Building on a Legacy

For over a century, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign has been the leading academic institution in rail transportation engineering in North America. Building on its strong academic and research programs in rail engineering and transport, Illinois introduces a dynamic new hub: The Rail Transportation and Engineering Center (RailTEC).

RailTEC recognizes the expanding importance of rail transportation to the economy, to society and to a safe and sustainable environment, and is committed to further growth and development of its teaching and research activities in support of the nation’s need for talented young minds and new technologies for this vital transportation mode.

http://ict.illinois.edu/railroad/railtec.asp
Overview of RailTEC

- Strong interdisciplinary faculty and students from all branches of engineering, systems analysis, transportation economics and business at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC)
- Extensive ties with leading freight and passenger railroads, rail technology suppliers, trade associations, state and federal government, the railroad academic community, and engineering design, construction and management consulting firms

RailTEC Research Program

- Cutting-edge expertise in rail freight, passenger and transit engineering, operations and management
- Rich history of rail transportation research includes Talbot, Hay, Schmidt and others who have made enduring contributions to the rail transport field
- Support for research from AAR, RSI, USDOT, TRB, railroads, railway supply companies and rail customers
- Broad range of research in infrastructure and rolling stock engineering, safety and risk, energy efficiency and environment, operations research, planning and design, signaling and control, business and economics and advanced rail transportation technologies
- Deep institutional knowledge and understanding of rail transportation, including expertise in traditional as well as newly emerging disciplines critical to advancement of rail transportation safety, efficiency and reliability

RailTEC Education Program

- Most extensive rail transportation engineering academic curriculum in North America
- Organizer of the W. W. Hay Railroad Seminar Series, presented biweekly on campus and broadcast over the internet
- Planner of seminars, short courses, workshops and conferences providing continuing education opportunities for the rail community
- Home of the W. W. Hay Railroad Engineering Collection at Grainger Engineering Library, the largest collection of technical and engineering railroad books, reports, journals and other reference materials in North America
- Organizer and host of the annual Railroad Environmental Conference
- Global ties to railroad academics and educational programs that strengthen and enrich the program

Collaboration with Industry

- Association of American Railroads Affiliated Laboratory
- Endowments from CN and George Krambles Transportation Scholarship Fund
- Program and research support from CN, BNSF Railway, Hanson Professional Services, Norfolk Southern, CSX Transportation and others sustains and strengthens RailTEC's educational and research mission
- Rail industry internships, coops and field trips provide first-hand experience and knowledge to students considering careers in rail transportation engineering