



## **Pioneer Lines' Railroader Makes Elite List of "Rising Stars"**

### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DENVER, CO, July 20, 2021– *Progressive Railroading* magazine has named Pioneer Lines' Nick Troutman as a 2021 "Rising Star" in its annual list of rail industry leaders.

Nick Troutman, Director of Mechanical, Fleet and Environmental Services for Pioneer Lines, was one of 25 chosen from more than 215 nominees representing Class I's, regionals, short lines, passenger railroads, transit agencies, government, academic institutions, engineering firms, contractors and suppliers.

The magazine defines a Rising Star as someone under the age of 40 who has made, or is making, a positive impact on his or her company, organization, department or team, and is viewed by others – peers, colleagues, supervisors, clients or associates – as an up-and-coming leader in the rail industry.

Jennifer Goss, who nominated Troutman for the award, notes "Even when people ask the seemingly impossible from Nick, he works to find a solution. There are countless people – from our CEO to our engineers – who are indebted to Nick for his tenacity, work ethic, and dedication. Nick has unquestionably made a positive impact on our operations and, more importantly, reflects positively on what it means to be a railroader."

Troutman joined Pioneer Lines at the Keokuk Junction Railway in locomotive repair over eighteen years ago. His current responsibilities include maintaining Pioneer's locomotives and overseeing strategies to make the fleet run more efficient and reduce environmental impacts.

"One of Nick's recent key accomplishments has been to oversee upgrades to our aging fleet," said Ross Grantham, Chief Operating Officer for Pioneer Lines, and a 20-year rail veteran. "This has included a meticulous inspection and assessment of each locomotive, identifying concerns and solutions to ensure the locomotives operate safely and efficiently. This is a considerable feat considering many of these locomotives are nearly double the age of Nick! His knowledge of both old and new equipment and his ability to work through even the most complex mechanical issues is impressive. He is hands down one of the best composite locomotive machinists I have ever come across."

Troutman will be recognized at the *Progressive Railroading* virtual awards dinner on July 20.

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**About Pioneer Lines:** A freight and logistics leader since 1986, Pioneer Lines owns and operates 15 short line railroads across 12 states. Headquartered in Denver, Colorado, Pioneer Lines is the local workhorse of the national rail network and the link for over 100 industries, from rural and small-town America, to domestic and global markets. Pioneer's railroads directly or indirectly support over 17,000 jobs in the United States and transport diverse commodities, including agricultural and food products, iron and steel, plastics, chemicals, building materials and forest products. For more about Pioneer Lines, please visit [www.PioneerLines.com](http://www.PioneerLines.com)

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