

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

DECEMBER 17,
2015

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Jeff Gordon, Charlie Poltenson, Allan Paul, Rob Edgcumbe for Momo Tamaoki, Jennifer Bastian, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Andrew Wood, Jonathan Hines, Jay Gilfillan, Art Peterson, Melissa Shurland, Curtis McDowell, Steve Hewitt, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Jeff Schultz</i> Industry Members: <i>Paul Jamieson, Rich Stegner, Tom Sisler, Tom Hunt, Kevin Myles, Josh Coran, James Michel, Pat Sheeran, Jack Madden, William Slater, Bill Saddler, Steve Morrison</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Tammy Krause, Momo Tamaoki, Jason Biggs, Marci Petterson, Vincent Brotski, Michael Burshtin, Andrew Wood, Jay Gilfillan, Jonathan Hines, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Nico Lindenau, Sal DeAngelo, Michael Coltman, Brian Marquis, Patricia Llana, Larry Salci, Shayne Gill</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Chairman Mario Bergeron, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order, asking Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

After calling the roll, Steve confirmed the presence of a quorum.

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

2.

Review of the Meeting Agenda – Steve Hewitt, NGENC:

Steve Hewitt provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda.

3.

Review of Action Items that are not on the agenda – Steve Hewitt:

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

Maintaining Industry Participation List: Status: There are currently **258** registered industry participants. We have one new member added since the last call – new members are always welcome.

Requesting Backgrounder educational document: The Backgrounder remains available upon request. Please contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com if you want to receive Backgrounders. Provide the quantity requested and an address for sending them to.

Updating ECP Standards: This is an ongoing item which the Technical subcommittee is tracking – it is anticipated that status updates will take place on every other call.

Status: Paul Jamieson provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

- *"APTA PRESS ECP working group met on December 8, 2015, in the APTA offices in Washington, DC. Several important topics were discussed:*
- *Amtrak Keystone service using the emulation coach cars remains in service without any reported incidents.*
- *Cab Car #9644 conversion to utilize Wabtec FastBrake Equipment was completed and placed into service prior to Thanksgiving. This cab car will be used for the full ECP test train.*
- *ACS84 Locomotive # 670 will be delivered from Siemens with cables and brackets installed for the ECP test train.*
- *Performance standard and emulation standard were reviewed and will be submitted to the APTA PRESS mechanical working group for review and approval. Both standards are targeted for issue by the end of Q2 2016.*

- *The test waiver request was reviewed by the FRA safety board. It is anticipated that the test waiver will be formally approved and letter issuance no later than January 2016. The only restriction will be that the test train can only operate in the NEC. "*

AWG Update: As of the last report progress was continuing on the restroom drawings. Oregon State University is working with Amtrak. Alternatives are being looked at such as having one universal restroom as opposed to two. Valuable input is being provided by Amtrak on what can and can't be done. Melissa Shurland will provide a report on what has been accomplished to date at the NGEC Annual Meeting (2-19-16).

Status: Melissa Shurland reported that the Accessibility Working Group had a meeting this week with participants from Amtrak, FRA, manufacturers and the Access Board to review Oregon State University's preliminary work on accessibility restrooms. Good feedback was received and OSU will go back and incorporate the comments received accordingly. Melissa will, as noted previously, provide a status report at the NGEC Annual Meeting in DC on 2-19-16.

RVAAC Update: RVAAC presented its recommendations for improved access on rail vehicles to the Access Board on July 29, 2015. Melissa will keep the Tech SC apprised as deliberations conclude. There is a backlog in rulemaking projects, and so it was not decided how and when to proceed with those recommendations. Anyone who would like the link to the RVAAC report should contact Melissa Shurland, at Melissa.shurland@dot.gov.

There is nothing new to report at this time.

4.

Approve Minutes from December 3, 2015 – Mario Bergeron:

On a motion by Charlie Poltenson, NYSDOT, and a second by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, the Minutes from the 12-3-15 Technical subcommittee conference call meeting were approved without objection.

5.

Document Control Update –Steve Hewitt for Tammy Krause:

Tammy Krause was unavailable for today's call, but provided the following Document Control update for inclusion in today's minutes:

"I have not received any additional DCRs for either procurement. Camren Cordell is working on revising the environmental specification."

6.

Update: Procurements:

Bi-level Cars – Rob Edgcumbe for Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:

On behalf of Caltrans, Rob Edgcumbe provided the following Bi-level procurement update for inclusion in today's minutes:

"Bi-level updates

FAI - *The follow up Air Brake Components FAI took place on 12/3 at Wabtec (Duncan, SC) to resolve the open reservoir issues, and it was successful. Electrical Panels and ATR/UTR Toilet Room FAIs are scheduled in January.*

Design Review - *22 items remain open for the final design review, (majority of them are carbody related items, due to the re-design effort).*

Carshell Re-Design Effort - *NS continues to make progress in refining the model. They had an internal Carshell design review meeting in Toyokawa Japan, and continue to make progress. Caltrans/IDOT will have a meeting with NS on 12/21, and they will share the progress with the customer team.*

Schedule - *Unfortunately it continues to slip due to the very time consuming model refinement process. Caltrans continues to work with SCOA/NS, IDOT, and FRA to ensure that project will get back on track to deliver as many cars as possible.*

Misc. - *Truck Fatigue test started on Monday this week at Columbus Casting. Caltrans' subject matter expert is on site to witness the progress of the testing. Representatives from Caltrans (Bruce), SCOA/NS (TBD) will be presenting project status updates at the February annual NGEC meeting in Washington DC. "*

Diesel Electric Locomotives – Jennifer Bastian:

Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, provided the following update on the diesel-electric locomotive procurement for inclusion in today's minutes:

- *The invoice for milestone E (Invoice #10), associated with FDR is being processed by IDOT*
- *The FAI for the Diesel Exhaust after treatment and Diesel Engine cooling tower was held the week of December 7th.*
- *The FAI for the electrical panels and lockers was held December 15 & 16, 2015, at Siemens Sacramento factory.*
- *The kick-off for monthly QA reviews was held in Sacramento on 11/18/15 and the next meeting is planned for January 13th in Sacramento.*
- *A planning meeting to review the compression test process was held on 12/1 in Sacramento.*
- *We are reviewing two draft DCRs and will process them, just after the holidays. The total will be Seventeen draft DCRs, and are being prepared and Rich Stegner has contacted Tammy Krause, to send a list re-capping the DCRs and will begin drafting DCRs. Camren Cordell will assist.*
- *Follow up Technical Advisory Groups (TAG) continue working on an on-going basis for the action items from the AAR Standard vehicle qualification testing and acceptance. AAR's David Cackovic is the facilitator.*
- *The Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) planning team is reviewing logistics for fueling locations. A meeting was held with Amtrak to review details on December 8th.*
- *The locomotive weight was reported last month at 271,684 lbs (+/-), due to actual component weights coming in a bit better than expected. The calculated P2 force is within specified limits. Weight is being closely monitored, each month."*

7.

Progress report: Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) / UREA Working Group - Jennifer Bastian:

Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, provided the following DEF working group update:

Jennifer Bastian reported that the DEF working group met with Amtrak on 12-8-15 and came to consensus agreement on fuel range. They are working now on fuel locations and what is needed. The next meeting will take place on 1-11-16.

8.

2016 NGEAC Annual Meeting – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reminded members that the 2016 NGEAC Annual Meeting is scheduled for 2-19-16 at the Hyatt Regency Washington, Capitol Hill. The meeting will take place in conjunction with the AASHTO SCORT meeting scheduled for 2-17 and 18 - 2016.

A notice has gone to all NGEAC members' calendars to lock in the date.

Hotel room block/reservation information was sent to all NGEAC members on 11-20-15. If you have not done so yet, please reserve your room while the block rate remains open.

Earlier this week, the Executive Board received a draft agenda from Chairman Curtit for review. To help with travel approvals, Steve Hewitt will be sending the DRAFT agenda to all NGEAC members, along with a formal invitation from NGEAC Executive Board Secretary Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, later today.

Mario Bergeron asked if a deadline for registering for attendance at the Annual Meeting had been set. Steve reported that he had not set the deadline, but will do so this week. Likely it will be mid- January for registering to attend. There is no cost to attend – registering provides a head count and enable AASHTO to prepare name badges and meeting packets for all attendees.

9.

Other issues – All:

Dual Mode (DC 3rd Rail) Locomotive Specification adoption: Jack Madden asked about the status of the Dual Mode (DC 3rd Rail) Locomotive Specification approval by the Executive Board. Steve Hewitt responded that the specification was still under review by consultant Larry Salci. As of the last update provided to the executive Board, Larry was 50% complete in his review and hoped to complete the report and submit it for Review Panel consideration by mid-December with Executive Board adoption anticipated for the last meeting in December. Steve reported that the timeline has slipped, as the Board meets next week, and the review is not complete. Steve added that there is an agenda item on next week's Board call for Mr. Salci to provide a status update.

The Fixing America's Surface Transportation (FAST) Act and changes to the NGEC: Mario Bergeron asked Steve Hewitt to provide an overview of the changes to the PRIIA Section 305 NGEC within the FAST Act.

Steve reported that the FAST Act reauthorizes the NGEC, but makes two primary changes:

The inclusion of the following language in paragraph (a.) of Section 305 after the word manufacturers:

"nonprofit organizations representing employees who perform overhaul and maintenance of passenger railroad equipment".

The other changes include removing the language in paragraph (c.) that states:

"...and may establish a corporation, which may be owned or jointly owned by Amtrak, participating States, or other entities, to perform these functions."

In paragraph (e.) the following language is removed:

"...and establishing a jointly owned corporation to manage that equipment."

Basically, the changes are to add labor as a member of the NGEC, and remove the NGEC's ability to change its business structure by establishing a corporation or other such entity.

Steve noted that the NGEC Finance and Administrative subcommittee (FASC) has begun a review of the sections of the FAST Act pertaining to the NGEC and has asked for Amtrak and FRA to provide insight as to interpretation of the changes. The FASC is also reviewing the NGEC Bylaws as part of an annual review process and will revise them to address the changes contained in FAST.

Mario Bergeron added that the FAST Act is a surface transportation authorization for 5 years and includes highways bridges, transit and for the first time a substantial rail title in the bill.

Adjourn: With no other issues to come before the subcommittee today, at 3:45PM Eastern, Mario Bergeron adjourned today's Technical Subcommittee conference call meeting and wished all members happy and safe holidays.

Next Call: January 14, 2016 – 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

RVAAC: RVAAC presented its recommendations for improved access on rail vehicles to the Access Board on July 29, 2015. Melissa will keep the Tech SC apprised as deliberations conclude. There is a backlog in rulemaking projects, and so it was not decided how and when to proceed with those recommendations. Anyone who would like the link to the RVAAC report should contact Melissa Shurland, at Melissa.shurland@dot.gov. (Ongoing)

AWG report: Progress continues on the restroom drawings. Today, (12-17-15) Melissa Shurland reported that the Accessibility Working Group had a meeting this week with participants from Amtrak, FRA, manufacturers and the Access Board to review Oregon State University's preliminary work on accessibility restrooms. Good feedback was received and OSU will go back and incorporate the comments received accordingly. Melissa will, as noted previously, provide a status report at the NGEC Annual Meeting in DC on 2-19-16. (Ongoing)

Updating ECP Standards: remains as a standing action item and as activities occur. (Ongoing)

Status: Paul Jamieson provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

- *"APTA PRESS ECP working group met on December 8, 2015, in the APTA offices in Washington, DC. Several important topics were discussed:*
- *Amtrak Keystone service using the emulation coach cars remains in service without any reported incidents.*
- *Cab Car #9644 conversion to utilize Wabtec FastBrake Equipment was completed and placed into service prior to Thanksgiving. This cab car will be used for the full ECP test train.*
- *ACS84 Locomotive # 670 will be delivered from Siemens with cables and brackets installed for the ECP test train.*
- *Performance standard and emulation standard were reviewed and will be submitted to the APTA PRESS mechanical working group for review and approval. Both standards are targeted for issue by the end of Q2*

2016.

- *The test waiver request was reviewed by the FRA safety board. It is anticipated that the test waiver will be formally approved and letter issuance no later than January 2016. The only restriction will be that the test train can only operate in the NEC. "*

Next update due 1-14-16.

Maintaining Industry Participation List: This remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **258** registered industry participants. (Ongoing)

Backgrounder educational document: The Backgrounder remains available upon request. Please contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com if you want to receive Backgrounders. Provide the quantity requested and an address for sending them to.

DEF Working Group: A more extensive presentation will be provided by Jennifer Bastian on the 1-28-16 subcommittee call, and, again at the NGEC Annual Meeting 2-19-16. On today's (12-17-15) call Jennifer provided a status update (see above – agenda item 7).

The PRIIA Dual Mode (DC 3rd Rail) Passenger Locomotive Technical Specification adoption – Larry Salci is in the process of reviewing the specification against the requirements document and preparing a Review Panel report with recommendations. Timeline for NGEC Executive Board approval is as of yet undetermined pending completion of the Review.

AAR Committee: Next update: 1-14-16. (Ongoing)

GAO project: A questionnaire was sent to key industry members of the technical working groups. Responses have been coming in and are appreciated. The next GAO update to the Technical subcommittee is due on 1-14-16. (Ongoing)

The 12-31-15 conference call is canceled. All members have been notified.

The next call will take place on 1-14-16

ATTACHMENTS



The NGEC will provide national leadership in standardization, acquisition, financing and management of passenger rail equipment.

PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

December 17, 2015

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 December 3, 2015 | Mario Bergeron |

- | | |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| 5. Document Control Update | Steve Hewitt |
| 6. Update: Procurements | |
| a. Bi-level Cars | Rob Edgcumbe |
| b. Diesel-electric locomotive | Jennifer Bastian |
| 7. Progress report: Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) / UREA Working Group | Jennifer Bastian |
| 8. NGEN 2016 Annual Meeting – February 19, 2016 | Steve Hewitt |
| 9. Other Issues | All |
| 10. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday December 17, 2015 / 3:00 Eastern / 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#
Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.
Thank you
Next Call – 1-14-16 at 3:00pm Eastern