

DATE: April 19, 2022

Advisory

Alaska Marine Trucking tests self-driving truck in Whittier Rail Yard

WHITTIER, Alaska -- Residents, visitors and employees in Whittier may notice that one truck operating within the Alaska Railroad (ARRC) Whittier Terminal is not quite like the others. Outfitted with antennas, receivers and cameras racked on the cab roof, the truck is part of a self-driving test project initiated by Alaska Marine Trucking, LLC (AMT). The relatively new white Freightliner Cascadia truck is owned and operated by Pronto, a safe-driving autonomous truck company known for its industry-leading technology and stellar safety record.



The AMT project includes a month-long phased test that looks at the safety, feasibility, and capabilities associated with the potential future use of self-driving trucks in AMT operations, specifically for very short, simple and repetitive routes off of public roads. The testing is occurring in the freight operations area of ARRC's Whittier Rail Yard through April and, if successful, could have long-term environmental and safety benefits.

AMT is affiliated with the Lynden family of companies, which is a long-time ARRC freight partner and customer of the Alaska Rail Marine (ARM) barge-rail service, and of ARRC's container-on-flat-car (COFC) and trailer-on-flat-car (TOFC) operations in Whittier.

The Alaska Railroad also has a fleet of trucks, and employs equipment operators / truck drivers, in support of COFC/TOFC operations. The Alaska Railroad is not a party to the AMT and Pronto test project, and does not plan to transition to self-driving trucks or other equipment.

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CONTACTS FOR QUESTIONS:

- ARRC questions: Communications Officer Stephenie Wheeler, WheelerS@akrr.com or 907-265-2671
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