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**Reading & Northern Welcomes New Customer to Railroad**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

October 29, 2020 – Port Clinton, PA - The Reading and Northern Railroad (RBMN) is very pleased to announce that the first rail cars have been delivered to IRIS USA, our newest customer in the Humboldt Industrial Park in Hazleton PA. IRIS manufactures a large array of plastic organizational products and containers for home and office throughout the world. They are headquartered in Sendai, Japan and this is their first location on the East Coast of America.

This milestone caps the efforts that began for the RBMN in March of 2017 when we first learned of the potential new location of this large international producer of plastics products. Reading and Northern worked with CAN DO, Penn's Northeast, and others to help IRIS locate and choose the Humboldt site. The Governor's Action Team, Hazle Township, Hazleton School board and Luzerne County also assisted with vital tax incentives through the LERTA program.

An important element of the final site selection was the RBMN's ability to build the necessary railroad track infrastructure on time and on budget. Reading and Northern also offers a dedicated customer service group and provides a scheduled delivery service within a two hour service window. Reading and Northern Railroad is nationally recognized for its efforts in customer service and is the only five time winner of Railway Age Magazine's "Regional Railroad of the Year" in recognition of its new business development successes.

We are delighted to have IRIS USA on board and we welcome them to the family of Reading and Northern Customers.

Reading & Northern Railroad, with its corporate headquarters in Port Clinton, is a privately held railroad company serving over 70 customers in nine eastern Pennsylvania counties (Berks, Bradford, Carbon, Columbia, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Northumberland, Schuylkill and Wyoming). It has expanded its operations over the last 30+ years and now handles over 34,000 carloads of freight and 140,000 excursion train riders over 400 miles of track. Reading and Northern operates both freight services and steam and diesel-powered excursion passenger services, owns almost 1,300 freight cars, and employs nearly 300 dedicated employees. Reading & Northern has repeatedly been honored as one of the premier railroads in the nation including being named Regional Railroad of the Year in 2020 by Railway Age Magazine.