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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**TANGENT RAIL FACILITY EARNS  
PRESTIGIOUS QUALITY ASSURANCE CERTIFICATION**

***Alexandria, La Plant Meets AAR M1003 Standards***

Pittsburgh, Pa. - (February 14, 2006) – Tangent Rail Corp., a leading provider of maintenance-of-way products and services to the railroad industry, today announced its Alexandria, La., wood products treating facility has been certified by the Association of American Railroads (AAR) as compliant with their M1003 Quality Assurance Standard.

The AAR's Quality Assurance Committee awarded the three-year certification following a two-day audit in October 2005. This nationally recognized standard is significant to Tangent Rail clients, including Class I, short line and transit rail lines throughout the United States and Canada.

Tangent Rail's Alexandria, La, plant is the second company facility to earn this quality assurance certification. Its manufacturing plant in McAlisterville, Pa, earned the certification in 2004. To bring all its wood products facilities in compliance with the AAR's M1003 Quality Assurance Standard, Tangent Rail plans to certify its remaining three treating plants within the next 18 months.

**About Tangent Rail Corporation-** Tangent Rail Corp. serves the railroad industry with quality treated wood products and preservatives, rail grinding, switching and track maintenance services, and environmentally friendly railroad tie pickup and disposal solutions. Founded in 2005, Tangent Rail has operations throughout the United States and Canada. The company is owned by PNC Equity Partners L.P. a private investment fund sponsored by The PNC Financial Services Group, Inc. (NYSE:PNC), and the management team. Tangent Rail Corp. is based in Pittsburgh, Pa., and can be found on the World Wide Web at [www.tangentrail.com](http://www.tangentrail.com).