

Freight Railcar Modernization Promotes Environmental Efficiency while Upgrading Critical Infrastructure

Modern Freight Railcars Create an Efficient Environment

New high strength and lightweight materials, innovative designs and advanced technologies equals lighter, more energy-efficient freight railcars. These modernized freight railcars carry greater loads and use less fuel, therefore reducing greenhouse gases. Incentivizing private investment in new freight railcars that utilize these modern designs with increased capacity results in reduced shipping costs and an increase in long-haul freight moved by rail.



RAILCARS ARE RECYCLABLE

1

The steel from scrapped railcars is recycled into new steel. Steel is the most recycled material in the world and its durability allows steel products to be reused or remanufactured. A freight railcar is manufactured with premium, high grade steel that originates from scrapped steel that is vital to sustainability.

2




The RAILCAR Act directly supports the vital iron and steel industry, which employs 387,000 workers and supports nearly two million American jobs. Steel provides nearly \$520 billion in economic output and generates \$56 billion in federal, state and local taxes every year.

3

Producing a ton of steel today in North America requires less than half the energy that was needed to produce a ton of steel 40 years ago, resulting in a 50% reduction in greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions.

Source: American Iron and Steel Institute

DIESEL FUEL AND CO₂ SAVINGS FROM RAILCAR CONVERSIONS

		
Covered Hoppers From Low Cube to High Cube	Double Stack "Intermodal" Cars Modified to Optimize Capacity	Autorack Railcars From Conventional Single-unit to Integrated Multi-unit
18.9% Capacity Increase	16.7% Capacity Increase	20.5% Capacity Increase
Annual Savings 30.5 million gallons of fuel .342 million tons of CO ₂	Annual Savings 15 million gallons of fuel .168 million tons of CO ₂	Annual Savings 59.2 million gallons of fuel .663 million tons of CO ₂
Savings Over 20 Years 610 million gallons of fuel 6.8 million tons of CO ₂	Savings Over 20 Years 299 million gallons of fuel 3.3 million tons of CO ₂	Savings Over 20 Years 1.2 billion gallons of fuel 13.2 million tons of CO ₂

Sources: The Greenbrier Companies, Amsted Rail Company Inc.