



3100 Terrace Street  
Kansas City, MO 64111

## **JOSH M. YATES** **SENIOR CONSULTANT**

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Josh Yates is a Senior Consultant with ESi in Kansas City, Missouri. Prior to joining ESi, Mr. Yates accrued over two decades of experience in Class 1 railroad mechanical operations, which included safety, quality controls, production processes, and maintenance planning. Mr. Yates is an analytical problem-solver with a passion for streamlining operations, decreasing costs, reducing risk, and promoting operational efficiency.

Mr. Yates promoted, through various labor agreement and non-agreement functions, to direct the Union Pacific Railroad Mechanical Operations of Northern California. A Carman by trade, he has practical experience in freight car maintenance, the Association of American Railroads (AAR) billing practices, and a deep working knowledge of railroad wheels, trucks, draft systems, air brake components, and safety appliances. Mr. Yates leveraged his decades of rail experience to develop curriculum, design instruction modules and deliver training to employees. He developed course content to improve processes related to the inspection, measurement, adjustment, and repair of railroad freight cars.

He has served in safety compliance and regulation oversight roles. His responsibilities included accident investigation, incident command, derailment causal analysis and prevention, and collaboration with the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) and National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB). He was a hearing officer for Northern California, his responsibility area. Mr. Yates was often called upon to review and conduct industrial investigations in a variety of topics including labor, safety, and policy compliance.

He engaged in shared ownership of multiple processes; job safety analysis, safety management systems, and safety rule compliance, planning and testing. He is well-versed in Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) 49 CFR parts 215, 231, 232 regulation compliance, review, and settlement. He has leveraged data analytics within the software Oracle BI for report development and causal / trend analysis for both regulation compliance and safety arenas. Mr. Yates also has experience in aboveground diesel fueling system maintenance, repair, and rail industry regulation compliance. His fueling system responsibility included six sites, and three states, including California.

Always leading with an eye for rail systems and safety improvement, Mr. Yates was heavily involved in system-wide and local LEAN initiatives. He has leveraged the tools of eight step problem solving (A3), 5S, value stream mapping (VSM), visual controls (VC), and standard work (SW) development using the job instruction breakdown (JIB) method.

### **Areas of Specialization**

Mechanical Operations  
Rail Safety, Rules, and Operations  
FRA Mechanical Safety Standards  
Rail Equipment Incident Investigation and Cause Finding  
Risk Assessment and Personal Injury Investigation  
LEAN Systems and Practical Problem Solving

January 2025

## **Education**

B.S., Marketing Management, Park University, Kansas City, MO, 2008

## **Positions Held**

Engineering Systems Inc., Kansas City, MO

Senior Consultant, 2024 - Present

Union Pacific, Roseville, CA, Omaha, NE and Kansas City, KS

Director of Mechanical Maintenance, 2014 - 2023

Director of Derailment Prevention, 2012 - 2014

Manager of Mechanical Maintenance, 2011 - 2012

Systems Engineer, 2006 - 2011

Mechanical Foreman, 2005 - 2006

Carman - Lodge #6762, 2002 - 2005

## **Continuing Education**

LEAN Systems Certification - University of Kentucky

Practical Problem-Solving Training - University of Kentucky

Accident Investigation Training - Rail Sciences

Tank Car Specialist Certification – (TTCI)

Remote Control Operator (RCO) Air Brake Certification

Switchmen/Brakemen Certification