

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

DECEMBER 23
2021

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Joe Paul, Vice Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Joe Paul for George Hull, Jeffrey Gordon, Ray Hessinger, Jennifer Bastian, Jennifer Bastian also as proxy for Gurleen Boparai, Steve Hewitt, Blair Slaughter, Art Peterson, Industry Members: Rich Stegner, Josh Coran, Paul Arnone, Steve Ojalvo, Dave Warner, Kevin Sudano, Ed Golitko, Shunsake Takaya, William Loebke, Steve Morrison, Kevin Myles, Richard Curtis
ABSENTEES	<i>George Hull, Matthew Simmons, Jason Biggs, Mike Jenkins, Troy Hughes, Gurleen Boparai, Ed Engle, Marci Petterson, Mike Kraft, Mike Murray, Charlie King, Larry Salci, Tarek Omar, Melissa Shurland</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Technical subcommittee Vice Chair Joe Paul, Amtrak, called the meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll of core team members.

After calling the roll, Steve Hewitt could not confirm the presence of a quorum. It was agreed to continue the meeting but take no votes.

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

2.

Review Action Items – Steve Hewitt, NGENC Program Manager:

2021 NGENC Backgrounder educational document:

The 2021 version of the NGENC two-page backgrounder/educational document has been released and is available electronically or in hard copy by request. Contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

About 615 electronic copies have been distributed to date.

Missouri DOT Graphic Arts has developed a mock-up of the 2022 NGENC two-pager with updates provided by the FASC. The Executive Board will discuss the mock-up on 12-28-21 and will provide any changes or edits they have at that time. Steve Hewitt will transmit any suggested edits to MODOT, and a Final DRAFT will be developed and sent back to the Board for its next call on 1-11-22.

The goal remains to have the new two-pager published by the NGENC Annual Meeting to be held on 2-25-22.

Maintaining Industry Participation List: There are about 200 industry participants.

Any updates or changes to this list should be sent to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

This procurement remains in the "cone of silence" period.

Next Update – as appropriate

Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement as of 12-9-21:

On 12-9-21, Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, reported that Metro-North has approved all IDR documents. Siemens has begun production and submittals of PDRs.

Next Update – 1-6-22

Amtrak Vehicle Procurements – as of 12-9-21:

On the Acela 21 – Amtrak continues to work with FRA qualification testing. Trainset 3 is in Philadelphia and the prototype 2 is also in Philadelphia for testing.

On the ALC 42 Locomotive – There are 4 in Wilmington – 2 more are expected to ship there shortly.

On the intercity passenger rail trains – they continue preliminary design review.

Next Update – 1-6-22

Working Group on Weight Issues:

On 12-9-21, Jeff Gordon, FRA, reported that he has not yet rescheduled the next call. He has been “swamped” with work, expects to schedule a call soon.

Next Update – 1-6-22

Establishing a working group for Interior Attenuation Specifications (Cellular issues):

On 7-22-21, George Hull talked about the need to address issues related to cellular capabilities on trains. Previously, it was thought the Electronics on Trains working group would be a home for this effort. George asked if that was the right place or should a separate working group be established to address these issues.

Steve Hewitt mentioned that Tammy Krause had talked to David Brabb, team leader of the Electronics on Trains working group and the thought is that it is a fit and they will add it to their list of activities.

Action: George asked Tammy to provide a list of issues that the Electronics on Trains is addressing and its priorities to better understand the volume of work. Tammy will include this action in her Document Control Update.

On 10-7-21, David Brabb, Team Leader for the Electronics on Trains Technical Working Group provided the following response:

As far as the Interior Attenuation Specifications (Cellular issues), we had discussed this in the group and with Tammy. We think it would be more appropriately handled by folks that design the mechanical/materials specified in the car design signal attenuation due to glass and metals specified in the designs, are the issues. However, we would be open to taking a shot at it if needed.

Based on this response – the Chair will take this up at a later date to determine if this should be assigned to the Electronics on Trains working group or another more appropriate group.

Update:

On 12-9-21, George Hull decided to ask that the Electronics on Trains add this item to its activities.

Tammy Krause will notify team leader David Brabb.

3. Approval of the Minutes from 12-9-21:

This item was tabled until next call (1-6-22) due to the lack of a quorum.

4. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 12-23-21 – Jennifer Bastian, IDOT for Gurleen Boparai, Caltrans:

On 12-23-21, Gurleen Boparai, Caltrans, and Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, provided the following update for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car shell final design has been approved and the first cab structures are in production. Remaining Cab Car FDRs are in the final submittal and review stage and the cab car Clearance information has been submitted to Amtrak. IDOT Café Car FDRs are in the closure stage and Galley open items are being addressed.

The Cab Car Collision and Corner Post Appendix F testing is complete with the test report in work and the cab car compression test

report review is nearly complete. FAIs will continue for café and cab car subsystems after the first of the year.

99 cars are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. IDOT and Caltrans cars are being prepared for Conditional Acceptance and revenue service while open items and relevant FMIs are being addressed.

IDOT has reached final acceptance with Amtrak on four cars and has started on rail testing of Wi-Fi and passenger information systems, along with crew training on those cars.

5.

Update: Document Control Management – Steve Hewitt for Tammy Krause:

On 12-23-21, Tammy Krause was unavailable, so Steve Hewitt provided a brief update on the status of updating the DMU Specification to Revision A.

The Review Panel met on 12-13-21, and reviewed the DMU review Panel Report with Recommendations as prepared by consultant Larr Salci. The Panel suggested some changes to the report, and on 12-14-21 a summary overview was provided by Mr. Salci to the Board. Consideration of adoption of the Report and DMU Specification Revision A is scheduled to take place on 12-28-21.

6.

NGEC Annual Meeting – Steve Hewitt:

On 12-23-21, Steve Hewitt reported that the meeting will take place in-person and virtually on 2-25-22 at the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill Washington, DC.

A DRAFT agenda was discussed with the NGEN Executive Board on its 12-14-21 call and will be included with the DRAFT minutes from this call for those that need it for obtaining travel approval. The agenda is DRAFT and subject to change. Several speakers have yet to be confirmed.

A meeting with AASHTO to discuss/coordinate the various meetings the week of 2-21-22 was held on 12-13-21. Steve Hewitt participated for the NGEN and let AASHTO know the plans for the NGEN Annual Meeting including the intent to hold it in-person and virtually.

The next coordination meeting will take place in January.

In the meantime, Steve Hewitt sent out the Hotel Room Block information to all NGEN members on 12-22-21.

Members should book their rooms as soon as possible.

The Hotel Room Block link is:

Be sure to review [AASHTO's Health and Safety Protocols](#).

Reserve Sleeping Room

You may reserve a room in AASHTO's room block here, <https://www.hyatt.com/en-US/group-booking/WASRW/G-RTLM>. The last day to reserve a room at the group rate of \$159 per night plus 14.95% tax is Monday, January 31, 2022. If you encounter any problems securing a room at the hotel, please contact Kamasha Hendrickson at 202.624.5403.

7.

Update: University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Study – Hamid-Sharif Kashani:

Hamid-Sharif Kashani was unavailable for this call, so this item was tabled.

8.

Confirm 2022 Technical subcommittee bi-weekly meeting schedule – Joe Paul and Steve Hewitt:

It was agreed that the Technical subcommittee calls will continue to be bi-weekly on Thursdays at 3:00pm Eastern throughout 2022.

9. Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming on today's call, Joe Paul adjourned the meeting at about 3:17pm Eastern.

Next Tech subcommittee Call: 1-6-22– 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

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The goal remains to have the new two-pager published by the NGEC Annual Meeting to be held on 2-25-22.

Maintaining Industry Participation List: There are about 200 industry participants.

There have been several updates/changes to the list that have been provided to Steve Hewitt and those changes were made. Any further updates or changes should be sent to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 12-23-21:

On 12-23-21, Gurleen Boparai, Caltrans, provided the following update for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

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Document Control Update -12-23-21:

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Working Group on Weight Issues as of 12-9-21:

o schedule a call soon.

If interested in participating on this working group, contact Jeff Gordon at Jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov or Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

Next Update – 1-6-21

Establishing a working group for Interior Attenuation Specifications (Cellular issues):

On 7-22-21, George Hull talked about the nOn 12-9-21, Jeff Gordon, FRA, reported that he has not yet rescheduled the next call. He has been "swamped" with work but expects to address issues related to cellular capabilities on trains. Previously, it was thought

the Electronics on Trains working group would be a home for this effort. George asked if that was the right place or should a separate working group be established to address these issues.

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Action: George asked Tammy to provide a list of issues that the Electronics on Trains is addressing and its priorities to better understand the volume of work. Tammy will include this action in her Document Control Update.

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Based on this response – the Chair will take this up at a later date to determine if this should be assigned to the Electronics on Trains working group or another more appropriate group.

Update:

On 12-9-22, Chairman Hull asked that this effort be assigned to the Electronics on Trains Working Group as he believes it is the best suited working group to address this topic.

Tammy Krause will inform Team Leader, David Brabb on the next Working Group call.

Electronics on Trains Working Group:

David Brabb provided the following update for inclusion in the 10-28-21 minutes which Steve Hewitt read into the record:

We had our call this past Tuesday. The results of the call were that 1. we need 3 talking points and issues clarified by Siemens. And 2. we have one that Tammy is helping with. These are found in the notes document sent out yesterday.

Once these issues are clarified/resolved, 305-919 DTL Hardware Spec. revision will be issued. We will begin the outline for the 920 DTL Software Spec., and begin listing questions for the group, this month.

Our next call is planned for November 30th at 3pm eastern.

Steve Hewitt will request that David Brabb provide an update on the working group's activities on the next call 12-22-21

Next Update – 1-20-22

University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 10-14-21:

Hamid reported that work is continuing with the results of propagation modeling on the 160Mega Hertz channel and performance modeling on different channels including propagation and velocity in different rail environments (such as going through tunnels). Two abstracts have been produced and will be presented.

For any questions or more information, please contact Hamid Sharif-Kashani at hamidSharif@UNL.edu.

Next Update: 1-20-22

Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement –12-9-21

On 12-8-21, Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, reported that Metro-North

Ray Hessinger reported that Metro-North has approved all IDR documents. Siemens has begun production and submittals of PDRs.

Next Update: 1-6-22

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

As of 12-8-21, this procurement remains in the "cone of silence" period.

Next Update: As appropriate

Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 12-9-21

George Hull provided the following updates on 12-9-21:

On the Acela 21 – Amtrak continues to work with FRA qualification testing. Trainset 3 is in Philadelphia and the prototype 2 is also in Philadelphia for testing.

On the ACL 42 Locomotive – There are 4 in Wilmington – 2 more are expected to ship there shortly.

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Next Update: 1-6-22

Establish process and timeline for Tech SC review of Access Board NPRM Accessibility Guidelines and compare with current NGEN Specifications

On 8-20-20, Melissa Shurland, FRA, reported that the comment period ended on 7-14-20 (after having been extended to that date) and the Access Board is now processing those comments received. Melissa stated, "we are in a holding pattern to see what the comments were and what the Access Board's disposition of them will be." Melissa will keep the NGEN technical subcommittee informed as the process is completed.

In January 2021 Melissa Shurland informed Steve Hewitt that there still was no update from the Access Board on this activity – it remains in a holding pattern.

Next Update: As appropriate

NGEC 2022 Annual Meeting:

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Next call: 1-6-22

ATTACHMENTS



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

PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

Web Ex video/audio information:

By Computer: <https://stephenhewitthewittconsulting.my.webex.com/meet/shewitt109>

by phone: 1-415-655-0001

Access code: 126-073-1531

12-23-21

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Approve Minutes from 12-9-21 | George Hull |
| 4. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Gurleen Boparai |
| 5. Document Control Management | Tammy Krause |
| - Status: DMU Update | |
| - Developing Annual Meeting Document Control progress report and a look at 2022 priorities | |
| - Update - Electronics on Trains working group | |
| 6. Overview - NGEC 2022 Annual Meeting – 2-25-22 | Steve |
| 7. Update: University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study | Hamid-Sharif Kashani |
| 8. Confirm 2022 Technical subcommittee bi-weekly meeting schedule | George/Steve |
| 9. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| 10. Adjourn | George Hull |

Next call – 1-6-21