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THE TANK CAR PEOPLE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## **UTLX Repair Services opens conversion plant at Marion, Ohio.**

Union Tank Car Company's Repair Business Unit has established a tank car remanufacturing facility at Marion, Ohio. The new plant was developed to retrofit existing DOT 111 and CPC-1232 specification railroad tank cars with new safety features required by HM-251. The cars will attain a DOT 117R specification that will allow their continued use in flammable liquids service. The retrofit adds top fittings protection, thermal insulation, an 11-gauge steel jacket, full ½-inch thick head shields, and a bottom outlet valve handle that disengages from the valve when the car is in transit. DOT 117R cars will also have their trucks and brakes reconditioned, as required, for 286,000 lb Gross Rail Limit service.

The new remanufacturing plant is located less than two miles from Union Tank Car's existing full-service repair shop at Marion. The 125,000-square-foot building, which previously had been used for heavy manufacturing, has been fitted with more than 1,000 feet of in-grade standard gauge rail, heavy lift cranes, and a turntable with scale capability that is capable of rotating a 66-foot-long tank car inside the building. A unique drum welder facilitates fabrication of the tank jackets. Cars are moved through the process by battery powered cart caddies that pull them from one station to the next.

A car shopped for remanufacturing is first cleaned, inspected, and qualified at "Marion 1" before it is moved to the new "Marion 2" shop for the in-line conversion. When the remanufacturing work is completed, the car is moved back to Marion 1 for fittings reapplication, paint, and stencil. The proximity of the two plants provides a seamless process and capitalizes on the established repair shop's ample capacity for waste treatment and management.

The remanufacturing plant received AAR certification in February. It is currently staffed and producing two DOT 117R conversions per day, with more planned as technicians are trained and earn AAR certification in their specialties.

Union Tank Car Company, with its Canadian affiliate, Procor Limited, owns

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and manages a fleet of more than 120,000 railroad cars. In addition to new railcar manufacturing facilities in Sheldon, Texas and Alexandria, Louisiana, the Chicago-based company operates a major network of tank car and plastics hopper car repair shops and interior lining shops. The company's On-Site® repair and inspection resources currently include more than 80 dedicated mini shops and mobile repair locations that are strategically located throughout North America. Union Tank Car, a Marmon Group/Berkshire Hathaway Company, is celebrating 125 years since its incorporation in 1891.

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**For Further Information:**

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