating a safe, reliable, and efficient railroad while delivering the quality service our customers expect.

CSS recently hit 1,000 Days Injury Free, which strongly demonstrates our employees' continued commitment to working safely while providing quality service to our customers. I take great pride in our team achieving this milestone for the second time in the past decade. It's an honor to work with such dedicated and professional railroaders who prioritize safety while delivering great service. My thanks to the entire CSS team for this outstanding accomplishment. Keep the streak going!

To our valued customers, I wanted to let you know that CSS continues to make significant investments each year in our track infrastructure and locomotives to maintain safe, reliable, and high-quality service. Each year, CSS spends well over $1,000,000 on CapEx projects to ensure the railroad remains reliable, efficient, and prepared to support customer growth when opportunities arise. In addition, we continue to own and lease railcars to help meet the evolving shipping demands of our customers. CSS remains firmly committed to ongoing investment in our railroad and resources to support the long-term needs and growth of our customers.

Have a great remainder of the year!

Todd Bjornstad
President
Chicago South Shore & South Bend Railroad

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Anacostia *On the Move*

by Todd Nuelle, Chief Commercial Officer, Anacostia Rail Holdings

Partnerships That Create Long-Term Value

In today's transportation environment, change continues to accelerate. Markets shift, customer expectations evolve, and technology creates new opportunities to improve service and efficiency. Amid all this change, one thing remains constant: strong relationships are the foundation of long-term success.

Whether serving a customer, working with a connecting carrier, or collaborating with suppliers and industry partners, lasting value is created through trust. Trust is built over time through consistent execution, open communication, and a commitment to solving problems together.

Customers have more choices than ever before. They are looking for partners who understand their business, anticipate challenges, and respond quickly when issues arise. Reliability and responsiveness are no longer differentiators; they are expectations. Organizations that consistently deliver on these expectations earn the opportunity to grow alongside their customers.

The rail industry has always been relationship-driven. While investments in infrastructure, technology, and equipment are essential, our greatest asset remains the people who make those investments meaningful. Dedicated employees, collaborative leadership teams, and strong partnerships all play an important role in strengthening the connections that keep freight moving safely and efficiently.

As we look ahead, the most successful organizations will continue to be those that balance innovation with a customer-centric mindset. By listening carefully, communicating openly, and maintaining a focus on partnership, we can create sustainable growth and shared success for our customers, our companies, and our industry.

At the end of the day, business is still about people. Strong relationships remain our most valuable competitive advantage.

HIGHLIGHTS

Celebrating Rail Heritage Through Community Partnership–*What a Ride!*

Recently, we partnered with the South Shore Line (NICTD), Metra Commuter Rail and WTTW/Chicago PBS to bring railfans a unique opportunity to celebrate the region's rich railroad heritage while supporting public television.

As part of a fundraiser surrounding the premiere of *Riding the Rails with Geoffrey Baer,* Chicago-area rail enthusiasts made donations to WTTW for the chance to win a special round-trip excursion between Michigan City and Chicago.

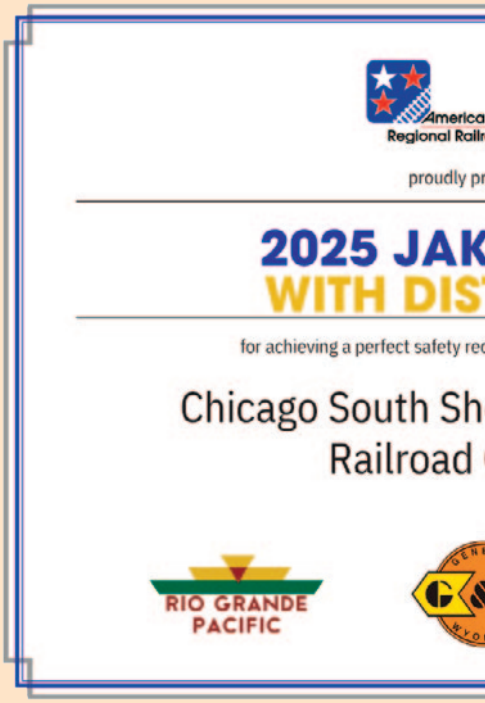
Twenty winners boarded the CSS Montana for a memorable journey that showcased the region's rail history and provided a one-of-a-kind experience for those passionate about railroading. WTTW host Geoffrey Baer described the experience as a "dream come true" for himself and the guests.

The event demonstrated the power of collaboration and the important role railroads continue to play in connecting communities, preserving history and creating memorable experiences.

"Events like this remind us that railroading is about much more than moving people and goods. It's about bringing people together," said Pete Oliver, CSS, Vice President of Operations. "We were excited to be part of an experience that connected rail enthusiasts with the history of our region while supporting an important community resource like WTTW. It was a truly special day for everyone involved."



Chicago-area rail fans celebrated the premiere of WTTW's *Riding the Rails with Geoffrey Baer* by supporting the station for a chance to win a special excursion between Michigan City and Chicago. Twenty winners boarded the CSS Montana for a memorable journey celebrating the region's rich rail heritage and the new program.



Safety Is a Team Effort

Honored for a second year of safety on the rails

For the second year in a row, CSS has earned the Jake Safety Award with Distinction, an achievement that reflects a sustained commitment to putting safety first, every day, on every shift.

Our employees achieved back-to-back years with zero injuries, demonstrating what is possible when safety is part of the culture rather than simply a set of rules. From train crews and maintenance teams to operations and support personnel, every employee plays an important role in maintaining a safe workplace.

"The accomplishment also reinforces a simple truth: safety doesn't happen by accident. It takes awareness, accountability, communication and a shared commitment from everyone," said Todd Bjornstad, President. "We are proud of our team and its dedication to making safety a priority."

Congratulations to our dedicated employees on this monumental achievement. The Jake Safety Award with Distinction is recognition of that collective effort and a reminder to keep raising the bar.



SmartWay® Transport Partner
Getting There With Cleaner Air

Barbara Sidor Haney:
Leadership Helping Shape the Future of Freight Rail

The future of freight rail depends on strong leadership, innovation and commitment to building an industry prepared for what comes next. For Barbara Sidor Haney, Senior Manager of Customer Service at CSS, that leadership is reflected not only in her work, but also in her commitment to strengthening the rail industry and supporting the next generation of professionals.



Haney is among the women leaders helping drive progress across Anacostia's family of railroads. Her involvement with the National Association of Railway Businesswomen reflects the importance of creating connections, sharing knowledge, and encouraging more women to pursue leadership opportunities across the rail industry.

Her example underscores an important point: building a stronger freight rail industry requires investing in people as much as infrastructure and technology.

"By leading, mentoring, and helping create opportunities for others, Haney represents the kind of leadership that will help freight rail continue moving forward," said Pete Oliver.

Advancing Sustainable Freight Through SmartWay Partnership

CSS is strengthening its commitment to more sustainable freight transportation through its partnership with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's SmartWay Transport Program.

SmartWay brings together transportation providers, shippers, and environmental stakeholders to measure and reduce fuel consumption and emissions across the freight industry. For CSS, participation reinforces the railroad's role in providing a safe, economical, and sustainable alternative to highway transportation.

"Rail provides a more efficient and environmentally responsible way to move freight throughout Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana." said Todd Bjornstad, President.

"By helping take trucks off the highways, CSS reduces congestion while also lowering transportation-related emissions. Rail can move the same amount of freight with fewer greenhouse gas emissions than trucks, making rail an important part of a more sustainable regional transportation network."

For CSS, sustainability is more than a goal—it is an important part of delivering reliable freight transportation while supporting the communities and industries it serves.

Source: AAR

> *"Rail provides a more efficient and environmentally responsible way to move freight throughout Chicagoland and Northwest Indiana."*
>
> **Todd Bjornstad**
> **President • CSS**



Investing in a Stronger, More Reliable Railroad

This year's capital expenditure program—which totals over $2,100,000—is delivering significant improvements across the railroad, with crews focused on maintaining track quality, improving operating performance, and extending the life of critical infrastructure.

A major component of the initiative is the surfacing program, which has seen crews surface more than 80,000 feet of track and complete surfacing work on 20 turnouts. This work helps improve track geometry and ride quality while supporting safer, smoother, and more reliable operations. Regular surfacing also plays an important role in maintaining long-term track performance and reducing the potential for future maintenance issues.

The railroad also completed a significant infrastructure project at Lincoln Yard, replacing the No. 10 crossover during a carefully coordinated two-day outage. Crossover replacements require detailed planning and precise execution to minimize disruptions while ensuring the infrastructure is returned to service safely and efficiently. The completed project provides an important investment in the yard's continued operating capability.

The tie renewal program is another key element of this year's capital improvements. Approximately 4,600 ties are being replaced across the railroad, with a particular focus on the Kingsbury Industrial Lead and the North Power/Lincoln Yard area. Replacing aging or deteriorated ties helps maintain proper track alignment, supports the integrity of the track structure, and provides a stronger foundation for continued rail operations.

Crews have also placed approximately 1,000 tons of new limestone ballast at locations throughout the railroad. Ballast is essential to maintaining a stable and resilient track structure. New ballast improves drainage, helps maintain track stability, and contributes to extending the service life of ties and other track components.

Together, these projects represent a substantial investment in the railroad's infrastructure and future. From large-scale surfacing and ballast renewal to targeted crossover and tie replacements, this year's CapEx program is strengthening the railroad's foundation while supporting dependable service for customers. By continuing to invest in infrastructure today, the railroad is building a safer, more reliable, and more resilient network for the years ahead.

1000 Days Injury Free on August 10, 2026

CSS recently went 1000 days without a reportable injury company-wide. This achievement reflects on the quality and commitment of our team, who come to work every day committed to doing things safely.

Railroading is a craft that takes years of experience to truly master. Maintaining an experienced workforce is essential to safety, and high turnover can make that more challenging. There is no one more important to the success of the company than the person closest to the work, moving trains, fixing cars or track. Getting the right people on the team and keeping them here has been key to our success. Treating everyone with respect and as the valuable professionals that they are is necessary to retain a high-quality workforce.

> *"We are so proud of our team."*
>
> **Pete Oliver**
> **VP–Operations • CSS**

Nothing is more important than the safety of our team. We all face decisions every day on whether to take the safe course or the expedient course. The right choice is the safe choice, every time.

"Reaching 1,000 days without a reportable injury is a remarkable accomplishment,



but it is more than a number; it reflects the commitment of every member of our team," said Pete Oliver, Vice President of Operations. "Safety starts with the people closest to the work, and by treating our employees as the skilled professionals they are and choosing the safe course every time, we are building a stronger, safer railroad."

This accomplishment comes on the heels of being recognized with the Jake Safety Award for the second year in a row earlier this year, a testament to our employees for their commitment to safety.

Employee Recognition

Our people are the driving force behind everything we do, and we are proud to recognize their hard work, dedication, and team spirit.

Annual Safety Dinner March 2026



We had 130 employees and family members attend our annual safety dinner which was held at Journeyman Distillery in Valparaiso, Indiana.

Charitable Donations

City Life Center Summer Programs–Gary

Gary Sinise Foundation

LaPorte County Sheriff Department for Children's Christmas Program and K9 Unit

Local Alzheimer's Association and Autism Organizations

Local Baseball

Michiana Humane Society

Operation Lifesaver of Indiana

Safe Haven

United Way of LaPorte County

Wounded Warrior Project

South Bend Cubs Family Outing July 2026



Our annual family baseball outing is always a great time.

Chicago South Shore & South Bend Railroad

Milestones

Congratulations to our employees for their service, especially those who are celebrating the following anniversaries with CSS.

Anniversaries

30 Years
Tim Carr
Charles Stantz

20 Years
Anthony Wojasinski

10 Years
Todd Bjornstad
Robert Novotny

5 Years
Michael Dobbelaere
Chris Felske

Retirements

Mike Shore
Vice President
2012–2025

New Hires

Richard (Mark) Casey
Justin Fogus
Shane Fuller
Rene Maldonado
Elian Morales
Jacob Skibinski

CSS Out & About

SUMMER MARS
Building Connections at MARS

The MARS Conference provided an opportunity for Anacostia to connect with customers, partners, and industry peers while strengthening relationships that help move the freight rail industry forward. Kathleen Sackett, Senior Director of Sales & Marketing for Louisville & Indiana Railroad and Northern Lines Railway—along with our own Anthony Kazakevicius, Senior Director of Sales & Marketing—represented Anacostia throughout the conference. From exchanging ideas to competing in the MARS Pickleball Tournament, the event highlighted the importance of collaboration, networking, and strong partnerships in shaping the future of freight rail, supply chains, and logistics.





WINTER MARS
Building Connections at MARS

Anacostia Rail Holdings recently connected with industry leaders at the Midwest Association of Rail Shippers (MARS) conference, reinforcing the company's commitment to collaboration and long-term leadership in the rail industry. The event provided an opportunity for Anacostia's team to exchange ideas, strengthen relationships, and discuss the trends shaping the future of freight rail. With a diverse portfolio spanning short-line railroads and ancillary services across North America, Anacostia continues to build partnerships that support innovation, growth, and customer success.