

1996 STS—Conference

RUNNING HEAVY-RUNNING FAST into the 21st CENTURY

The 1996 STS-Conference “Running Heavy-Running Fast into the 21st Century” was held in Montreal, Canada at the Queen Elizabeth Hotel on June 9th to 12th, 1996. The IHHA host member was the Railway Association of Canada (RAC). The subject of this Specialist Technical Session (STS) meeting was Freight Car Trucks/Bogies in Heavy Haul Service.

The conventional three-piece truck has been the workhorse of the railway industry for decades. It has served us well. But business pressures are forcing heavy haul railroads to “push the envelope” as far as it will go. Every element of the heavy haul system is being pushed to the limit. As a result, latent problems are emerging that were not previously matters of concern. The freight car bogie is not exempt from this process. New truck/bogie designs are emerging. Research, testing and economic evaluations are taking place.

This conference is intended to answer the following questions;

1. What is the current state-of-the-art in truck/bogie design.
2. What is the current state-of-knowledge of bogie/truck interaction.
3. Where is railroad truck/bogie design headed.
4. What are the still-unanswered questions.
5. What design concepts are still in dispute.
6. What new research and development is needed.

The technical program was two and a half days, followed by post-conference tours. A tour of The National Research Council of Canada’s Centre for Surface Transportation Technology in Ottawa, Ontario was provided. A tour of the Quebec North Shore & Labrador Railway and Quebec Cartier Railway was arranged.

The bound Conference Proceedings contain presentations, for a total pages.

