

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

OCTOBER 25, 2012

3:00PM EDT

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, Chairman, S305 Technical subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Darrell Smith, Greg Gagarin, Dave Warner, Vincent Brotski, Kevin Kesler, Melissa Shurland, Nico Lindenau, Ryan Swick, Jeff Gordon, Michael Coltman, Stan Hunter, Curtis McDowell, Art Peterson, Phil Meraz, Kevin Lawson, Ron Adams, Eric Curtit, Melissa Wilbers, Larry Salci, Steve Hewitt, Industry Participants: Steve Morrison, Paul Jamieson, Andrew Long, George Mekosh, James Michel, Jack Martinson, Lew Hoens
ABSENTEES	<i>Tammy Krause, Michael Burshtin, Andrew Wood, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Brian Marquis, Camren Cordell, Allan Paul, Charles Poltenson, Jack Madden, Jeff Schultz, Shayne Gill</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

Chairman Mario Bergeron called today's meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to take the roll.

Steve Hewitt took the roll and it was established that a quorum was present.

Industry participants are asked, as always, to email a notification of their attendance to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

Review of Action Items:

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items, providing a brief update on those items that were not to be specifically covered on the agenda:

Maintaining Industry Participation List: Steve Hewitt reported that this remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **207** registered industry participants.

APTA Standards update: In regard to the update of APTA standards, Kevin Kesler and Martin Schroeder are preparing meeting information and should have a call announcement before the next Technical subcommittee call.
Status: No new news to report.

Updating ECP Standards: On the last call Paul Jamieson reported that there was nothing new to add at this point other than that they have added a few more participants. The first meeting was scheduled for October 23 and 24, 2012.

Status:

Paul Jamieson submitted the following report for inclusion in today's minutes:

"The working group's first meeting was held on October 23 and 24, 2012 at the APTA Headquarters in Washington, DC. Attendance was 24 and 20 respectively for each day. Representation from end users, suppliers, consultants and FRA were present. The working group was divided into two subgroups for technical and administrative matters. The technical group will be reviewing the application of the AAR S4200 series to passenger/commuter performance requirements and identifying areas for direct acceptance, modification, addition and deletion. Also, the technical group will establish the emulation mode requirements (ECP equipped cars operating in conventional pneumatic controlled trains). The administrative group has been tasked with CFR part 229 and 238 compliance, AAR coordination, approval process, FMECA generation and website maintenance.

Website access will be limited to the working group members and sponsored by APTA. (not up yet – will be restricted to members only)

Matters of early importance are:

To address working with the FRA so that this development satisfies the requirements for safety related electronic systems as contained in CFR part 229 (locomotives) and 238 (passenger cars).

· Initial review of the AAR S4200 series as applicable to passenger trains.

The overall process is anticipated to take 18 months."

NGEC 3rd Annual Meeting: Steve Hewitt will continue to keep subcommittee members apprised as logistics for the 3rd Annual NGEC meeting are firming up. All of those who are interested in attending the meeting should **register** their intention **with Steve Hewitt by December 1, 2012**, so that he has an accurate head count to provide to AASHTO.

Executive Board Member Vision Statements: At an appropriate time after the Board has reviewed and discussed its members' vision statements for the future of the NGEC, Chairman Bergeron will have an agenda item on a subcommittee call to provide Board feedback on the vision statements to subcommittee members. **Status: 12 members of the Board have submitted vision statements to the Chair and Steve Hewitt. Steve has compiled them into one document and distributed them to the Board without attribution. Chairman Bronte is preparing a "strawman" proposal based on his analysis of the statements. On the next call of the Executive Board, Bill will present his "strawman". (October 30, 2012).**

Approval of the Minutes of the October 11, 2012 Technical subcommittee call – Mario Bergeron:

On a motion by Art Peterson, for Illinois DOT, and a second by Phil Meraz, Iowa DOT, the Minutes of the October 11, 2012, conference call meeting of the Technical subcommittee, were approved without objection.

Report from the Accessibility Working Group (AWG) - Melissa Shurland:

a. Status: Revised accessibility DCR handling process (twin loop)

Melissa Shurland reported that the Accessibility Working Group (AWG) met on October 17th and reviewed the proposed change to the accessibility DCR handling process. The group is "ok with the new process". The Office of the Secretary (OST) and Chief Counsel have also reviewed the proposed change and are happy with it, but are "concerned with how the Accessibility Policy Group will be decided." Melissa informed the OST and Chief Counsel that it is anticipated that the Executive Board of the NGEC will make the determination of who is on the Accessibility Policy Group. The OST and Chief Counsel want to remain informed as to who is named in order to "make sure the right individuals will be included." Overall, Melissa noted, "they are happy with the new process, and feel it is better than the old one."

b. Status: Communications DCR

Melissa Shurland reported that "we have not made a decision to accept the proposed Communications DCRs yet." She reported that they had discussed the DCRs on the last call, but not enough states were present and only two representatives from Amtrak were there, so there was some concern about making a decision to move it forward without such states as California and North Carolina and also additional Amtrak representatives in attendance to provide their input and/or approval. Melissa anticipates having final disposition on this issue by the end of next week, and will inform Steve Hewitt at that time. Steve will disseminate the information to the Technical subcommittee.

Melissa also noted that Dave Warner had informed her that the Electrical Subgroup will be looking at Chapter 12 for communications so one of the DCRs will be deferred to the electrical subgroup and its members' expertise.

Status: Building code regulations acceptability

Melissa Shurland reported that the Counsel's office is going through a final review of the guidance in

regard to the use of building code regulations. While she has not gotten a final disposition on this yet, she believes "it is getting close". As soon as she has the answer she will let the subcommittee know.

Update: Document Control – Dave Warner:

Dave Warner, Amtrak, provided the following report for inclusion in the minutes:

"Bi-Level Revision C.1 was approved at the Portland, Maine, Executive Board meeting in September. It has been sent to AASHTO, along with supporting files, and they should be live on the website within a few days.

Based on the concurrence of the Accessibility Working Group with the proposed Twin Loop accessibility-related DCR handling process, I will create a DCR for submission to the Technical Subcommittee for its formal review.

I am still working on creating a new contract (on behalf of PRIIA) for Camren Cordell's services. Hopefully the documentation package required within Amtrak will be to the Chief Mechanical Officer by Halloween. Consequently, there has been no reportable progress on the finalization of the Diesel Multiple Unit specification. "

Update from the Structure and Finance Task Force – Eric Curtit:

Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT, and Chair of the NGEC Structure and Finance Task Force (SFTF) provided a summary update of SFTF activities.

There are a number of ongoing activities within the SFTF. Primary among those activities is working on filling the procuring states requirements for Section 6 of their grant agreements. Section 6 requires that a state that is receiving equipment must have a fleet deployment plan. (Not how it will be operated – but how it will be deployed, maintained, etc.) The SFTF decided that it made sense to procure outside consultant services to develop the Section 6 plans. The task force, following the NGEC procedures for procuring consultant services, developed and advertised an RFP. At the end of the process, the firm selected was Parsons Brinkerhoff (PB).

PB will have two key deliverables: 1. To develop the Section 6 plan for the procuring states and, 2. To develop a blueprint for Section 6 that other states can use in going forward with future procurements.

Eric noted that Ron Pate, Washington State DOT, Tim Hoeffner, Michigan DOT, and Bill Bronte, Caltrans, are actively involved in these key SFTF tasks.

The Board, in creating the SFTF, charged it with 4 tasks. At this point in time, the SFTF is reviewing the initial charge/tasks from the Board to see if they still apply. Once the SFTF has done its "re-evaluation" of the tasks or charge, it will vote within the task force for a revised charge and submit it to the Executive Board for its consideration.

Eric also noted that, as the Executive Board deliberates on what the NGEC will look like going forward, the SFTF is developing an RFP to procure outside consultant services to assist the Board in this effort.

Mario Bergeron asked what the timelines are for these efforts.

Eric responded that the fleet deployment (Section 6) effort is a 6 month project and is just getting underway. It is expected that it will be completed by late spring or early summer, 2013.

On the RFP for consultant services for assisting in the NGEC future effort, the estimated timeline is for the "contract to go to the street in the first part of next year". (2013)

Other:

Chairman Bergeron asked Stan Hunter, Caltrans, to provide the subcommittee with a brief update on the bi-level car procurement.

Stan reported that they are proceeding to finalize the contract package. Revision C.1 has been created "and encapsulated into the contract document."

Stan elaborated that "final contract assembly is underway" and he believes that a signing ceremony will take place within a few weeks and a Notice to Proceed will follow shortly thereafter.

Stan added that he was hopeful that before Thanksgiving there will be a "signed and executed contract for 130 cars."

He did reaffirm that "we should have the cars delivered and in-service before the 2017 deadline."

Chairman Bergeron asked Kevin Kesler, FRA, to provide an update on the status of the diesel-electric locomotive procurement.

Kevin reported that they (FRA) have gotten feedback on the questionnaire that had been sent to the procuring states, and that feedback is currently under review. While states are struggling with staffing resources, the procurement will happen. The FRA "is anxious to move forward" and progress is being made. Kevin added that he hopes to have something more substantial to report on the next call of the Technical subcommittee (November 8, 2012).

Adjourn:

With no further business to come before the subcommittee, today's conference call meeting was adjourned at approximately 3:35 pm Eastern.

Next conference call – November 8, 2012 – 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

Melissa Shurland will let the subcommittee know when a decision has been made and guidance has been released by the Chief Counsel on the issue of using architectural standards. She will also look into the possibility of informing Amtrak legal prior to the announcement.

Language for Dual Mode communication is being developed and she is polling AWG members to determine if DCRs for communications are warranted. If so, the DCRs will go through the current process within the AWG and then on to the Technical subcommittee. Final disposition within the AWG is expected by the end of next week, and she will let Steve Hewitt know.

In regard to the update of APTA standards, Kevin Kesler and Martin Schroeder are preparing meeting information and should have a call announcement shortly.

Updating ECP Standards: Paul Jamieson reported that the first meeting of this group took place October 23 and 24 with 20 and 2e participants respectively. The working group was divided into two subgroups for technical and administrative matters. It is expected that the process will take about 18 months to complete.

Review of the current Accessibility features of the DCR process in regard to policy vs. technical (twin loop): The AWG has approved the "twin loop" proposal developed by Dave Warner. Dave will create a DCR by early next week and it will go through the DCR process for approval.

Dave Warner continues to work on completing the process for a new contract for Camren Cordell.

Steve Hewitt will continue to keep subcommittee members apprised as logistics for the 3rd Annual NGEC meeting are firmed up. All of those who are interested in attending the meeting should register their intention with Steve Hewitt by December 1, 2012, so that he has an accurate head count to provide to AASHTO.

Kevin Kesler, FRA, will keep the subcommittee informed as the process for procuring the diesel-electric locomotives moves forward.

At an appropriate time after the Board has reviewed and discussed its members' vision statements for the future of the NGEC, Chairman Bergeron will have an agenda item on a subcommittee call to provide Board feedback on the vision statements to subcommittee members.

ATTACHMENTS



PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

October 25, 2012

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 of October 11, 2012 | Mario Bergeron |
| 5. Report from the Accessibility Working Group | Melissa Shurland |
| a. Status: Revised accessibility DCR handling process (twin loop) | |
| b. Status: Communications DCRs | |
| c. Status: Building code regulations acceptability | |
| 6. Document Control | Dave Warner |
| 7. Update from the Structure and Finance Task Force (SFTF) | Eric Curtit |
| 8. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday October 25, 2012 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***

DRAFT