

**SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD AGAIN RANKED "FIRST" FOR INNOVATION
AMONG SMALL FEDERAL AGENCIES, HOLDS TOP INNOVATION SCORE AMONG ALL
AGENCIES**

For the fourth consecutive year, the Surface Transportation Board (Board) has been ranked the top small federal agency for innovation by the Partnership for Public Service's (PPS) *2013 Best Places to Work in the Federal Government*; *1/2 Analysis: Innovation* report, holding the highest innovation score among all agencies.

The Board achieved a 2013 small-agency innovation score of 83.9 out of 100, an improvement over the agency's 2012 score and the highest innovation score among all federal agencies. The government-wide score was 59.4 out of 100. The Board's distinction in innovation follows earlier PPS rankings of the Board as one of the federal government's "Best Places to Work" for five years in a row (2009-2013).

The Board attributes its top ranking to the active encouragement of employee suggestions, weekly open-door meetings with the Chairman, and recognition of employee contributions to the agency's mission.

"The Partnership's recognition of the Board as a top innovator among small federal agencies once again highlights the skills and achievements of dedicated, hard-working people committed to common goals in the public interest," said Board Chairman Daniel R. Elliott III.

The Board is an economic regulatory and adjudicatory agency charged by Congress with, among other things, resolving railroad rate and service disputes and reviewing proposed railroad restructuring transactions. Though administratively affiliated with the U.S. Department of Transportation, the Board is decisionally independent. To learn more about future career opportunities at the Board, visit the agency's site at <http://www.stb.dot.gov>, or USAJOBS; *1/2* at <http://www.usajobs.com/>. The PPS report can be viewed and downloaded at <http://www.ourpublicservice.org/OPS/>.

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