

# Requirement 3c Study Guide

*Name four Rail Support industries and describe the function of each one.*



## Rail Support Industries

You only need to pick four of these. (You can even search the web for others, if you like. But you must discuss four companies that support the railroads as their primary task.)

The [Herzog Companies](#) provide four types of services that can help supplement the workforce of a railroad temporarily, for small or large projects. Take a look at what all four of the divisions can do. See if you can spot the Altamont Commuter Express (ACE Train) in two places on their website.

[LORAM](#) Maintenance of Way, Inc., has been around making special equipment for railroads as long as the Railroading Merit Badge has existed! Explore their [services page](#), and look at some of their special trains. (Clicking on the smaller pictures on each page will make that image the large, main image on the page.) What does a railroad need a rail grinder?

[Railworks](#) specializes in track building, in North America. This includes restoration of existing tracks, installing new tracks, and even things that connect to the track, like the signaling systems. What was their latest project in Vancouver?

[H & H Engineering](#) provides track building, inspection services, and track rehabilitation services in the Western U.S., supplementing the ability of small railroads and Transit Systems on an as-needed basis.

[TTX](#) has been supplying a collection of freight cars to its member/owner railroads, so that the railroads do not need to purchase large groups of cars that might not always be used. How does this *Pooling* help railroads? Their company [history page](#) shows what they have been doing while scouts have been earning the Railroading Merit Badge. Read their [company overview](#) to get a better idea about them.

[FreightCar America](#) designs special heavy-duty (50-year service life) freight cars. It's making many of them from aluminum for reducing the weight of the car, and giving the railroads better fuel mileage. Look at the different types of cars they make. Which interest you the most?

[Balfour Beatty Rail](#) will provide track and signal construction for small and large projects, and they highlight their expertise in electrified train systems. Look at their [capabilities page](#), and think about which trains in our area use electrified (non-deisel) trains.

[GEISMAR Modern Track Machinery](#) makes specialized equipment that makes it fast, easy, and convenient to install track and overhead lines (useful if you are a big railroad, with many projects). If your browser has Flash, you can watch a 4-minute demo.