

## **WATTRAIN November 2018 Newsletter ATTACHMENT.**

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### **1. A brief history of Wattrain**

**1989.** 150th anniversary of Dutch Railways at Utrecht, attended by Heritage Railway Association of UK and Berliner Eisenbahn Freunde and Nederlands Spoorweg (Dutch Railways). The idea of Fedecrail was born then.

**1991.** An invitation was issued to all interested for a meeting in Hamelin (Germany). The meeting set up the Morgan Commission to investigate the best way to create a pan European railway organisation.

**1994.** Fedecrail (European Federation of Museums and Tourist Railways) incorporated in Belgium. David T. Morgan becomes first President (until 2017: 23 years). Most important countries represented: UK, Germany, France, Sweden and the Netherlands.

**1998** At a Fedecrail meeting hosted by Carlos Salmeron y Bosch in Barcelona, which was attended by the Cuban Minister of Railways, the Minister invited David Morgan, together with delegates from France, Belgium and several Latin American countries to the EcoVapor Conference to be held in Havana.

**1999** Conference in Cuba, attended by David Morgan, Quique Diaz from Argentina, Eduardo Rodriguez Ardila from Colombia. On that occasion, Quique proposed to create a World Railways Organisation. David Morgan's reaction: "In your dreams"! Quique invites David Morgan to visit his railway in Argentina: "El Tren del Fin del Mundo", in Ushuaia. Using the opportunity to visit their daughter studying in Argentina, Heather and David Morgan travel to Argentina, travel expenses paid by Quique. Through Quique, David meets Dante Porta, well known Argentinian railways engineer. At the time, David had no knowledge whatsoever of steam railways in Argentina. David made then several trips to Argentina. Quique proposed to hold a railways conference in Ushuaia. After David's objection that Ushuaia is not the centre of the World, Quique proposed an upside down logo, centered upon Argentina and showing Ushuaia at the centre of the planet.

**2000.** The conference convened in Argentina did not take place because of the internal Argentinian situation.

**2003.** Roger Waller from Switzerland convenes a conference on Brienzer Lake, in Switzerland.

Subsequently, David meets Tim Fischer, former Deputy Prime Minister of Australia and Head of Tourism Australia operation, Chris LeMarshall, Warren Doubleday, all active in Australia steam railways and trams.

**2005.** Conference at Tamworth (NSW) Australia, to celebrate 150 years of the railway in NSW, presided by Tim Fischer, mostly attended by Australian, and David Morgan.

**2006.** Conference in Ushuaia. Attending: Quique Diaz, David Morgan, Sergio Zubieta, Sergio's father, Heimo Echensperger, Tim Fischer, Chris LeMarshall, some UK personalities, some Australian personalities, Lord Faulkner, some people from Brazil and Peru. At the end, the participants visited Iguazu.

**2009.** "TINHATT" (Wattrain's predecessor) Conference at the Workshops Rail Museum in Ipswich, near Brisbane (Queensland, Australia), at the Museum directed by Andrew Moritz. On that occasion, it was decided to create Wattrain. The first three Directors were David Morgan, Quique Diaz, Chris LeMarshall.

**2010.** David Morgan set up Wattrain as a company in UK. The acronym stands for "World Association of Tourist Trams and Trains."

**2012.** First Wattrain Conference in York, UK. Between 2012 and 2015, Kyoichi Oda is entrusted to form an Asian Group, which then organizes a regional Conference in Indonesia attended by 12 people, among which the Indonesian Minister of Railway and Rajesh Agrawal, a Director from India Railways.

**2013.** APHTRO (Asian Pacific Heritage and Tourist Railway Organisation) holds a conference in Taiwan.

**2013.** The USA enter Wattrain with Bob LaPrelle.

**2014.** APHTRO Conference in Kota Kinabalu, Sabah, Malaysia, hosted by North Borneo Steam Railway

**2015.** Second Wattrain Conference, Saitama (Tokyo), Japan

**2017.** Wattrain changes its name and becomes "World Alliance of Tourist Trams and Trains ". It also enters a partnership with Fedecrail and the Union Internationale des Chemins de Fer, and creates the Directory Membership

**2018.** Third Wattrain Conference in Frisco (Texas, USA). David Morgan steps down after 12 years and becomes President Emeritus. Stefano Benazzo becomes President.

## **Remarks by Stefano Benazzo at Wattrain Frisco Conference, November 2th, 2018**

- Thanks to David for his presentation and his kind words, vastly exaggerated.
- Thanks to the Museum of the American Railway, to Bob LaPrelle, Kellie and all the Museum volunteers, and congratulations for achieving their move in such a short time. I wish to add that, for a decades-long addict to American Railways, the prospect to physically touch tomorrow the Big Boy 4018, a Centennial, a GG1, a Santa Fe FP45, a Fairbanks Morse H12 is a strong emotion.
- Thanks to the sponsor of the triannual Wattrain conference: MacRail.
- Thanks to all those who shared with us their experiences, their wisdom, both professional and human, their vision, their successes, the failures they witnessed.

- Special thanks to Gabi for her work in organizing this event, as she did for many other events, for interpreting and translating, and for doing all this with grace, even under heavy stress.
- Thanks to our Friends who flew over from Argentina, Australia, Chile, Colombia, Germany: our problems are very similar, be it in Europe, USA, Australia, South America, India, Japan, South Africa. There are many lessons to be learnt from this Conference. I am a strong believe in the “lessons learnt” mantra.
- Thank you to the Wattrain Board Members for their trust.
- I am amazed that Wattrain has been able to achieve so much in so few years under David guidance and with the continuous contribution of its members.
- This is the second time I participate to a Wattrain conference, after Tokyo three years ago, and I feel privileged to be here, and most privileged to having being coopted as President. I hope I will prove qualified for that honor. I am proud of it.
- When David Morgan floated the possibility that I might be his successor, I told him that his suggestion that an Italian become President of the Railway Alliance appeared to me quite bold and unexpected. I explained to him how much most Italians have disliked in time trains and everything connected to railways: for Italians, trains were often synonymous with emigration, poverty, humiliation. They were not, like in the United States, in UK, in Germany, in Russia, synonymous (at least in their initial stage), with development, growth, gaining new territories. In addition, Italian government monopoly on railways has greatly reduced private initiative related to rail museums and non-commercial networks. Anyway, David maintained his choice...and when Heather brought me yesterday at dinner night metal cutlery instead of the plastic set, I knew his decision was final. In Ancient China, such an offer would have meant that I was welcome to kill myself.
- A few remarks about Wattrain future: we intend to continue with the constructive relationship David started with Fedecrail and the International Union of Railways. About the Next Wattrain conference in three years’ time: the new President will be happy to organize it in Italy, in 2021. Please mark the date. Furthermore, I will propose to the Board to enhance our cooperation with some members, to start cooperating with others, to deepen our relationship with our South American friends, members and colleagues.
- I can assure you that I will faithfully follow General Wilson remarks, based on his own experience, about how to serve at the top. I stress the word SERVE. In my many years working for Government, I learnt the value of listening, of apologizing, of kindness. All comments and suggestions will be welcome. Moreover, I welcome the possibility of co-operating with our Patrons.
- A few comments about what I do. I have another passion: stranded wrecks. I took pictures of more than 200 in 6 years. I did 40 solo exhibitions. I wrote two books. Why do I do this? Because of the duty of memory towards sailors and all’ the men connected to life at sea. Because I believe in passing the experience of the past to future generations. Because I want wrecks to be, even if they are not maintained in museums, at least remembered. In fact, I follow the same guidelines that inspire us at Wattrain, HRA and Fedecrail. We seek to crystallize stories of men, be they sailors or Railway men, as a continuum of human enterprise, as Stephen Ryan said yesterday. Railways and ships touch every aspect of the history of men. Those men had the same character traits: sense of duty, courage, resilience, and acceptance of sacrifice, discipline, organization, preparedness, and many more. And it is not by chance that Europa Nostra, an institution bound to defend the existence and disseminate the knowledge about Heritage monuments in Europe, asked me to write - for one

of their books due to be published - both a transnational chapter about European shipwrecks on coasts all over the world, and a chapter about the Vatican railway.

- Last but not least: my most heartfelt thanks to my mentor David T. Morgan. We got to know each other in Sofia, Heather and him invited me at home in London, we went to Greenwich to honor the Cutty Sark, I could not yet reciprocate by having them at my house in Todi. I thank Heather and David for their encouragement.

- As my first official Act as President I ask the Board to hereby approve my proposal that David become President Emeritus of Wattrain, taking into consideration his courage, his vision, his capacity to motivate and convince people, his Ability to make Wattrain appear on the horizon and set sail successfully. Mr. President Emeritus, I count on your continuous advice (and, I hope, consent). Moreover, your help in trying to learn to fire and drive a steam locomotive.

- Thank you and, for those of you not coming to Durango and Santa Fe, have a safe return home.

### **3.Stefano Benazzo CV for Wattrain (14/11/2018)**

Born 1949

Italian citizen. Lives in Todi (Umbria), Italy

1967 Baccalaureate at the French Lycée Chateaubriand in Rome

1971 Degree in Political Sciences at Rome University

1971-1972 Military Service as Mountain Troops Officer (“Alpini”), Lieutenant

1968-1970 Works at Rome Bureau of CBS News

1973 Works at sports weekly Martedì Sport, Rome

During his diplomatic career (1974-2012), he served at the Embassies of Italy in: Bonn (1976-1980), Washington DC (1986-1989, 1996-2001), Moscow (1980-1983, 1989-1993). Deputy Diplomatic Counselor to the President of the Republic of Italy (2003-2004). Inspector of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (2004-2008). Ambassador of Italy in Belarus (2001-2003) and in Bulgaria (2008-2012). Retired Dec. 31, 2012, with the title of Ambassador of Italy.

President of the World Alliance of Tourist Trams and Trains (WATTRAIN) since November 2nd, 2018. Member of the Italian Federation of Tourist and Museum Railways (FIFTM).

- Artistic activity as Photographer of stranded shipwrecks: 40 personal exhibitions, participation to 30 collective exhibitions, 6 catalogues, 2 books, His photo portfolios have been published on art magazines, in modern art catalogues, online and in other magazines.

- Academic of merit of the “Pietro Vannucci” Fine Arts Academy of Perugia; Special Prize of the Jury of the Carlo Marincovich Prize, Rome, April 12, 2018. He has been awarded the Second Prize for Photography at the 9th Modern and Contemporary art Fair in Longarone, September 2014; the Prize of the Critic for Photography and the Prize of the Critic for Sculpture at the International Competition, Tenth Edition: “Time”, at the La Spadarina Gallery in Piacenza, July 2014; the honorary Award of “European Communicator” and the prize “Communicating Europe”, by the European Institute formation and orientation, Rome, Chamber of Deputies, January 2014.
- Sculptor (figurative and non-figurative); builder of architectural models (churches, mosques, synagogues, monuments, etc.); builder of models of boats and ships, cars, motorcycles; collector and builder of models of cranes, trains, live steam locos, train circuits.
- President of Circolo Velico Tiberino (sailing club) on Lake Bracciano (near Rome); Member of the club Società del Whist - Accademia Filarmonica, Torino; Member of the Club of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Rome
- Speaks French, English, German, Spanish
- Boy scout from 1957 to 1963; participates to World Jamboree in Athens in 1963.

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**4. Draft of minutes of the eighth (Annual) General Meeting of the World Alliance of Tourist Trams & Trains (WATTRAIN) held at 11.30 local time, 03.00 (GMT), on Friday 2nd November 2018 at Drury Hotel, 2880 Dallas Parkway, Frisco, Texas 75034, United States of America**

The eighth (Annual) General Meeting of Wattrain considered the following business as ordinary resolutions:

- 1 The Directors’ Report and Accounts were received and approved.
- 2 Directors Chris Le Marshall and Rajesh Agrawal resigned In accordance with the Articles of Association clause 21.2.7 and offered themselves for reelection under clause 21.1.1. Their reelection was unanimously approved.
- 3 Ernie Taylor Chartered Accountant of Canterbury, Kent CT4 7DJ, UK was proposed as independent examiners of the accounts. The Board unanimously approved the proposal.
- 4 The Board unanimously authorized the Directors to fix the remuneration of the independent examiners of the accounts: presently three hundred, 00 £.
- 5 Any other business:

- a) the Board unanimously approved the Special Resolutions for proposed amendments to the Articles of Association, as specified by David Morgan MBE TD, Chairman of Wattrain, as attachment to the notice given on September 25th, 2018 of the AGM Meeting.
- b) David Morgan stepped down as President and, after a proposal by Stefano Benazzo, he accepted to continue as Emeritus President, staying in the Board.
- c) Stefano Benazzo was unanimously appointed as the new President.
- d) The four Wattrain Patrons have been unanimously confirmed: Lord Faulkner, Tim Fischer, Courtney Wilson (present in the room), Sergio Rodriguez Zubieta (present in the room).
- e) Ian Leigh stepped down as Financial Manager and the Board unanimously approved that his job be taken over by Andrew Gill.
- f) Andy Masters was unanimously appointed by the Board to work on special projects to be defined, one of them being, the environmental issue.
- g) The Board unanimously approved that Peter Lewis continue working as Wattrain Press Editor.
- h) Stefano Benazzo mentioned the creation of the Latin America Project, considering the need to consider the wishes of the representatives of Colombia, Chile and Argentina. The Board unanimously approved. Courtney Wilson and Chris LeMarshall shall participate in the development of the communications: the Board unanimously approved.

*“Wattrain appreciates the valuable work done by Chris LeMarshall, Clive Moore and Peter Lewis in the framework of the Wattrain informal Commission on Website issues, and asks them to continue it.”*

The Meeting was closed at 12.30 local time.

## **5. Stefano Benazzo Remarks at Heritage Railway Conference.(Santa Fe, November 6, 2018)**

Just before the first event of the Heritage Railway Conference in Santa Fe, in the evening of November 6th, 2018, I was asked by G. Mark Ray, President of HRA, if I wanted to address the guests and say something about Wattrain. I accepted. The non-American Wattrain group attending the HRA venue was made of Heather and David Morgan, Andrew Moritz, Nigel Hunt and myself.

Here is a summary of my remarks.

- Thanks to Host and greetings to Guests.
- I recognized David Morgan, mentioning his long stint as first President of Wattrain (12 years) (and Fedecrail);

I elaborated on his long time passion; he received a long applause; I thanked him for proposing me for President.

- I explained how Wattrain was instituted, what is its membership in 5 continents, its relationship with Fedecrail, UIC, HRA of North America (USA and Canada), HRA of Britain and Ireland, ATHRA (Australia), APHTRO (Asia).

- I elaborated on Wattrain's third Conference in Frisco, USA, thanking Tripp Salisbury (McRail Insurance) for being the sponsor, G. Mark Ray for attending, Bob LaPrelle, CEO of the Museum of American Railway in Frisco, and Kellie Murphy for being instrumental in organizing the Conference; I thanked Courtney Wilson, one of our Patrons and a former CEO at B & O Railway for attending; I mentioned the Latin America Project and asked for help from the HRA members to locate and provide documentation on the equipment owned by the Latin American Railways; I believe that most of the North American Railways are ready to help.
- I explained Wattrain's mission, which is well known to all of you; I stressed that our aim is to fight to keep the ability of our Members to continue to burn traditional fuels such as coal, but at the same time to seek ways of reducing yet further the already minuscule impact on the environment; the total coal consumption of all the tourist steam railroads members of Wattrain is equal to about 6 minutes of the activity of an electricity-producing coal-powered unit.
- I thanked Rail Events (and its owner Al Harper) for hosting us in Durango, offering us a ride on the beautiful Durango and Silverton Narrow Gauge Railway. I thanked Jeff Johnson for assisting us perfectly.
- I mentioned that, as it is never too late to become an apprentice, I had asked my mentor David Morgan's help to find a railway where I could learn to fire and drive a steam locomotive.
- I thanked in advance John Bush, owner of the Cumbres & Toltec Scenic Railroad, for the ride which would take place on November 10th (and was by the way an extraordinary event).

## 6. Latin America Project

### WATTRAIN - LATIN AMERICA PROJECT - Revised - November 14, 2 018

1. The following Wattrain Members attended the meeting at Drury Hotel, Frisco, November 3rd , 2018, which was the spring board of the Project:

- Chris LeMarshall                    [lingage@iinet.net.au](mailto:lingage@iinet.net.au)
- Sergio Rodriguez Zubieta        [sergiotren@msn.com](mailto:sergiotren@msn.com)
- Courtney B. Wilson                [cwbizsuit@gmail.com](mailto:cwbizsuit@gmail.com)
- Eduardo Rodriguez                [eduardo2148802@yahoo.com](mailto:eduardo2148802@yahoo.com)
- Andrew Rodriguez                 [arodriguez@turistren.com.co](mailto:arodriguez@turistren.com.co)
- Eugenie Tueve                      [eugenie.tueve@efe.cl](mailto:eugenie.tueve@efe.cl)
- Jose' Tomas Breton                [hbreton@trendelrecuerdo.cl](mailto:hbreton@trendelrecuerdo.cl)
- Gabriel Asenjo                      [gabriel.asenjo@yahoo.com.ar](mailto:gabriel.asenjo@yahoo.com.ar)
- Domingo Kauak                    [domingo.kauak@efe.cl](mailto:domingo.kauak@efe.cl)    Tren del Recuerdo
- Gabriela Galizia                    [galiziagabriela@gmail.com](mailto:galiziagabriela@gmail.com)
- Stefano Benazzo                    [sbenazzo@gmail.com](mailto:sbenazzo@gmail.com)

**2. The following Tourist Railways and Museums in Latin America were mentioned during the meeting:**

**a) Argentina:**

- **Ferroclub Argentino**
- **Ferroviano Club Central Argentino**
- **Asociacion Amigos del Tranvia (AAT)**
- **Tren Patagonico (Rio Negro)**
- **Viejo Expreso Patagonico (Chubut)**
- **Tren del Fin del Mundo (Ushuaia)**
- **Tren del Las Nubes (Salta)**
- **Tren de La Selva (Misiones)**
- **Tren del Carbon (Santa Cruz)**
- **Tren de Villa Elisa (Entre Rios)**
- **A.R.A.R. Asociacion Amigos del Riel (Rosario)**

**b) Peru**

- **Inca Rail – Macchu Pichu (Eduardo a. Andrew Rodriguez can contact them)**
- **Peru Rail – Macchu Pichu (“ “ “ “ “ “ ” )**
- **Perumil**

**-Lima- Huancayo**

**c) Ecuador**

- **Tren Ecuador**

**d) Colombia**

- **Tren de la Savana**

**e) Chile**

- **Museo Ferroviario Temuco**
- **Ferrocarril Antofagasta – Bolivia**
- **Empresa de Ferrocarriles de Estado**
- **Corporacion del Patrimonio Ferroviario**

**f) Brasil**

- **Tren Curitiba**

3. The following "To do list" and basic points were agreed upon:

- Courtney Wilson agreed to be the turning table
- All correspondence should be in English
- Define - in all Latin American countries - Institutions, Presidents, contacts (English speaking), mail address, post address, phones, Website, etc.
- Goal of Project: to communicate everyone's needs and/or concerns in any specific field; to encourage constructive contacts among the specific Institutions in the various Latin American countries in order to streamline the flow of information; to ascertain available equipment and available documentation; to ascertain supplies difficult to find; to ascertain documentation needed to enable easier maintenance of available equipment
- Find as many other Institutions as possible in Latin America
- Create link in Wattrain site ("an online resource center") for specific and predefined users where documentation will be stored and made available to Members
- Start whenever possible bi-monthly Skype conferences
- Contact HRA, Museum of American Railway, manufacturers, Spanish rail companies, individuals who might know where to find documentation (Chris Le Marshall informed that he find someone who owns documentation)
- As a second step, share experiences in volunteering, in administration, in dealing with search of replacement material and equipment, in repair procedures, in training procedures.

## **7. Provisional list of Tourist Railways, Museums, Associations, etc. in Latin America**

(Assembled by Stefano Benazzo, November 14th, 2018.... a preliminary research )

### **Associations/Institutions/Guides/Companies**

1. Brazilian Association of Railroad Preservation (ABPF) - Promotes the preservation of historic Brazilian railway equipment and operates several steam railways
2. Ecuador Railways - Operates scenic tourist trains in Ecuador, including a popular route over the Devil's Nose
3. Railroads in Brazil - Guide to railroad books, preservation, museums, and locomotives in Brazil
4. Trains & Travel International - Operates luxury rail tours and railfan charters in South America

### **Railways:**

1. Argentina End of the World Railway (Ferrocarril Austral Fueguino), Ushuaia

2. **Argentina Great Southern Railway; Ranchos Railway Museum**
3. **Argentina La Trochita - Old Patagonian Express between Esquel and El Maiten**
4. **Argentina National Railway Museum Buenos Aires**
5. **Argentina The Ferrocarril Económico Correntino is a former railway in Northern Corrientes Province.**
6. **Argentina The Rainforest Ecological Train is a 600 mm train that runs through the forest inside Iguazú National Park in the north of the province of Misiones**
7. **Argentina Train to the Clouds. Salta**
8. **Argentina Tren de la Costa - 15km light rail line serving tourists in Greater Buenos Aires**
9. **Argentina Tren Histórico a Vapor - Steam train in Bariloche, Rio Negro**
10. **Argentina Villa Elisa Train - Steam train in Villa Elisa**
11. **Bolivia Expreso del Sur**
12. **Bolivia Ferrocarril de Antofagasta a Bolivia**
13. **Bolivia Uyuni Train Cemetery**
14. **Brazil ABPF Santa Catarina - Railway museum in Santa Catarina**
15. **Brazil ABPF São Paulo - Railway museum in Sao Paulo**
16. **Brazil Corcovado Rack Railway - Rio de Janeiro**
17. **Brazil Curitiba – Paranaguà**
18. **Brazil Estrada de Ferro Campos do Jordão**
19. **Brazil Maria Fumaça - Narrow gauge steam railway in Bento Gonçalves**
20. **Brazil Monte Serrat Funicular, Santos**
21. **Brazil Pantanal Express**
22. **Brazil Serra Verde Express - Operates three tourist railways plus the Great Brazil Express luxury train**
23. **Brazil Trem da Estrada Real - Diesel-powered tourist train in Paraiba Do Sul**
24. **Brazil Vale (ex-CVRD) also has a line with 1,600 mm (5 ft 3 in) gauge lines once operated in Minas Gerais, centered on the city of São João del-Rey**
25. **Brazil Vitoria – Minas Railway**
26. **Chile Santiago Railway Museum**
27. **Chile Tren del Vino**
28. **Colombia Bogotá to Zipaquirá**
29. **Colombia Turistren - 106km steam excursions from Bogota**
30. **Costa Rica Rain Forest Aerial Tram in rain forest canopy Braulio Carillo National Park**
31. **Costa Rica Tico Train Tour - 73-mile excursions between San José and the Pacific Coast**
32. **Costa Rica Train from the Los Heroes hotel in Guanacaste,**
33. **Ecuador Riobamba – Alausi**
34. **Ecuador Tren Crucero**
35. **Mexico Copper Canyon Railway – Los Mochis to Chihuahua, El Chepe**
36. **Mexico Jose Cuervo Express**
37. **Panama: Panama Canal Railway**
38. **Peru Andean Explorer between Cuzco and Lake Titicaca**
39. **Peru Belmond Andean Explorer**
40. **Peru Ferrocarril Central Andino SA - from Lima to La Oroya and Huancayo**
41. **Peru Hiram Bingham Orient Express Train Cuzco to Machu Picchu last station Aguas Calientes**
42. **Peru Museo de la Electricidad – Lima**
43. **Peru PeruRail train 914 mm (3 ft) Cusco-Machu Picchu line at the**

44. Peru The 3 ft narrow-gauge line (Huancayo–Huancavelica) will be converted to standard gauge
45. Peru The Cuzco – Quillibamaline in Peru is 3 ft (914 mm) gauge
46. St. Christopher and Nevis St. Kitts Scenic Railway - Narrow gauge railway
47. Uruguay km 110-Cantera Burgueño: 600 mm dismantled
48. Uruguay km 393-Arrozal 33: 600 mm (1 ft 11 5/8 in) dismantled
49. Uruguay Piriapolis-Pan de Azucar: 750 mm (2 ft 5 1/2 in) dismantled
50. Uruguay Puerto del Sauce (now Juan Lacaze)-Terminal: 3 ft (914 mm), (1901–1959) dismantled
51. Uruguay: a new narrow-gauge line, of around 1 km, with two diesel locomotives from the former km 110-Cantera Burgueño line, was constructed in a park on the town of Santiago Vazquez, in the West of Montevideo
52. Uruguay: several quarry lines of 600 mm gauge, among them the famous INDARE sand line. Around 300 m of that sand line is preserved and also a lot of steam locomotives. One of those is in working order.