



Robert C. VanderClute FCILT
Senior Vice President Safety and Operations
Association of American Railroads.

Bob VanderClute joined the Association of American Railroads as their Senior Vice President – Safety and Operations in July 2003. His department’s responsibilities include the oversight of the industry’s homeland security plan, equipment interchange standards, car service rules, quality assurance programs, safety initiatives and issues in environmental, hazardous materials, communication and signals as well as exercises authority for tank car safety standards and design. In addition he is the industries liaison with the FRA, NTSB, EPA, DHS, FCC and other regulatory bodies.

In 1997 he joined Parsons Brinckerhoff as the Vice President and Program Area Manager - Rail after a 30-year career with the US rail industry. During his 5 ½ years with PB he was for 3 years Program Manager, in London UK for the West Coast Route Modernization Project which encompassed the rebuilding and upgrading of the rail line between London and Glasgow and Edinburgh Scotland. In addition he spent time in the China (PRC) as well as being project manager for the implementation plan of the Taiwan High Speed Railroad, headquartered in Taipei. His responsibilities with Parsons Brinckerhoff included the development of a railroad industry strategic plan both for the domestic & international markets, providing continual internal technical rail support, and provide a professional presence in the Rail Industry network.

Prior to PB, Bob was Vice President – Operations and Chief Operations Officer of Amtrak. Reporting directly to Amtrak’s President and Chairman, he was responsible for the day to day operations of the company including the customer service, transportation, procurement and material management, safety, environmental, engineering and mechanical service centers and other key corporate responsibilities.

Prior responsibilities with Amtrak included Vice President of Customer Service, Vice President of Transportation, General Manager of National Operations and General Manager of the Northeast Corridor. During his career the corporation implemented a high-speed rail program; embarked on a 6 billion dollar infrastructure improvement program, replaced virtually its entire motive power and car fleet, and became the largest contract carrier of commuter services in North America.

A graduate of the University of Tennessee where he majored in transportation, Bob joined the New York Central Railroad where he managed several major operations. He completed various graduate school programs both at the Darden Graduate School of Business at the University of Virginia, as well as the Harvard Business School. He is a “Fellow” with CILT and is active in several professional organizations, serving on the board of both professional and public organizations.

