



PowerRail

The History of PowerRail

A Look at the Past 20 Years

With a love of trains and 25 years' experience in railroad and locomotive parts distribution, Paul P. Foster, PowerRail's founder and CEO, recognised a need for servicing the short line railroad industry.

In March 2003, PowerRail Distribution was born in Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania. At the time, PowerRail was simply a distribution centre, offering quality aftermarket locomotive parts to railroads across the United States.

In May 2005, Foster saw an opportunity to begin manufacturing parts and components in-house, and therefore service a broader scope of customers. A new building was leased in Connersville, Indiana and PowerRail Manufacturing began producing locomotive engine-related parts and components, including compressors, pumps, motors and more.

In October of 2006, PowerRail Distribution felt their first wave of growing pains, which led to the relocation of their main distribution centre to a larger facility in the neighbouring town of Duryea, complete with an 80,000 sq. ft. warehouse to support the company's rapidly growing business. As time progressed, Foster was able to bring railroad-experienced staff to PowerRail, along with an industry-accredited technical support staff.

The following year, in September 2007, PowerRail purchased Cooper Bearings in Georgetown, Delaware. Cooper Bearings is a leading remanufacturer of Bearings and Journal Boxes for both freight and passenger locomotives and cars. With over 20 years



of experience and a name so well-known throughout the industry, the decision was made not to change the name to a PowerRail facility.

The next few years brought unprecedented growth and expansion. In March of 2010 PowerRail Electronics and Technology was formed. 2011 saw the addition of Rail & Traction North America, and Avoca Rail Products joined the family in 2013. Avoca Rail Products is PowerRail's full-service fabrication and welding facility, supplying the rail industry with quality locomotive truck/bogie parts. Avoca Rail also specialises in products such as guide assemblies, traction motor covers, exhaust chambers, spring packs, and more.

PowerRail further expanded their capabilities to support the railroad industry in 2014 by purchasing a locomotive repair facility in Monroe, Georgia – PowerRail Locomotive Services – and added a Mobile Maintenance department, which is also housed at that location.

In 2016 PowerRail spread their wings internationally with the opening of PowerRail Australia in New South Wales. In 2017, PowerRail launched a Marine Supply



division – PowerRail Marine. With the additional companies, joint venture locations, and strong vendor relationships, the PowerRail family of companies offers a true 'one-stop-shop' experience.

2017 through 2019 were productive years for PowerRail as they continued to add new parts to their manufacturing product lines and new customers to their roster. International sales soared and additional support staff were added to distribution and customer service to handle the surge.

In early 2020, as our world coped with the COVID-19 outbreak and many businesses were forced to shut down, the PowerRail Family of Companies continued to service the rail industry. PowerRail was deemed an 'essential business', providing parts and components to railroads that are tasked with moving freight and critical supplies every day.

In Spring 2022, just one year before their 20th anniversary, PowerRail purchased a 200,000 sq. ft. facility in Exeter, Pennsylvania, and spent the next several months relocating their operations. The new state-of-the-art facility is more than double the size of their former corporate offices and distribution centre. The additional warehouse space and numerous shipping and receiving docks assist PowerRail in their goal of providing on-time delivery to their many customers around the world.

The relocation to the new facility has also allowed PowerRail the opportunity to consolidate some of their existing locations. Currently housed at PowerRail's new main campus in Exeter are the corporate offices and distribution centre, as well as two of PowerRail's manufacturing facilities, Avoca Rail Products and Cooper Bearings. Having all these facilities under one roof has allowed for more efficient synergies between the locations.

PowerRail's state-of-the-art distribution centre now features multiple receiving and shipping docks, and services hundreds of trucks per week.

PowerRail is now not only a stocking distributor of freight and transit locomotive parts, but also a true manufacturer and remanufacturer of aftermarket parts and components, which demonstrates the broad range of products offered. Over the years, PowerRail has extended their customer base to include short lines, regional, class I's, commuter rail and international.

As a recognised leader among the ranks of its competition, PowerRail is AAR M-1003-certified, a highly sought after quality certification in the railroad industry. Having the mindset of quality has given them an internal culture of 'Uniting Innovation, Engineering, Manufacturing and Distribution'. Congratulations to PowerRail, and to continued growth in the next 20 years!







Proudly Celebrating 20 Years of Keeping Locomotives Running!



MANUFACTURING

PowerRail offers a complete
line of new products that
provide quality and true
reliability for all demanding
applications. All components
are manufactured to meet
or exceed OEM specifications,
and must also meet our
rigorous internal M-1003
AAR Quality inspections.
QUALITY IS #1!



REMANUFACTURING

PowerRail proudly supplies remanufactured parts and components for locomotives, young and old. We offer Unit Exchange and Repair & Return options. In addition, our New-UX® Program provides a new part in exchange for a rebuildable core, which will be recycled and remanufactured for others.



GLOBAL DISTRIBUTION

PowerRail is a United Statesbased company with locations throughout the world. Formed in 2003, PowerRail's Global Headquarters is now located in Exeter, Pennsylvania. Our state-of-the-art Distribution Center features over 200,000 sq. ft. of warehouse space with multiple shipping and receiving docks.

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