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All U.S. General Chairpersons

RE: 4/8/05 – All Carrier/Committees – Positive Train Control

Dear Sirs and Brothers:

The evolution of Positive Train Control (PTC), similar to RCO, is ongoing and technological changes are frequent, with some Carriers conducting "pilot" projects at various locations. The rapid advancement of software and introduction of new equipment supplied by a variety of manufacturers has been, and will continue to be, the topic of correspondence requesting assistance from the International.

In order to better serve our membership and consolidate our efforts, by letter dated October 18, 2004, this office assigned Assistant President R.L. Marceau and Vice President John W. Babler to all processor based locomotive control system technology issues. Almost all assignments involving remote control technology were consolidated and transferred to Brothers Marceau and Babler. Assistant President Marceau and Vice President Babler are coordinating their efforts with the National Legislative Directors' offices in the U.S. and Canada, as well as with the governmental regulatory agencies.

Several pilot projects involving some variation of positive train control are currently being field tested in different parts of the country. As such, this office has received requests for assistance to monitor and address the effects this emerging technology will have on the existing workforce.

It is believed the UTU should be pro-active in addressing the many complex issues which are associated with this new technology. Positive train control also involves processor based locomotive control systems and is related to remote control technology; as such Assistant President Marceau and Vice President Babler will also be assigned to assist General Committees with monitoring the development of PTC.

Fraternally yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paul C. Thompson".

Paul C. Thompson
International President

cc: R.L. Marceau, Assistant President
J.M. Brunkenhoefer, U.S. National Legislative Dir.
D.L. Hakey, Vice President- Administration
J.W. Babler, Vice President (w/encl)
R.S. Knutson, General Chairperson, GO-245
U.S. State Legislative Directors