

Rail Sector Coordinating Council

Charter

Approved: November 2023

1. Official Designation

The official designation of this organization is the Rail Sector Coordinating Council.

2. Purpose

In accordance with the National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP), this charter defines the structure and governance of the cooperative efforts of railroads operating in the United States to advance the security mission, physical and cyber.

3. Mission

The Rail Sector Coordinating Council (SCC) is the rail industry organized and managed representative forum for coordination and for consultations on matters pertaining to physical and cyber security – both amongst railroads and industry organizations and with governmental entities in the United States.

3.1 Areas of activity for the Rail SCC are:

- Serving as the principal rail industry liaison with United States government departments and agencies on matters pertaining to security;
- Coordinating with these governmental components on rail security strategy, programs, and policies;
- Identifying and advancing capabilities, procedures, and related opportunities to enhance collective means to address security challenges; and
- Defining and pursuing priorities for intelligence analyses and security information sharing between United States government components and the industry

4. Governance

4.1 Membership

- Membership in the Rail SCC is open to freight and passenger railroads that operate in the United States.
- The current membership roster is an Appendix to this Charter
- The distinction between “Participating” and “Consultative” members reflects the differing level of involvement by the organizations.
- Participating members engage regularly in the teleconferences or meetings of the SCC.
- Consultative members receive communications on SCC activities,

with the continuous opportunity to participate in consultations and to provide input.

- All members, regardless of these descriptive categories, may participate in any and all teleconferences and meetings of the SCC.
- The roster is reviewed and updated at least annually to ensure accuracy and currency.

4.2 Management

The efforts of the Rail SCC are managed and coordinated by the designated Security Department Representative with the Association of American Railroads (AAR) as Chair.

4.3 Operating Procedures

- Meetings:

- Meetings of the Rail SCC take place via teleconference and in-person sessions.
- Joint meetings with officials of the Federal governments in the United States and Canada occur on a recurring basis.
- Where consensus on agreed priorities and actions is the objective, consultations with United States government officials take place under the Critical Infrastructure Partnership Advisory Council (CIPAC) framework.

- Participation by Non-Members:

- The Rail SCC may invite non-members to participate in discussions of and deliberations on specific issues or initiatives.
- The purpose of this expanded participation is to attain and apply necessary subject matter expertise and perspective on cross-sector concerns in critical infrastructure protection and resilience.
- For this purpose, the designated non-members may attend meetings and conference calls to which they have been invited – under express agreement to maintain the confidentiality of the matters discussed.

4.4 Task or Working Groups

- The Rail SCC may establish Task or Working Groups to address specific areas of emphasis, issues of concern, and future initiatives.
- To the extent practicable, members participating in a Task or Working Group should bring expertise, experience, or practical context most appropriate for the subject matter assigned.
- In pursuing their assigned purpose, Task or Working Group members may consult with, and seek input from, other members of the Rail SCC, Federal government officials, and subject matter experts outside of the Council and government, as warranted.
- Reports on activities and progress will be provided during meetings of the Rail SCC, whether in-person or by teleconference.

4.5 Membership Status Review

- Each January, an updated membership roster will be appended to this Charter.
- Revisions may be made at any time during the year as well to reflect changes in membership.

5. Charter Review and Revision

Annual Review: This Charter will be reviewed annually for consideration of revisions and updates that may be determined necessary to ensure its continued effectiveness in guiding the activities of the Rail SCC.

Appendix
Rail Sector Coordinating Council Organizational Membership Roster
(Current as of November 2023)

Participating Members

- Alaska Railroad Corporation
- Alton & Southern Railway Company
- American Short Line and Regional Railroad Association (ASLRRA)
- Amtrak – National Railroad Passenger Corporation
- Anacostia Rail Holdings
- Association of American Railroads (AAR)
- Belt Railway Company of Chicago
- Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Railway
- CN (Canadian National) Railway Company
- Canadian Pacific Kansas City (CPKC)
- Conrail
- CSX Transportation
- Florida East Coast Railway
- Genesee & Wyoming, Inc.
- Indiana Harbor Belt Railroad
- Iowa Interstate Railroad Ltd.
- Massachusetts Bay Commuter Rail
- Meteorcomm
- Metra (Chicago area)
- New Orleans Public Belt Railroad
- Norfolk Southern (NS) Corporation
- Pan Am Railways
- Railinc
- Union Pacific (UP)
- Veolia Transportation
- VIA Rail (Canada – national passenger railroad)
- Virginia Railway Express (VRE)
- Watco
- Wheeling & Lake Erie Railway