

FreightCar America, Inc.  
 Form 3  
 May 27, 2008

**FORM 3 UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION**  
**Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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**INITIAL STATEMENT OF BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934,  
 Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section  
 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

|   |         |                                      |  |  |
|---|---------|--------------------------------------|--|--|
| 1. Name and Address of Reporting Person * |         | 2. Date of Event Requiring Statement | 3. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol      |  |
| Â Mattheus Nicholas J.                    |         | (Month/Day/Year)                     | FreightCar America, Inc. [RAIL]                  |  |
| (Last)                                    | (First) | (Middle)                             | 05/15/2008                                       |  |
| TWO NORTH RIVERSIDE PLAZA, SUITE 1250     |         |                                      | 4. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer | 5. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)                   |
| (Street)                                  |         |                                      | (Check all applicable)                           |  |
| CHICAGO,Â ILÂ 60606                       |         |                                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Director                | <input type="checkbox"/> 10% Owner                                     |
| (City)                                    | (State) | (Zip)                                | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Officer      | <input type="checkbox"/> Other   |
|   |         |                                      | (give title below)                               | (specify below)  |
|   |         |                                      | SVP, Operations                                  | 6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)             |
|   |         |                                      |  | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Form filed by One Reporting Person |
|   |         |                                      |  | <input type="checkbox"/> Form filed by More than One Reporting Person  |

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned**

| 1. Title of Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned (Instr. 4) | 3. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) | 4. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|---------------------------------|---|--|---|
| Common Stock                    | 13,370 <sup>(1)</sup>                                 | D  | Â   |

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

SEC 1473 (7-02)

**Persons who respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB control number.**

**Table II - Derivative Securities Beneficially Owned (e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)**

| 1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 2. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year) | 3. Title and Amount of Securities Underlying Derivative Security (Instr. 4) | 4. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security | 5. Ownership Form of Derivative Security: Direct (D) | 6. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 5) |
|--|--|---|--|--|---|
|--|--|---|--|--|---|

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|                                      | Date Exercisable | Expiration Date |              | Amount or Number of Shares |  | or Indirect (I) (Instr. 5) |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------------------|--|----------------------------|
| Employee Stock Option (right to buy) | Â (2)            | 01/13/2018      | Common Stock | 11,860 \$ 30.47            |  | D Â                        |

## Reporting Owners

| Reporting Owner Name / Address   | Relationships |           |                   |       |
|--|---------------|-----------|-------------------|-------|
|  | Director      | 10% Owner | Officer           | Other |
| Matthews Nicholas J.<br>TWO NORTH RIVERSIDE PLAZA, SUITE 1250<br>CHICAGO, IL 60606 | Â             | Â         | Â SVP, Operations | Â     |

## Signatures

Laurence M. Trusdell, as attorney-in-fact 05/27/2008

\_\_Signature of Reporting Person Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 5(b)(v).
  - \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- Exempt issuance of restricted shares under Rule 16b-3 pursuant to the Issuer's 2005 Long Term Incentive Plan. 11,500 of these shares, granted on January 10, 2008, vest in five annual installments of 2,300 shares each on the anniversary of the grant date. 1,870 of these shares were granted on January 13, 2008 and will vest in three equal annual installments beginning on January 13, 2009. The restricted shares are subject to certain restrictions (including possible forfeiture).
- (1) Exempt issuance of restricted shares under Rule 16b-3 pursuant to the Issuer's 2005 Long Term Incentive Plan. 11,500 of these shares, granted on January 10, 2008, vest in five annual installments of 2,300 shares each on the anniversary of the grant date. 1,870 of these shares were granted on January 13, 2008 and will vest in three equal annual installments beginning on January 13, 2009. The restricted shares are subject to certain restrictions (including possible forfeiture).
- (2) These options vest in three equal annual installments beginning on January 13, 2009.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *See* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.