POSITIVE TRAIN CONTROL
A MUST–HAVE FOR THE SAFETY OF RAILROAD PASSENGERS & EMPLOYEES

Positive Train Control (PTC), is an advanced, life-saving technology that can help prevent certain types of passenger and freight rail accidents. The use of such technology, which includes the constant monitoring of data of a train's speed, direction, weight, length and more, can automatically slow the train in dangerous situations. If PTC was fully implemented nationwide by Dec. 31, 2015, as was mandated by Congress, many people would still be alive today, and millions of dollars would be saved following tragic accidents.

All commuter and freight railroad systems nationwide have been required to install and use PTC on their trains and tracks to improve safety, but PTC costs time and money. Without federal funding, several transit agencies, some that are already facing budget shortfalls, are struggling to keep pace to meet the 2018 deadline, which was extended from 2015. Some transit agencies are encountering logistical problems or just do not have the funding to install PTC. As a result, they may be forced to reduce or even cancel service completely. This is unacceptable and will make Americans less safe by forcing more traffic onto roadways that are 17 times more dangerous than trains.

PREVENTING ACCIDENTS

TYPES OF ACCIDENTS PTC CAN SAFEGUARD AGAINST:

• Derailments of trains traveling too fast.
• Collisions between two trains.
• Trains operating on misaligned tracks.
• Trains that accidently enter work zones or train yards.

ACCIDENTS BY THE NUMBERS

SINCE THE NTSB CONDUCTED ITS FIRST PTC-RELATED ACCIDENT INVESTIGATION IN 1969, THERE HAVE BEEN:

150
PREVENTABLE ACCIDENTS

300
LIVES LOST

7,000
PEOPLE INJURED

$385 M
IN PROPERTY DAMAGE

PTC BY THE NUMBERS

PTC IMPLEMENTATION COSTS TIME & MONEY NATIONWIDE

$10 B
Cost for all railroads to install PTC.

$3.5 B
Cost of commuter railroads to install PTC.

60 K
Miles of track on which freight railroads must install PTC.

8.3 K
Miles of track on which commuter railroads must install PTC.

4.7 K
Number of commuter locomotives that require PTC.

$22.5 B
Expected cost to maintain PTC over the next 20 years.
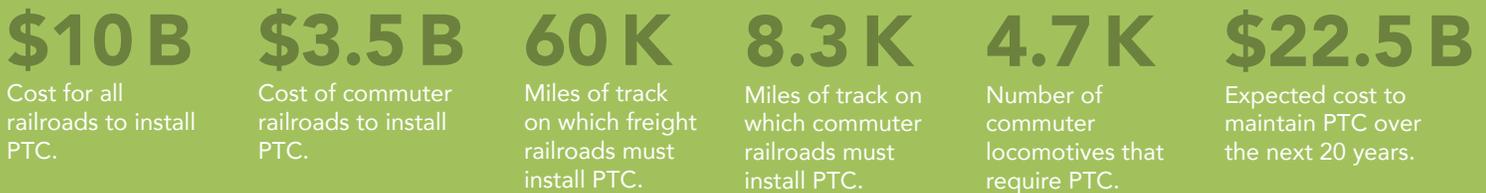
PREVENTABLE ACCIDENTS

PTC COULD HAVE PREVENTED SEVERAL ACCIDENTS OVER THE PAST DECADE

Sep. 08
A Metrolink train and a Union Pacific freight train collide, killing 25.

Dec. 13
A Metro-North train derailed in the Bronx. Four people died.

May 15
An Amtrak train derailed at 110 MPH around a curve in Philadelphia, killing eight people.

Sep. 16
A NJ Transit train speeds into Hoboken Station, crashing and killing one person.

Dec. 17
Amtrak train derails as it speeds through a turn in DuPont, WA, killing three.

Feb. 18
Amtrak Train 91 is directed to a CSX train yard where it collides with a freight train, killing two Amtrak employees.

PTC TIMELINE

PTC HAS BEEN A TOPIC IN THE U.S. SINCE THE 1990S.

- **1969** — National Transportation Safety Board (NTSB) investigated its first accident that PTC could have prevented, in which four people died in a collision between two Penn Central trains.
- **1990** — The NTSB included PTC on its "Most Wanted List of Transportation Safety Improvements."
- **SEPT 2008** — Congress begins developing a bill on PTC following the Metrolink accident.
- **OCT 2008** — President George W. Bush signs the Rail Safety Improvement Act of 2008 into law.
- **OCT 2015** — Congress passes and President Obama signs a bill extending the PTC implementation deadline by three years, to Dec. 31, 2018.
- **DEC 2018** — Current deadline for railroads and agencies to install PTC.
- **DEC 2020** — Potential deadline for those who obtain an extension from the federal government.

WHERE PTC STANDS

SOME COMMUTER RAILROADS HAVE PTC IMPLEMENTED WHILE OTHERS WORK TO MEET THE DEADLINE
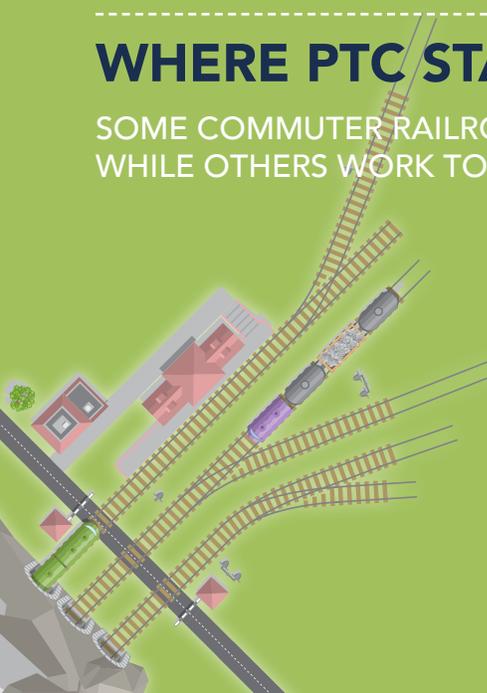
Amtrak

PTC is installed on parts of Amtrak's Northeast Corridor and in Michigan.

NJ Transit

Has only 35 of 440 locomotives fully equipped with PTC, as of the end of 2017.

Sonoma-Marin Area Rail Transit

Began service with PTC installed at 63 crossings for 43 miles on Aug. 25, 2017.

Metrolink

PTC was installed on all owned right-of-way miles by Jun. 2015.

RAIL**PASSENGERS**
ASSOCIATION

To learn more about PTC, visit www.railpassengers.org.