



**NATIONAL TRAIN DAY 2009 IN DES MOINES.
Iowa Interstate Railroad National Train Day Special, ready to
leave West Des Moines, IA, on May 9, 2009**

The National Train Day special was organized by James Larew, legal counsel to Iowa Governor Chet Culver. Larew is also an advocate for increased passenger train service in the state of Iowa.



The National Train Day special consisted of Iowa Interstate Railroad business cars, Hawkeye and Abraham Lincoln. The train was powered by one of the railroad's newest locomotives, 508, which is a fuel saving General Electric AC 4400 model.



Interior of IAIS Business Car, Abraham Lincoln



The IAIS business car, Abraham Lincoln, has seating for at least 40 passengers.



IAIS President and Chief Operating Office, Dennis Miller, on board the Hawkeye



Boarding the IAIS National Train Day Special is Des Moines Mayor Frank Cownie, a proponent of a green environment.



Iowa Governor Chet Culver was accompanied by his son, John. It was John's first time on board a passenger train.



Governor Chet Culver is an enthusiastic supporter of passenger train service and recently legislation authorizing \$3 million dollars to be used for state efforts to increase passenger train service in Iowa.



On board the Abraham Lincoln with his son, John, watching, Governor Culver signs a National Train Day Proclamation.



Governor Culver displays the pen used to sign the Proclamation. Looking on are his son, John, Iowa DOT Director, Nancy Richardson, and West Des Moines, City Council member, Ted Ohmart.



The National Train Day Special traveled the former Rock Island route from West Des Moines, Valley Junction, to downtown Des Moines. The train stopped at the former Rock Island Depot.



Governor Culver standing on the platform of the Hawkeye, waiting to address the audience.



Governor Culver tells the audience that he plans to be present when the first passenger train returns to downtown Des Moines.



The train returned to West Des Moines. Governor Culver is shaking hands with IAIS Chief Transportation Officer, M.C. (Mick) Burkart.



Governor Culver's son, John, leaving the Hawkeye, along with a friend that he made on board.



The end of a successful trip on National Train Day for Governor Chet Culver and his son, John.



Other passengers leaving the Hawkeye at the end of the trip.



IAIS 508 ready to travel east to return the business cars to their home base.



IAIS Business Car, Hawkeye, ready to leave from 4th Street in West Des Moines, to return to home base following the National Train Day passenger special.

