



**PRESS RELEASE**

*For immediate release*

***Farm Foundation<sup>®</sup> Forum examines transportation challenges***

OAK BROOK, IL Nov. 6, 2014: A shortage of rail cars to move this fall's grain harvest has been a frequent news item for several months. Yet rail service is only one of many transportation issues facing agriculture and rural America. Federal, state and county maintenance and replacement budgets are not keeping pace with the changing demands on the nation's aging transportation infrastructure—roads, bridges and waterways.

Transportation issues that will shape the future of agriculture and rural America will be the subject of the Farm Foundation<sup>®</sup> Forum on Wednesday, Nov. 19. The Forum will be 9 to 11 a.m. EST at the National Press Club, 529 14th St., NW, Washington, D.C. A live audiocast will be available for those unable to attend in person.

The Forum will begin with presentations by four industry leaders:

- Eric Jessup, Vice President, Transportation, Industrials & Energy Services, Informa Economics;
- John H. Miller, Group Vice President, Agricultural Products, BNSF Railroad;
- Mike Steenhoek, Executive Director, Soy Transportation Coalition; and
- Jon Samson, Executive Director of the American Trucking Associations' Agriculture and Food Transporters Conference.

Moderating the session will be grain farmer Mark Scholl of J&M Scholl, Inc. Mr. Scholl and Mr. Miller are both Trustees of Farm Foundation.

There is no charge to participate in the Forum or the live audiocast, but registration is requested.

***To attend the event***, register at the Farm Foundation website, [www.farmfoundation.org](http://www.farmfoundation.org). For those people unable to attend the event in person, a live audiocast of this Forum is being provided. It will include speaker PowerPoints as available, and the opportunity for the audiocast audience to submit questions. Register for the audiocast here: <https://www.webcaster4.com/Webcast/Page/219/6373>.

Audiocasting is made possible by a grant from Farm Credit. After the event, an audio file is posted to the website for those unable to be part of the live event.

***Who should participate in the Forum:*** People with an interest in agricultural, food and rural policy, including members of Congress, congressional staff, executive branch officials, industry representatives, NGO representatives, academics and members of the media.

***The Forum:*** Farm Foundation, NFP organizes these public forums to engage all stakeholders in informed dialogue on food, agricultural and rural policies. Participants examine current policies, explore and analyze alternative policy proposals, and give voice to new proposals.

***Audio from the session*** will be posted on the Farm Foundation website, [www.farmfoundation.org](http://www.farmfoundation.org). Presentations and audio files from past Forum sessions are also available at the website.

***For more information:***

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