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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Reading & Northern Railroad Celebrates Takeover of Rail Service to Humboldt Industrial Park**

**July 28, 2016. Hazleton, PA** - Reading & Northern Railroad (R&N) welcomed over sixty guests on a passenger train trip through the Humboldt Industrial Park on Tuesday, July 26, 2016.

Reading & Northern acquired the rights to provide rail service to Humboldt from CAN DO, the region's premier economic development organization, on January 1st, 2016. On that day RBMN took over the rail freight service from Norfolk Southern Railroad. Tuesday's train trip was to celebrate the successful start up of Reading and Northern service in the park.

R&N welcomed representatives from the Humboldt freight customers, CAN DO, Congressman Barletta's office, and other local and regional groups. R&N's Passenger Department arranged for two ninety-minute trips through the Park complete with lunch that included salmon, corn on the cob, and roast pork and cheeseburger sliders. The passenger cars included one of the famous Open Air cars that are so popular on the Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railroad, the passenger arm of the R&N, as well as private cars owned by Andy Muller, Jr. One of the private cars, The Black Diamond, is more than 100 years old and was built by Jay Gould for his daughter, Helen in 1889.

Mr. Muller, who was the host for the day, welcomed all the visitors and repeatedly thanked the customers for their business and CAN DO for its confidence in the R&N's abilities.

Both trains left on schedule; a hallmark of R&N and LGSR service. In fact, R&N is one of the only freight railroads in the nation, if not the only one, that offers all customers a guaranteed two- hour service window.

The weather cooperated and all the guests had a wonderful time.

Reading & Northern Railroad, with its corporate headquarters in Port Clinton, is a privately held railroad company serving over 60 customers in nine eastern Pennsylvania counties (Berks, Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Northumberland, Schuylkill and Wyoming). It has expanded its operations over the last 20+ years and has grown into one of the premier railroads in Pennsylvania. Reading and Northern operates both freight services and steam and diesel powered excursion passenger services through its Lehigh Gorge Scenic Railway, owns over 1,000 freight cars, and employs over 200 dedicated employees.

**Photo Caption:** (L- R) Kevin O'Donnell, President & CEO of CAN DO and Andy Muller, Jr., Chairman & CEO of Reading & Northern Railroad. *Photo by Crystal Arndt*