



## **GREAT CENTRAL RAILWAY**

LOUGHBOROUGH, LEICESTERSHIRE

### **PRESS INFORMATION**

**Date:** 11th October 2010

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## **TOOLED UP!**

**Great Central Railway plays host to biggest  
ever corporate event for Cromwell Tools**

**2500 delegates set to learn to the ropes on the footplate  
(October 12th, 13th)**

**The Great Central Railway is delighted to be playing a part in a three day corporate event which will bring thousands of people to Loughborough. Cromwell Tools, based in Leicester is staging a conference so leading tools manufacturers from around the world can meet clients and users.**

A special exhibition will take place at Loughborough University with the railway being chosen to handle to social side of the event.

**“This is the largest Industrial Interface of Suppliers and their user customers ever held in the UK”** says Michael Gregory, the Group Managing Director of Cromwell. **The venue is the Loughborough University and the Great Central Railway. Cromwell, the UK’s largest Industrial Supplies Distributor based in Leicester was requested by world leading manufacturers to organise and co ordinate the whole event on their behalf.”**

Some 2,500 visitors from across the UK and Ireland are expected to attend the event to meet 95 of the world’s leading industrial supply companies including BOSCH, SANDVIK, 3M, MAKITA, MITUTOYO, LOCTITE, DEWALT, CASTROL, MITSUBISHI, SUMITOMO, GUHRING and HITACHI.



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The railway will be providing a very different way of relaxing after business. The delegates will be invited to experience life on the footplate of a steam engine. The railway will be running up to six separate locomotives each day, departing every twenty minutes in order to ensure everyone can take a turn. Lead locomotive will be unique BR Standard 8 number 71000 "Duke of Gloucester" pulling the newly created "Cromwell Pullman Train".

Bill Ford, president of the Great Central Railway said, **"This is a remarkable event. For the next three days the railway will be busier than it ever was when it was a main line to London! We're delighted to part of the package which will bring so many people to Loughborough. It will be a logistical challenge but one which we are relishing."**

These are very busy times for the GCR. The attraction picked up two tourism awards on Thursday, saw itself on national television on Wednesday in its own documentary, and welcomed thousands of visitors over the last weekend for a major steam gala.

**ENDS**  
**WORDS 379**

#### **MEDIA INVITATION:**

The media are invited on Tuesday and Wednesday to Quorn and Woodhouse station on the Great Central Railway to see the conference delegates taking their turn on the footplate. Please call to arrange a time on the number at the top of the press release.

#### **NOTES:**

Voted number 12 on the list of the 50 greatest railway journeys in the world the Great Central Railway is the UK's only double track, main line heritage railway. It's the only place in the world where full size steam engines can be seen passing each other – just as it was when steam ruled the rails. The preserved railway celebrated its 40th anniversary in 2009, and is manned by around 700 volunteers and a small team of permanent staff. Preservation of this section of the Great Central Railway began in 1969. The route was originally part of a main line from Sheffield to London. The 8 mile preserved section between Loughborough and Leicester is fully operational and the 4 stations reflect a different period of the railways 111 year history. Around 100,000 visitors a year come to the railway from all over the world.

Cromwell is Europe's leading independent supplier of maintenance, repair and operations type products, offering the widest choice to all industries, professions and trades.