

## **News Release**

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## Flint Hills Resources' Pine Bend Refinery Receives Safety Award from Association of American Railroads

**Rosemount, Minn.** – The Association of American Railroads (AAR) honored Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery with the 2015 Grand Slam Award, which recognizes exemplary shippers. Each year the Pine Bend refinery loads more than 12,000 railcars with its products.

"This distinction from the Association of American Railroads means a great deal to us as safety and operational excellence are paramount to our business," said Geoff Glasrud, vice president and manufacturing manager at Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery. "We are grateful to our employees who are extremely diligent and focused in their day-to-day responsibilities."

To be eligible for the Grand Slam Award, a shipper must be honored by at least four Class I railroads and have zero non-accident releases involving their shipments during the previous calendar year. Less than 5% of shippers across the country have received this award.

Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery has been recognized numerous times for operational safety, including receiving the Governor's Safety Award and being certified as a Minnesota STAR worksite through 2018.

<u>Click here</u> to see a photo of Flint Hills receiving the Grand Slam Award at the National Railcar Shipper Conference. Zach McGraw and Marv Hakseth accepted the award on behalf of Pine Bend. They are pictured with Paul William (left) and Robert Fronczak (right) with the Association of American Railroads.

## **About Flint Hills Resources**

Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery produces transportation fuels used throughout the Midwest, including most of Minnesota's gasoline, diesel fuel, jet fuel, as well as other products people rely on such as propane and asphalt. Located 17 miles southeast of Minneapolis, Pine Bend has a capacity of 339,000 barrels per day and is among the cleanest, most efficient, and safest oil refineries in the country. Flint Hills Resources directly and indirectly supports more than 4,000 Minnesota jobs and has invested nearly \$1.7 billion on upgrades and improvements to its Minnesota facilities since 2010. With 1,300 full-time employees, the Flint Hills Resources Pine Bend refinery is one of the largest employers in Dakota County. More information about the company is available at <u>pinebendrefinery.com</u>.