

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

APRIL 7, 2011

3:00PM

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Mario Bergeron, 305 Technical Subcommittee Chair</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<i>Mario Bergeron, Rob Edgcumbe, Dave Warner, Michael Burshtin, Kevin Kesler, Anand Prabhakaran, Jeff Gordon, Brian Marquis, Stan Hunter, Steve Fretwell, Camren Cordell, Allan Paul, Charlie Poltenson, Jack Madden, Andrew Wood, Phil Meraz, Leo Penne, Andrea Ryan, Steve Hewitt, <b>Industry Participants:</b> Rick DeBella, Eloy Martinez, George Mekosh, Eric Wilde, Paul Jamieson, Fran Nelson, Tak Ishigami, Jack Martinson, Scott Braverman</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Dale Engelhardt, Ken Uznanski, Tammy Krause, Greg Gagarin, Mike Trosino, Charles Bielitz, Michael Coltman, Curtis McDowell, George Weber, Art Peterson, Tammy Nicholson, Kevin Lawson, John Oimoen, Michael Treazise, Don Damron, Shayne Gill</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

Mario Bergeron opened the meeting and reviewed the agenda.

Steve Hewitt took the roll of the "Core Team" members present. Industry participants were asked to email a notification of their attendance to Steve at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).

On a motion by Allan Paul, North Carolina DOT, and a second by Kevin Kesler, FRA, the minutes of the March 24, 2011 conference call of the Technical Subcommittee were approved without exception.

**Note:** The motion was preceded by a question for clarification posed by Jack Madden, NYSDOT. Mr. Madden inquired about the use of the word "possible" in the March 24, 2011 Minutes when referring to the development of Dual Mode Variant Specifications by the subcommittee. After clarification was provided by the Chair, Mr. Madden withdrew his question, and the Minutes were approved as noted. Chairman Bergeron made clear that the issue has to do with priority and timelines. The subcommittee has established a Locomotive Technology Task Force which is looking at new technologies, but also understands the reality that there is a need for new dual mode variant locomotives by New York State, Amtrak, and possibly others. The timeline for anticipated procurements, however, (2015-2020) gives the technology task force an opportunity to look at new "more efficient" technologies. Kevin Kesler, FRA, pointed out that the working group looking at new technologies is developing a statement of work which should be available soon.

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items – all but two were to be addressed as agenda items. On the items not covered by the agenda, the following describes the discussions/status:

**Distribution and posting of the final (cleaned up) version V2.8 of the Diesel-electric locomotive specification:** Steve Hewitt reported that this action item has been completed. The Initial release of the Diesel-electric locomotive specification has been distributed and provided to AASHTO for posting to the website.

**Reliability numbers discussion with the Executive Board:** Dale Engelhardt was unavailable for this call, so there is nothing new to report. It will be left as an open action item. The subcommittee is looking to the Executive Board for direction once affirmation of the reliability numbers for all specs has been determined.

### Agenda Items:

**Status update on the Trainset Specification:** Each team leader was asked to provide a brief summary of progress being made in the trainset specification development

**Interiors:** Andrew Wood reported that his subgroup has been meeting weekly and is on target to meet the timelines. He asked the question of when Chapter 1 would be finalized for circulation. Anand Prabhakaran stated that he had received all subgroup leader comments – the most recent were those of the Interiors subgroup – and that he anticipated including those comments into a final draft of Chapter 1 by this weekend. At that point it will be distributed to all subgroup leaders.

**Integration effort:** As Greg Gagarin was not on the call, others were asked to comment on the integration

process and how it was working. The general view was that the effort was going very well. Special compliments expressed to Michael Burshtin for his efforts to establish weekly coordination meetings with the team leaders. These meetings are roundtable discussions, and have proven very valuable in keeping everyone on the same page. The group is “meshing” very well.

**Mechanical:** Jeff Gordon reported that the Mechanical subgroup is progressing well. They have been meeting weekly and have completed their work on brakes and doors and are now working on the water system and Chapters 18 and 19. He also complimented the efforts of Michael Burshtin and the success of the effort to integrate. Jeff anticipates meeting the timeline as scheduled.

**Electrical:** Tammy Krause was absent from today’s call, but others on the call reported that they believed Tammy’s team was moving forward well – with no reported problems.

**Structural:** Anand Prabhakaran reported that his subgroup has been meeting weekly and is making good progress. There were a few significant changes (CEM for one) which subgroup members are now reviewing. Other less significant proposed changes are about 80% done. He believes the team will have no problem meeting the scheduled timeline.

Anand also expressed thanks to Michael for getting the team leaders together and coordinating that effort.

**VTI:** Brian Marquis reported that the VTI subgroup met last week and is about half way done with its review of Chapter 5. In order to have a better understanding of truck design for trainsets and to make it work for different train designs, the team has asked Josh Coran of Talgo for input. He is expected to provide his comments in about a week or so. Brian feels that the VTI subgroup will meet the scheduled timeline as well.

**Document Control Pilot update:** Kevin Kesler provided a brief report on the progress being made by the working group for the document control pilot program. The team is making good progress – “test driving as we move forward and on track to make our deliverable before the end of May.” For the pilot program, **Dave Warner is the Revision Control Coordinator, Stan Hunter will be acting as the Document Change Coordinator for the bi-level specification, and Tammy Krause will be acting as the head of the Document Control Board for the adjudication of the queued up bi-level specification changes.**

Dave Warner described a phased in approach that the team is taking.

After a discussion on making sure that the approved process is clearly defined and/distributed to all subcommittee members, it was agreed that once the working group is ready it will provide Steve Hewitt with all items for distribution and posting. (instructions, change request form, description of the process and flow chart)

A discussion then ensued about the amount of items now being posted on the AASHTO website and the need to better organize/structure the site for easier navigation. Leo Penne noted that Steve Hewitt is planning to come to Washington April 21 to work with AASHTO in making website improvements – make it more user friendly and better organized. Paul Jamieson recommended that AASHTO and Steve take a look at the APTA Standards site. Leo agreed that he would contact APTA staff to ask about their site.

**Statement of Work for the Locomotive Technology Task Force:** Rob Edgcumbe reported that developing a statement of work is under way and should be ready soon for distribution for review and comment.

**Standardization work plan update:** Rob Edgcumbe reported that the work plan draft is being updated to address follow up comments that had been received. The revised version should be available for distribution by the end of next week.

Michael Burshtin, **the coordinator of the Standardization process**, commented that it is being structured so that technical subgroup leaders’ expertise in their areas will be utilized. The group to be established will expand and contract based on individual items that “may come along.”

Michael also suggested that as website review is being done – there should be a section for document control and a section for Standardization as well.

**Update on the schedule for trainset acceptance meeting:** Steve Hewitt and Leo Penne reported that after looking at various areas around the country, it was becoming clearer that Chicago may be the most convenient and cost effective location at this point for holding the June Technical subcommittee meeting. Currently, three hotels are under consideration in Chicago. If the subcommittee was ok with AASHTO pursuing Chicago as the location for the meeting, Andrea Ryan would proceed in that direction and hone in on an appropriate venue.

After some discussion, it was agreed that the June meeting would be held in Chicago and that the target date for

the meeting would be June 22, 2011. It will be a one day meeting and will start at 8:00am to give members the opportunity to travel back to their states by early evening rather than having to stay a second night in Chicago.

Steve Hewitt will send out an email advising all subcommittee members of the proposed date and location and ask that all those interested in attending provide him with an email of their intentions by COB on Friday April 15, 2011. This will allow AASHTO to have a guide as to how many may attend when talking to hotels about meeting room size and costs etc.

**Other items:** Jack Madden reported that the small working group (team) that had been developing a revised requirements document to be used for the dual mode variant locomotive was making progress and intended to circulate a draft to the locomotive subgroup shortly. It is intended that they will have something to present to the subcommittee by its next call.

Michael Burshtin noted that he will provide a progress report on staffing for the Standardization effort after the work plan has been completed. Until then, he will hold the staffing progress report in abeyance.

**Next Conference Call: April 21, 2011**

### Action Items Update (New)

Once the document control working group is ready, it will provide Steve Hewitt with all items for distribution and posting. Those items will include: instructions, change request form, description of the process and flow chart

All subcommittee members are asked to provide website improvement recommendations to Steve Hewitt prior to his meeting with AASHTO scheduled for April 21, 2011.

Anand Prabhakaran will provide the final draft of Chapter 1 (Trainsets) to subgroup leaders on Monday, April 11, 2011.

The Statement of Work (SOW) for the Locomotive Technology Task Force will be released for distribution for review and comment, as soon as it has been completed

AASHTO and Steve Hewitt will proceed with making meeting arrangements for Chicago for June 22, 2011 for the trainset specification final review meeting. Steve will send out a note requesting those who plan to attend to notify him by April 15<sup>th</sup>.

The **team that has been working on developing a revised requirements document for** Dual mode locomotives plan to present a draft to the subcommittee on its next conference call – April 21, 2011.

Rob Edgcumbe is revising the Standardization work plan based on input received. He will complete revisions on the plan and send to Steve Hewitt for distribution next week (end of the week – 4/15/11)

**ATTACHMENTS**



**PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting**

**April 7, 2011**

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- |   |                                 |
|---|---------------------------------|
| 1. Roll Call  | Steve Hewitt                    |
| 2. Review meeting agenda                                  | Mario Bergeron                  |
| 3. Review Action Items                                    | Steve Hewitt                    |
| 4. Approve Minutes previous meeting                       | Mario Bergeron                  |
| 5. Status update on Trainset specification                | Dale / Team Leaders:            |
| a) Integration discussions                                | Greg Gagarin                    |
| b) Mechanical   | Jeff Gordon                     |
| c) Structural   | Anand Prabhakaran               |
| d) Electrical   | Tammy Krause                    |
| e) Interiors  | Andrew Wood                     |
| f) VTI  | Brian Marquis                   |
| 6. Document control pilot update                          | K. Kesler / S. Hunter           |
| 7. SOW for Locomotive Technology Taskforce                | Dale Engelhardt                 |
| 8. Standardization work plan update                       | Rob Edgcumbe / Michael Burshtin |
| 9. Update on the schedule for trainset acceptance meeting | Steve Hewitt                    |
| 10. Review this meeting:                                  | Steve Hewitt                    |
| a) Decisions  |                                 |
| b) New Action Items                                       |                                 |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:  
Thursday April 7<sup>th</sup> 3:00 EST: 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#***

Go to meeting invitation link: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/join/608558625>

***Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.  
Thank you***