

TONIGHT'S WEATHER: Wet and windy

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1,000th LOCO COMES ON LINE

by Harry Martin

LOUGHBOROUGH firm Brush Traction has passed a milestone in the company's 103-year history, with the naming of the 1,000th locomotive to have been built at the Falcon Works since the end of the Second World War.

The Class 60 freight loco number 60098, one of 100 to be built as part of a record £120 million contract for British Rail, was named Charles Francis Brush, after the American-born founder of the company.

A Brush spokesman said: "British Rail's agreement to name the locomotive after the company's founder is much appreciated.

"It recognises both the inventive and entrepreneurial skills of Charles Francis Brush in establishing the Brush Electrical Engineering Company in 1889, and the Brush record of achievement since."

Class 60 number 60098 is one of the fleet of 100 locomotives nearing completion for BRB's Trainload Freight Sector.

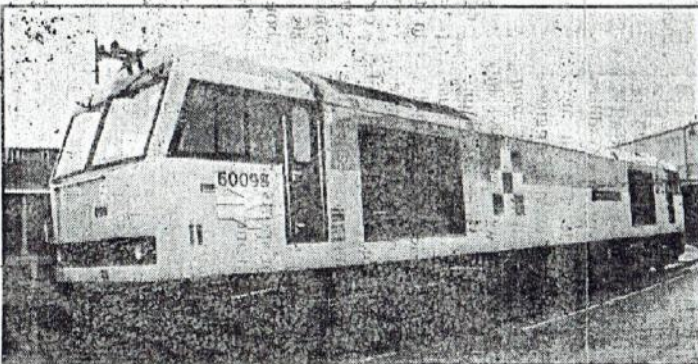
Built for heavy freight haulage, the Co-Co diesel electric locomotive has a Mirlees Blackstone engine of 3,100hp, which has been developed into one of the most fuel-efficient diesel engines ever built.

It is also environmentally friendly and conforms with today's exhaust noise restrictions.

The loco has a maximum speed of 50mph and is capable of hauling the heaviest trains on the British rail network and of maintaining its maximum output under difficult adhesion conditions, due to the latest "state of the art" electronic control equipment.

After the Class 60 contract is completed, Brush Traction will head the consortium chosen to build 38 Channel Tunnel shuttle locos, to be built to hi-tech safety requirements.

Another order, scheduled for 1992 is for 37 Class 92 high-powered freight locos for BR's Rail Freight Distribution division, which are also capable of working through the Channel Tunnel.



TOP: The Mayor of Charnwood, Mrs Mavis Mason, with managing director Mr Roy Woodward. ABOVE: The 1,000th locomotive.