

# IHHA WCRR

2025 JOINT CONFERENCE | RAIL RESEARCH WEEK  
COLORADO SPRINGS, CO USA | NOVEMBER 17-21, 2025

## 13TH INTERNATIONAL HEAVY HAUL ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

*THEME: Inspiring Innovative and Resilient Railways*

November 17-21, 2025, Colorado Springs, USA



Hosted by



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## WELCOMING NOTE



The history of the North American railroad is studded with innovation in safety, reliability, efficiency, and resiliency. Moving into 2025, MxV Rail is delighted to be bringing together, for the first time in history, the **International Heavy Haul Association Conference (IHHA 2025)** and the **World Congress on Railway Research (WCRR 2025)** at The Broadmoor in Colorado Springs in 2025.

As hosts, we are leveraging these distinctive conferences to create an environment for freight and passenger rail experts from around the world to have an invaluable opportunity to come together as an industry and share perspectives, tackle challenges, and use creativity and science to pursue beneficial and lasting change in our industry.

Addressing the 2025 theme, ***Inspiring innovative and resilient railways***, this unique and historic joint-conference experience will be celebrated under the event banner **Rail Research Week**.

The event represents an exciting opportunity to connect partners with our extensive network, enabling them to showcase their brands, products, services, expertise, and knowledge in support of the international railway industry. From emerging technologies in moving people and goods to advancements in signaling, communications, and train detection, and the application of artificial intelligence, we are dedicated to finding innovative ways to expand efficiency, productivity, and resilience. Whether we're focusing on moving or fixed assets, our rail community is committed to improving system resilience so that rail networks can withstand and recover from extraordinary events. The conference presents a forum to explore the future of workforce development and human factors research to enhance the safety of our people and operations. Finally, Rail Research Week will help move our industry toward clean energy technologies that can foster new best practices and improve greenhouse gas emissions for both freight and passenger rail systems worldwide.

In both the passenger and freight rail communities, commercial partnerships are central to accelerating advances and I invite you to share your expertise and solutions and build on the momentum of this international collaboration. We are excited to invite you to participate in this first-of-its-kind event designed to bring passionate railroaders together to learn, adapt, and advance so our industry can continue to thrive.

Nestled at the foot of the majestic Rocky Mountains, The Broadmoor provides a stunning backdrop to experience a blend of breathtaking scenery, rich cultural heritage, and an inspiring environment for collaboration to enjoy the social as well as the technical highlights that await.

Your Colorado adventure culminates with practical demonstrations of current research. Learn how MxV Rail's work shapes the future of rail with a guided tour of our facilities including the new Facility for Accelerated Service Testing (FAST®).

Team MxV Rail is excited to host **Rail Research Week 2025** and bring these two premier rail events together to build the momentum needed to advance our industry toward safer, more reliable networks, toward more transformative technology, and toward more efficient operations and fewer emissions.

We can't wait to see y'all in 2025!

**Kari Gonzales | Chair, IHHA | President & CEO, MxV Rail, USA**



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# IHHA 2025 TECHNICAL PROGRAM TO BE RELEASED IN 2025

A huge thank you to the operators, innovators, researchers and experts who **submitted 580+ abstracts** from all around the globe. From cutting-edge technologies to next-gen solutions, these submissions represent the very best in railway research, inspiring innovative and resilient railways.

The Technical Committee is currently reviewing abstracts with authors to be notified in January 2025. The Technical Program will be released shortly thereafter.

## THE WORLD IS COMING TO COLORADO SPRINGS, USA FOR IHHA 2025



## SESSION TOPICS



SUSTAINABLE INNOVATION



TRACK



RAIL OPERATIONS



HUMAN FACTORS



HEAVY HAUL UNDER EXTREME CONDITIONS



VEHICLE TRACK SYSTEMS



BRIDGES AND TUNNELS



MOTIVE POWER, TRACTION AND EFFICIENCY



ROLLING STOCK



HEAVY HAUL OPERATIONS IN MINES AND PORTS



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# EVENT PLANNER

DAY ONE MONDAY 17, 2025	DAY TWO TUESDAY 18, 2025	DAY THREE WED 19, 2025	DAY FOUR THURSDAY 20, 2025	DAY FIVE FRIDAY 21, 2025
All-day <b>WORKSHOPS</b> Pre-conference <b>REGISTRATION</b>	All-day <b>CONFERENCE SESSIONS</b>	All-day <b>CONFERENCE SESSIONS</b>	All-day <b>CONFERENCE SESSIONS</b>	All-day <b>TECHNICAL SITE TOUR</b>
	Morning <b>PLENARY</b>	Morning <b>PLENARY</b>	Morning <b>TECHNICAL</b>	
	Afternoon <b>TECHNICAL</b>	Afternoon <b>TECHNICAL</b>	Afternoon <b>PLENARY</b>	
All-day <b>EXHIBITION</b>	All-day <b>EXHIBITION</b>	All-day <b>EXHIBITION</b>	All-day <b>EXHIBITION</b>	
Evening <b>WELCOME RECEPTION</b>	Evening <b>EXHIBITION NETWORKING DRINKS</b>	Evening <b>GALA DINNER</b>	<b>FREE</b>	<b>FREE</b>

Multiple Technical Streams

Technical Site Tour

Multiple Networking Functions

Exhibition Showcase

Thought Leadership Opportunities

Industry Meetings

Partnerships

Recharge Lounge

## REGISTRATIONS

**One ticket gives you access to both IHHA 2025, and WCRR 2025!**

**Your conference registration includes:**

- Two international rail events: the IHHA 2025 + WCRR 2025 joint conferences
- Over 70 sessions consisting of twelve concurrent technical rail streams per day, plus industry keynotes and plenary updates over four days
- Exclusive access to the exhibition hall showcasing the latest research, innovation and solutions
- Interactive digital poster gallery + all approved presentations
- Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea on conference days
- The Welcome Reception + Exhibition Networking Drinks
- Priority access to the special accommodation room block at the Broadmoor
- Gamification and knowledge sharing via the event app
- Boundless networking + industry engagement across the globe

**All in one place: the iconic Broadmoor, Colorado.**

EARLY BIRD RATE: Valid to July 18, 2025	STANDARD RATE: Valid from July 19, 2025
<b>\$US1600</b>	<b>\$US1900</b>
<b>Young Rail Professionals &amp; Academic Rate</b>	<b>\$US950</b>
SEPARATELY BOOKABLE EXTRAS	
IHHA Workshops	\$US550
Women in Rail Breakfast	\$US40
Gala Dinner	\$US100
Technical Site Tour	\$US50

*\*Discounted rate eligibility – reduced registration fees are available to young rail professionals (aged 35 years old and under on 17 November 2025) and academia (full-time university students and university faculty) to attend the IHHA & WCRR 2025 Joint Conference. This discount applies to the conference delegate rate only (not applicable to optional add-ons).*

*Notes: Young rail professionals will be required to show proof of age at the registration desk. Students / faculty will be required to provide their university ID at the registration desk and the email used for registration must belong to an academic institution.*

# SPONSORSHIP

## EVENT HOST



## DIAMOND SPONSOR



## PLATINUM SPONSOR



## GALA DINNER + GOLD SPONSOR



## GOLD SPONSOR



## SILVER SPONSORS



## INNOVATION SPONSOR



## BRONZE SPONSORS



Bringing together leading freight, urban and passenger rail experts across the globe to share perspectives on the challenges facing rail now and into the future, this historic joint-conference will offer suppliers, operators, manufacturers and innovators unparalleled networking, knowledge sharing and business development opportunities.

## WHO WILL ATTEND?

### Connect with Decisionmakers

The **IHHA & WCRR 2025** joint conference is the perfect environment to meet senior decision-makers from across the rail industry looking to learn, share best practice and network with peers.

### IHHA Conference

The International Heavy Haul Association (IHHA) is dedicated to the pursuit of excellence in heavy haul railway operations, engineering, maintenance and technology.

### 12th IHHA Conference - Rio, Brazil (2023)

**1000+**  
Attendees

**38**  
Countries

### WCRR Conference

The World Congress on Rail Research (WCRR) is the world's largest international congress on railway research providing the best forum for the gathering of researchers, technical experts and industry leaders championing innovation.

### 13th WCRR - Birmingham, UK (2022)

**750+**  
Attendees

**31**  
Countries



# IHHA & WCRR

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## VENUE | THE BROADMOOR



The Broadmoor is a legendary destination resort in Colorado with picturesque mountain views, luxurious accommodations, and unmatched services & amenities. This picturesque venue promises to be the perfect platform for sharing perspectives on the challenges facing rail now and into the future.

Experience this iconic Colorado Springs resort where personalized luxury and impeccable service offers an escape from the ordinary and modern details blend seamlessly with timeless European elegance. Here, the spirit of the West inspires the adventurer within, providing endless opportunities to explore the picturesque mountains, streams, and canyons that have influenced generations.

Additionally, the Broadmoor Event Center's state-of-the-art innovative exhibit space, featuring multiple breakout rooms with direct interior connectivity to the adjoining Broadmoor Hall provides an unmatched destination for a memorable IHHA + WCRR 2025 events.

**Hotel Address:** 1 Lake Avenue, Colorado Springs, Colorado, United States 80906



### ACCOMMODATION | PRIORITY ACCESS AT THE BROADMOOR

#### Enjoy the World's Longest-Running Forbes Five-Star, AAA Five-Diamond Resort

Special room rates have been negotiated at the Broadmoor for attendees of the IHHA + WCRR 2025.

Due to the high demand accommodation bookings at the Broadmoor will open for delegates sponsors and exhibitors from November 18, 2024. This is to ensure that those supporting and participating can secure accommodation at the special room rates. We expect the event room block at The Broadmoor to sell out so encourage prompt bookings.

Special IHHA + WCRR 2025 guest room rates including the Daily Resort Charge:

**Daily Single/Double Rate: USD\$ 238.00\***

This rate is available for online bookings from November 14 - November 23, 2025.

*\*Room rates are European Plan and exclude applicable taxes*

Visit the event website for more information



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# COMMITTEE

## CONFERENCE PLANNING COMMITTEE

-  Scott Lovelace, *CEO, IHHA, USA*
-  Kari Gonzales, *IHHA Chair + President & CEO, MxV Rail, USA*
-  Antonio Merheb, *IHHA Vice Chairman, MRS Logistics, Brazil*
-  Brian Monakali, *IHHA Vice Chairman, SAHHA, South Africa*
-  Per-Olof Larsson-Kraik, *IHHA Director, Swedish Transport, Sweden*

## TECHNICAL COMMITTEE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
|  Maureen Werner, <i>MxV Rail, USA</i> |  Matt Krech, <i>Transport Canada, Canada</i>                 |
|  Dingqing Li, <i>MxV Rail, USA</i>    |  Zhanguo Ma, <i>CARS, China</i>                              |
|  Jay Monaco, <i>Amsted Rail, USA</i> |  Xianhong Meng, <i>Shuohuang Railway, China</i>             |
|  Erik Gotlund, <i>TTX, USA</i>      |  Hannes Grabe, <i>University of Pretoria, South Africa</i> |
|  Charity Duran, <i>BNSF, USA</i>    |  Damian Birkin, <i>Aurizon, Australia</i>                  |
|  Dustin Lange, <i>NS, USA</i>       |  Thiago Viana, <i>VLI-Logistica, Brazil</i>                |
|  Leonard Evan, <i>FRA, USA</i>      |  Ravi Ravitharan, <i>Monash IRT, Australia</i>             |
|  Andie Berry, <i>CN, Canada</i>     |   |
|  Kyle Mulligan, <i>CPKC, Canada</i> |   |



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# START PLANNING THE TRIP OF A LIFETIME

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NOVEMBER 17-21, 2025 | COLORADO SPRINGS, CO USA

Set against the stunning backdrop of Colorado Springs and hosted at the luxurious 5-star oasis, The Broadmoor, the International Heavy Haul Association Conference (IHHA 2025) and the World Congress on Railway Research (WCRR 2025) promise an unparalleled experience for the international railway industry.

These premier rail events are your gateway to an invaluable exchange of cutting-edge research, technical advancements, and ground innovations shaping the future of rail.

For the very first time, IHHA and WCRR will unite, creating an extraordinary confluence of ideas under the theme "Inspiring Innovative and Resilient Railways."

Proudly hosted by

