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NEW LOCOMOTIVE FOR BRITISH RAIL AND THE EXPORT MARKET MAKES  
ITS DEBUT .....

A new locomotive designed to spearhead British Rails  
Railfreight services and compete in wider international  
markets was put on show for the first time today.

Named "Railfreight" and designated the Class 58, the new  
locomotive has been built at British Rail Engineering  
Limited's Doncaster Works, where it was today officially  
handed over to BR's Director, Freight, Henry Sanderson  
by BREL's Managing Director, Philip Norman.

The first locomotives to be wholly designed and built by  
British Rail and BREL for almost 10 years, the new Class 58's  
will be cheaper to build, easier to maintain and will be  
suitable for a wide variety of Export Markets with the  
minimum of design change.

Powered by a Ruston 12 cylinder supercharged engine  
developing 3300 hp (2460 kw), the locomotive will have a  
top speed of 80 mph (130 km/h) and weigh approximately  
126 tons (128 tonnes) .....

Accepting the locomotive on behalf of Railfreight, Mr Sanderson said, "I see this class of locomotive becoming the heavy freight loco for many years to come. Its low initial cost and low maintenance costs coupled with reliability will help Railfreight compete with the heavy lorry. In fact, it is its rugged simplicity which appeals to me".

A total of 35 locomotives have been ordered by British Rail but we believe the Class 58 design will also enable BREL to break into the locomotive exporting business.

The locomotive is a valuable addition to our product range and together with the Railbus and Cross Braced bogies will greatly enhance our export potential .....", said Mr Norman.