

UNION PACIFIC No. 6915

Stopped while crew on lunch break
Medicine Bow, Wyoming - August 10, 1979
Photo by Tom Biery



Union Pacific Number 6915 is a DDA40X Centennial class locomotive, which is the largest and most powerful diesel locomotive class built. Locomotives in this class were custom built for Union Pacific Railroad between 1969 and 1971, and were called Centennials in honor of the 100th anniversary of driving "the last spike" connecting Union Pacific and Central Pacific railroads at Promontory Summit, Utah Territory on May 10, 1869.

Centennials are fast-freight locomotives powered by two diesel engines mounted on a custom single frame. They were built by

the Electro-Motive Division of General Motors. The 6900's normally produced 6600 hp from two V-16 engines and travelled at speeds up to 90 mph. Each cylinder of these engines displaced 645 cubic inches. As an experiment, the first three locomotives were equipped with high capacity fuel injectors which raised the power output to 7000 hp. However, after one year the experiment was discontinued and standard fuel injectors were installed.

Centennial Number 6915 was built in October 1969, and was retired in 1984 having traveled over 950,000 miles. Union Pacific

donated No. 6915 to The Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, Southern California Chapter in 1985.

Number 6915 is one of 47 such units constructed, and one of 14 Centennials existing today. The only Centennial locomotive in operation today is No. 6936. It is owned by Union Pacific, used on special event trains, and based in Cheyenne, Wyoming.

Today, Union Pacific Centennial locomotive No. 6915 is one of the top visited locomotives at RailGiants Train Museum inside the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds in Pomona, California.

SPECIFICATIONS

Total Weight:	545,432 lbs.	Water Capacity:	300 gallons
Length:	98 ft, 5 in.	Maximum Horsepower:	6,600
Wheel Diameter:	40 in.	Maximum Tractive Effort:	136,000 lbs.
Fuel:	Diesel	Top speed:	90 MPH
Fuel Capacity:	8,200 gallons	Builder:	General Motors, Electro-Motive Division



At the Los Angeles County Fairgrounds

The Railway and Locomotive Historical Society,
Southern California Chapter

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