



SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

DEC. 9, 2010

3:00PM

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, 305 Technical Subcommittee Chair</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Greg Gagarin, Ken Uznanski, Rob Edgcumbe, Tammy Krause, Kevin Kesler, Anand Prabhakaran, Jeffrey Gordon, Brian Marquis, Stan Hunter, Steve Fretwell, Allan Paul, Curtis McDowell, John Madden, Art Peterson, Steve Hewitt, David Warner, Michael Burshkin</i> Industry Participants: <i>Richard Curtis, Kim Gilbert, Paul Jamieson, George Mekosh, Scott Braverman, Richard Trail, Eloy Martinez, Frances Nelson, Mike Weinman, Tom Hunt, Bob Sullivan, James Wiesinger, Michael Wiedman, Joe Moore, Tak Ishigami, Mas Wantanabe, Rick De Bella, Bill Saddler, John Pannone, Josh Coran</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>John Tunna, Dharm Guruswamy, Charles Bielitz, Karina Jacobsen, David Tyrell, Bob Haslam, George Weber, Kevin Lawson, John Oimoen, Michael Treazise, Don Damron, Leonard Evans, Shayne Gill, Michael Coltman, Charlie Poltenson, Andrew Wood, Tammy Nicholson,</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

Mario Bergeron, subcommittee Chair, provided an overview of the agenda.

Steve Hewitt took the roll of the "Core Team" members present on this conference call meeting and asked that industry participants email a notification of their attendance to him at shewitt109@aol.com.

On a motion by Art Peterson and a second by Kevin Kesler, the minutes of the November 23rd conference call meeting of the Technical Subcommittee were approved without objection.

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items – some were addressed as agenda items – some were not. Two specific items: Presentation on the issue of Cant Deficiency and Tilting and a presentation on Alternative Materials were added to the agenda for today's call. On the items not covered by the agenda, the following describes the discussions/status of each item:

Standardization: Rob Edgcumbe reported that the sub group looking into the issue of Standardization continues to meet via conference call and is making good progress. They have developed a "time scale" for reporting to the Executive Board and plan to provide an update at the December 15-16 Technical Subcommittee meeting.

Configuration Management Process/Rationalization: Kevin Kesler reported that Configuration Management is being incorporated into the Systems Engineering process that is currently being developed. In regards to the Systems Engineering effort – Kevin reported that he had received some volunteers to assist him (as requested on the last call) and that they had held their first conference call. Kevin also noted that the group planned to meet in the evening while the tech subcommittee members are in the DC area for the December 15-16 meeting.

Technical Subcommittee presentation on where the subcommittee is on ADA and Platform Heights Requirements: Kevin Kesler reported that the effort is to produce a document (1 or 2 pages) that describes what the subcommittee is doing to address these issues in its specification development, and to provide this information back to FRA's passenger rail staff. It is more about describing and informing FRA of the subcommittee's assumptions in regards to ADA requirements and level boarding. Kevin asked for help from subcommittee members. Anand Prabhakaran agreed to provide Kevin with the areas within the specs where the assumptions concerning ADA and level boarding are addressed. When complete, Kevin and Anand will provide the information to Steve Hewitt for posting on the AASHTO website and Kevin will send it to the FRA passenger rail staff.

Agenda for the December 15-16 in-person meeting of the Technical Subcommittee: Steve Hewitt reported that the final draft agenda had been distributed to all subcommittee members and industry participants and that it has also been posted on the AASHTO website (www.highspeed-rail.org).

Agenda Items:

Cant Deficiency, Curving Speeds and Tilt Presentation: At the request of the Technical Subcommittee, Brian Marquis had prepared a presentation on the subject of Cant Deficiency, Curving Speed and Tilt. As the presentation was provided to subcommittee members just prior to today's call, Chairman Bergeron asked that Brian give a brief overview and then allow members the opportunity to digest the information contained in the presentation. At a later date, we will determine possible next steps.

Brian described the purpose as responding to questions on high cant deficiency and when to use tilt. The presentation focused on 4 major points: 1. Definition of Cant Deficiency; 2. Benefits of operating at Cant Deficiency; 3. Effect of Cant Deficiency on Rail Vehicle Performance; 4. Use of Tilt at High Cant Deficiency.

The presentation was well received and a considerable amount of discussion ensued – mainly concerning clarifications as members began to review the presentation. Kevin Kesler commented that the intent was to ensure that “we are familiar with the trade offs in requiring tilt - or not; or roll stabilization – or not; and making sure that the trucks are able to accommodate either one.

It was agreed that all members should review the presentation and provide questions, comments, feedback to Brian (with a cc to Steve Hewitt) and that the discussion of possible next steps will be taken up on a future call.

Alternative Materials: Jeff Gordon had been asked by the subcommittee to prepare a “white paper” on Considerations of Alternative Materials For Rail Carbody Construction. Since the document had also only been distributed shortly before today's conference call; Chairman Bergeron asked that Jeff provide a brief overview, and allow members time to review the document and provide comments, questions, feedback at a later date. At that time, the subcommittee will determine what next steps should be taken by the subcommittee in relation to this issue.

Jeff gave a brief “high level” overview of the document. He noted that he had tried to address the most salient issues related to alternative materials. The purpose for the report was to elicit comments and input from the industry and members of the subcommittee.

It was agreed that comments should be provided to Jeff Gordon (with a cc to Steve Hewitt). Jeff will take the input received and incorporate them into a revised version of this document. Greg Gagarin, Amtrak, noted that his team had reviewed the document and were preparing comments to send to Jeff when completed.

Status of Specification Information Delivered to Amtrak and summary of changes submitted to date: Greg Gagarin reported that approximately 80 comments had been received for each of the 2 specs under consideration. The comments have come from a “myriad” of participants. He noted that the Amtrak team is working its way through all comments received, and that most of them have been accepted.

Greg will compile a list of comments, recommendations that have not been accepted and provide the list to Steve Hewitt for distribution (and posting) by COB on Monday, December 13th.

Greg also noted that they were more than half way through the comments and would be providing the revisions and changes to the technical editor (Camren Cordell) beginning on Friday – December 10th.

Carbody-Truck Interface: Anand Prabhakaran gave an overview of a presentation he had prepared, at the request of the subcommittee, to provide: A Summary of Carbody – Truck Interface Standardization Efforts.

In providing a background on this effort Anand explained:

“The PRIIA process requires a critical look at all systems and components on the next generation passenger rail car to identify candidates for standardization.

The Carbody-truck connection is a critical interface on a passenger car, and thus standardizing this interface would offer several potential benefits to car owners and operators.

Definition of a common interface specification would allow alternative designs of car bodies and alternative designs of trucks to be connected together and operated in service.

This provides notable procurement, operations, and maintenance flexibility to operating agencies.”

Anand went on to briefly describe the “merits and demerits” of standardizing carbody – truck interface and gave an overview of the effort undertaken in preparing this report. He asked that members review the report and provide comments which will be addressed and will move it forward towards adoption by the subcommittee.

Mr. Bergeron noted that the next steps may include establishing a working group to dive into the issue more and see where it brings us.

December Meeting Update: Steve Hewitt reported that, to date, 100 members (core team and industry) were registered to attend the meeting on the 15th and 16th. Specifically, 95 were registered to attend on the 15th and 90 on the 16th. Attendees include; FRA, Amtrak and voting representatives of 7 states - which will meet quorum requirements.

Steve explained that AASHTO will have a registration table set up for attendees to pick up their name badges and handout packets. Beverages will be provided throughout both days of the meeting and lunch will be “on your own”. He reminded all members who had not registered to do so asap. There is a little room left for attendees – but not much.

It was agreed that the dress code for the meeting would be “business casual” and Steve will send out a notification to all attendees.

Chairman Bergeron reviewed the final agenda for the meeting and described the structure of the meeting as mirroring that of the Bi-Level specification final review meeting. (a process which worked quite well)

Next Conference Call: It was agreed that the next conference call of the subcommittee will be held on Thursday, **January 6, 2011 at 3:00pm Eastern**

Action Items Update (New)

Anand Prabhakaran and Kevin Kesler will develop a one to two page statement in regards to the subcommittee’s assumptions/ elements in the specifications with regard to ADA and Level Boarding requirements. The document will be sent to Steve Hewitt for posting on the website (www.highspeed-rail.org) and Kevin will distribute it to the FRA passenger rail staff.

In regards to the Cant deficiency and tilt issue, all members are asked to review the presentation prepared by Brian Marquis and submit their comments to him (with a cc to Steve Hewitt). The subcommittee will then determine possible next steps.

On the issue of Alternate Materials, all members are asked to review the document provided by Jeff Gordon and send comments/questions to Jeff (cc Steve Hewitt) for incorporation in a revised document.

Greg Gagarin and his team will complete compilation of a list of comments/recommendations that were not accepted and send the list to Steve Hewitt for distribution by COB on Monday, December 13th.

In regards to the Carbody-Truck interface issue, all members are asked to review the presentation given by Anand Prabhakaran and to provide comments/questions to Anand (with cc to Steve Hewitt) to assist in preparing the recommendations for future adoption by the subcommittee and in determining additional steps that may need to be taken.

ATTACHEMENTS



November 23, 2010
PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting
December 9, 2010

The agenda for the meeting is below:

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| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review meeting agenda | Mario Bergeron |
| 3. Approve Minutes
Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Status of Specification Information Delivered to Amtrak
And summary of changes submitted to date | Greg Gagarin/Tammy Krause |
| 5. Carbody-Truck Interface | Anand Prabhakaran |
| 6. Questions / updates re: next week's Tech Subcommittee meeting | Steve Hewitt |
| 7. Review this meeting:
a. Decisions
b. New Action Items | Steve Hewitt |

Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday December 9th 3:00 EST: 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#
Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.
Thank you

***Next Technical Subcommittee Meeting – Radisson Hotel, Arlington, VA - December 15-16 ***