



Passenger Car Fleet and Locomotive Fleet

PROJECT FACTS

Project Scope

The Alaska Railroad (ARRC) has a fleet of 48 passenger-related train vehicles including 30 coaches, nine diners, six baggage cars, two business cars (charter groups) and one self-propelled diesel multiple unit (DMU). Three aging self-propelled diesel cars (RDC) were sold in 2009.

The 53-strong locomotive fleet includes 28 SD70MACs, of which 12 are equipped with head-end-power (HEP) to supply electricity to passenger railcars. The fleet also includes eight GP38-2s, 15 GP40-2s and two power/cab cars. Four aging MP15 locomotives were sold in 2009.

ARRC upgrades older equipment and buys newer equipment to expand passenger services. Upgrades include repainting, interior restoration, refurbishing power generation cars, rehabilitating railcar trucks, and overhauling locomotives.

2010 Project Costs/Status

- Dining cars 352, 451 and 452 will be updated in 2010 to accommodate “fast casual” dining in which passengers can choose quick-fix meal items to go. Several passenger cars will be painted and some will be updated per Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) regulations to upgrade lighting and public address systems, batteries and signage. Rehabilitation budget is \$535,500, funded 91% by the Federal Transit Administration (FTA) and 9% by ARRC.

- ARRC will overhaul four GP-40-2 locomotives in 2010, to include installation of engine idle-reduction systems. The Auto Engine Start Stop (AESS) system shuts the locomotive engine off after a period of time without use, and re-starts the engine automatically when engine controls are used or if the temperature drops too low. Along with the overhaul, locomotives will have a Tier 0-plus kit installed to bring the engine into Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) compliance for lower emissions and increased fuel efficiency. The budget is \$1,622,000 funded by the Alaska Railroad, in conjunction with a \$700,000 grant from the American Recovery & Reinvestment Act through the EPA and Alaska State Clean Diesel Grant Program.
- One GP-38 and three GP-40-2 locomotives will undergo truck (wheel assembly) overhauls

that will reduce future maintenance and increase reliability. The cost is \$180,000, funded by ARRC.



Dining Car No. 452 interior



Left to Right: GP-38 locomotive (No. 2001), GP 40-2 locomotive (No. 3013) and SD70MAC locomotive (No. 4324).