



Consolidated Rail Corporation

Internal use Only!!

CONRAIL BULLETIN # 100527

General offices at: 851 Reed Road - Clarion Pa, 16214



Crew Call time is 18:00 hrs. (6:00pm – for the civilians)

Another session is set to go - Thursday night - 5/27/2010 !

Trackwork:

I have again been busy this past week - with the trouble we had at the last OPs session I began a major rework of the Track Blocks.

Yes - we are almost back to the DC type of blocking! Never thought that I would have to go quite this far but the SOUND engines are really loading down the system.

One of the first things I did was to make a list of all possible trains in a given area (Passing sidings and associated Mainline that could have a train setting on it during a passing maneuver or working an industrial area). This also includes all of the shortlines on the layout.

I figured each train having 2 engines as a worst case (it doesn't matter if they are sound or not - I just needed to know how many engines in a given area). Then I sat down to lump the engine count into the existing blocks to see how many possible engines were in the track blocks I had on the layout at this time.

With this information I began trying to balance the load on each of the 3 Boosters that I now had mainly by swapping track sections between Circuit Breakers. Each Booster has 4 circuit breakers attached to it!

There wasn't much I could really do as the load was fairly close between the three boosters but certain sections of the PM42 Power Managers were overloaded with the values I had calculated.

The only way around this dilemma was to add another Booster and PM42. I could have just added another PM42 to the one Booster that had the severely overloaded section but figured that if I were going to all of that trouble why not just add the extra booster and hope that it will let the layout run for another 2 years until I have to add another one.

I spent last week adding additional Bus Lines to several sections of the layout as I split down the trackwork.

The additional areas that I created were:

Reynoldsville
Rose Siding
Brook Siding & BE Siding

These were originally one block. They are now each on their own Circuit Breaker and Booster. There are several other areas that are cut up but these were the most important ones. I have rewired most of the bus line panels to make it easier to make any additional changes that will be needed down the road easier and quicker!

The testing will continue!

BOB H General Manager of Operations for Conrail - Lowgrade Secondary