Transition Unit

The RailRunner Transition Unit (TU) provides the means of coupling RailRunner containers/chassis to standard locomotives and railcars equipped with conventional railroad knuckle couplers. Equipped with both a RailRunner coupler and a standard knuckle coupler, the TU is first attached to the lead RailRunner chassis/container before coupling with the locomotive or railcar.

Features

- **High Speed Capability:** RailRunner bogies have passed all AAR required tests at 70 mph and runs at speeds up to 100+ miles per hour.
- **Wheel Wear:** RailRunner bogies feature radial steering that mitigates wheel wear and tear, reducing maintenance costs and extending product life.
- **Smooth Ride Design:** Slackless coupling and air spring shock absorber dampened suspension on bogies insure damage-free transportation and attracts fragile, high-value payloads to rail lanes. The slack-free RailRunner coupler provides almost 100% less slack than conventional intermodal and 95% less slack than typical double stack.
- **Rail Car Components:** RailRunner bogies are equipped with standard, commercially available railcar equipment, wheels, axles, bearings, couplers/draft gear and braking systems.
- **Easy-to-Load Design:** RailRunner bogies easily couple with chassis using a failsafe-locking pin that secures the chassis to the bogies. Air suspension allows lifting of the road vehicle providing sufficient wheel clearance for the track.

Specifications

- **Width:** 8’ 4”
- **Overall Length:** 16’ 0”
- **Running Height:** 45” (top of rail to center line of drawbar)
- **Wheel Base:** 6’ 8”
- **Weight:** 19,000 lbs.
- **Max Operating Speed:** 70 mph
- **Carrying Capacity of bogie:** 91,000 lbs.
- **Rail Wheels:** AAR J-33, class C, AAR-1B tread
- **Roller Bearings:** 6” x 11” AP type Raised Wheel Seat, Class E
- **Operating Air Suspension Pressure:** 90-110 psi
- **Buff/Draft Capability:** 400,000 lbs. according to AAR RP-257-90 standards and recommended practice
- **Brake System:** NYAB TMB 60. Brake Valve DB-60 or equivalent and 1¼” i.d. brake pipe with gladhands
- **Forklift Pocket:** For easy positioning of the bogie on and off the track; frees track space
- **Safety/Security:** Optional security package, fully compliant with FRA safety requirements
RailRunner’s patented Terminal Anywhere system makes intermodal transportation cost-effective for shorter distances and for smaller markets by allowing a shipper to shift from road to rail and back without the need for transloading any freight or the need for terminals and expensive cranes to lift the container from one mode to another. This enables container-based intermodal transportation services to reach a huge market of manufacturers, farmers, shippers, wholesalers and retailers who are not located near traditional intermodal hubs.

As a consequence of the increasing pace of trade and the global demand for more specialized products, container intermodal traffic, combining the advantages of water to rail and highway transport, has been growing rapidly. The benefits of this combination of containerized goods and intermodal traffic has not yet reached deep into the infrastructure of the North American, European and Asian economies, where much of the world’s manufacturing and agricultural bases are located.

Without the consistently high volume of shipments necessary to justify a traditional and expensive intermodal terminal, shippers are forced to either use more costly road transport or to forego market opportunities altogether. RailRunner provides an accessible, economically efficient rail alternative.

RailRunner’s pioneering railcar, trailer and container chassis system provides access to container-based rail transport to a much wider market of manufacturers, farmers, shippers, wholesalers and retailers, thus dramatically extending the reach of current intermodal rail transportation. After many years of development, testing, and initial commercial operation, RailRunner is now poised to bring its innovative Terminal Anywhere technology to a wide array of markets throughout the U.S. and abroad.

**Economic Benefits**

RailRunner’s technology may be used to enhance or feed existing double stack networks, and to provide an intermodal option in markets that have been traditionally truck-served. These are enormous markets which present significant opportunities. On a revenue basis, trucks handle in excess of 90% of the 200 million short haul (300-800 miles) trips made annually in the US market alone. RailRunner provides an economically viable and environmentally sound opportunity to convert this current truck traffic to rail.

Rail service provides a consistent low-priced service over the variability in driver capacity offered by trucking companies. Improved service performance by the rail also eliminates the need for safety stock or increased inventory float to insure product is available. RailRunner technology provides the opportunity to benefit from the economics normally associated with rail in markets not currently serviced by rail or in markets that are currently underserved. A typical RailRunner train can transport up to 150 truckloads with a single locomotive and a two-man crew.

RailRunner’s terminals, with no specialized lift equipment or costly surface preparation requirements, have significantly lower capital cost requirements than traditional intermodal facilities. Flexible and scalable, RailRunner terminals can easily respond to changes in volume and to rail disruption to protect service commitments. RailRunner’s light weight rail characteristics, radial steering and aerodynamics provide savings via energy efficiency.

**Beyond Efficiencies**

The RailRunner system provides additional environmental benefits beyond just fuel and energy efficiencies: Moving traffic from road to rail helps ease overtaxed roadway systems. Radial steering and a unique airbag suspension reduce steel-on-steel noise. When coupled to bogies there is insufficient room for container doors to be opened, enhancing security. Air-cushioned suspension provides a ride quality reducing potential in-transit damage. Since cargo can be loaded into containers close to the production source, shippers have the ability to preserve the increased value of identity-preserved goods.