

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

MARCH 10, 2016 3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Jeff Gordon, Tom Peacock for Momo Tamaoki, Curtis McDowell for Allan Paul, Jeff Schultz for Marci Petterson, Art Peterson for Jennifer Bastian, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Tammy Krause, Jonathan Hines, Sal DeAngelo, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Steve Hewitt, Guest: Swati Deo, Derry Henrick Industry Members: Paul Jamieson, Tom Sisler, Josh Coran, Pat Sheeran, Jack Madden, William Slater, James Michel, Tom Hunt, Wulf Dickie, Lew Hoens
ABSENTEES	<i>Momo Tamaoki, Allan Paul, Charlie Poltenson, Marci Petterson, Jennifer Bastian, Jason Biggs, Vincent Brotski, Michael Burshtin, Jay Gilfillan, Andrew Wood, Melissa Shurland, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Nico Lindenau, Michael Coltman, Brian Marquis, 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 – Mario Bergeron:

Mario Bergeron 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.

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.

There is nothing new to report for today's meeting.

Requesting Backgrounder educational document: The Backgrounder remains available upon request, but the Executive Board is currently considering a new "two-pager" education and outreach document. Once approved, it will be printed by AASHTO and made available to all members. 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.

AWG Update: As of the last report, 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 NGENC Annual Meeting in DC on 2-19-16.

Status: Melissa provided a background and status update during the Annual Meeting – the presentation will be made available on the NGENC website. For today, there is nothing new to report.

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.

Status: Melissa provided a background and status update during the Annual Meeting – the presentation will be made available on the NGECC website. For today, there is nothing new to report.

4. Approve Minutes from February 11, 2016 – Mario Bergeron:

On a motion by Jeff Gordon, FRA, and a second by Art Peterson, for IDOT, the Minutes from the 2-11-16 Technical subcommittee conference call meeting were approved without exception.

5. Overview/Summary of the 6th Annual NGECC Meeting – held in Washington, DC on 2-19-16 – Mario Bergeron/Steve Hewitt:

Mario Bergeron commented briefly on the NGECC Annual Meeting – held in Washington, DC on 2-19-16, calling it a “productive and informative meeting...a lot of material covered.” Much of the material covered was presented in PowerPoints and has been distributed. Mario noted that the “conversation around the documents” was most interesting and meaningful.

Mario asked Steve Hewitt to provide a summary of the highlights of the meeting:

Highlights and actions taken:

Attendance at the meeting was up significantly from that of 2015 – which is a very positive sign. There were 70 NGECC members in attendance (this is up from 58 in 2015).

Eric Curtit, Chair of the NGECC Executive Board, gave his annual Chairman’s report which summarized the activities of the NGECC over the last twelve months and provided a general “state of the NGECC” update. (available on the website)

The Treasurer’s report, as submitted by Treasurer Darrell Smith, showed that the NGECC is managing its limited resources very efficiently, indicated by the fact that it is operating at a burn rate well under budget (about half the anticipated rate). The report, as submitted, was accepted unanimously by the Executive Board.

During the meeting, the Board adopted revisions to the NGECC By-laws and Operating Procedures. These changes had been previously approved and submitted for Board consideration by the Finance and Administrative subcommittee. The revisions included: changes to PRIIA Section 305 as called for in the FAST Act; the formal addition of the 514 subcommittee as the third NGECC Standing subcommittee, (along with the Technical subcommittee and the Finance and Administrative subcommittee) and the inclusion of its responsibilities and procedures. Additionally, there were some typo and general punctuation and/or spelling corrections made to the Bylaws document.

Steve Hewitt has finalized and added the “revised on date” to the By-laws and Operating Procedures as adopted; and he has distributed the document to the NGECC Executive Board members, and to AASHTO for posting to the website.

As recommended by the nominating committee, the Executive Board State members were all re-elected to new two year terms on the Board.

The newly elected Executive Board then formally re-elected (unanimously) the current slate of officers to serve new two year terms of office.

The officers are:

NGECC Chair: Eric Curtit, Missouri DOT
Vice Chair: Mario Bergeron, Amtrak
Treasurer: Darrell Smith, Amtrak
Secretary: Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT

Each of the standing subcommittees (Technical, 514, and Finance and Administrative) as well as several working groups, presented progress reports during the Annual Meeting.

Presentations were also provided on the status of both of the multi-state equipment procurements (bi-level cars

and diesel-electric locomotives).

An update presentation from FRA (Melissa Shurland) on RVAAC and on the activities of the Accessibility Working Group were provided.

Attendees also heard updates from the FRA and from Amtrak's Government Affairs office.

Overall, the meeting was productive, well attended, and appeared to be very well received by those in attendance.

All of the PowerPoint presentations given during the meeting will be posted to the NGEC website at www.ngec305.org.

At the conclusion of Steve's summary, Mario asked if others on the phone had comments or questions on the Annual meeting.

Bill Slater, Wabtec, commented that the meeting "was well run and extremely informative...great work by the team."

Mario Bergeron commented that the "collective of us all doing a lot under 305" is what makes it such a success. Mario thanked Bill Slater and all of the industry members, as well as FRA, Amtrak and the states for "all that you do" and added "the value is how we all come together."

6.

Document Control Update – Tammy Krause:

Tammy Krause provided the following Document Control Update for inclusion in today's minutes:

"The Dual Mode locomotive specification was approved by the executive board on 2/2 and I was able to get the cover page of the specification signed Jack Madden and the board members at the Annual meeting on 2/19. The signed cover page is now with Camren Cordell and she is finalizing the specification for the website. The Bi-level specification version C4 is being put together now with all the approved DCRS. I will report when this is available for review. That is all I have to report."

7.

Update: Procurements:

Bi-level Cars –Tom Peacock, Caltrans:

Tom Peacock, Caltrans, provided the following Bi-level procurement update for inclusion in today's minutes:

There are several primary activities:

- First Article Inspections – none new to report on since the last update – but a number are underway, including: the overall car and toilets.
- Work on developing the car shell re-design – continues.
- The second car shell re-design review is planned for mid-May – but Tom anticipates it will slip to sometime in June.

Diesel Electric Locomotives – Art Peterson:

Art Peterson, on behalf of IDOT, provided the following update on the diesel-electric locomotive procurement for inclusion in today's minutes:

- *All open invoices for project milestones have been paid by IDOT.*
- *All of the vendor factory FAIs are complete. The remaining FAIs will take place at Siemens' factory in Sacramento.*
- *JPEs are reviewing Siemens' revised schedule, which now indicates a schedule slip for the first 11 locomotives. The overall schedule for delivery of the last locomotive is still within the ARRA funding window. IDOT is monitoring schedule closely with weekly meetings with Siemens focused on schedule.*
- *The monthly QA review was held on March 9th at Siemens factory in Sacramento.*
- *The carbonyl compression and other structural tests was held on February 16, 17 with successful 800,000 lb*

- *compression test, On February 25th, the corner post was successfully tested.*
- *DCR work with Camren Cordell will began last week and the first of the 15 DCRs.*
- *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.*
- *Please refer to Jennifer Bastian's report the Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) planning team.*
- *The locomotive weight was reported in January 2016, at 271,671 lbs (+/-), due to actual component weights coming in, the trend continues to be a bit better than expected. The calculated P2 force is within specified limits. Weight is being closely monitored, each month.*

8.

Update: Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) / UREA Working Group - Art Peterson:

Art Peterson, IDOT, provided the following, DEF working group update:

The last meeting was held on 2-22-16.

Much of the discussion revolves around fueling considerations.

The IDOT-Amtrak Letter of Intent has helped to move things forward.

Dale Engelhardt, Amtrak, added that a primary topic of discussion has been the request that DEF fueling capabilities be available at all sites currently used to support state services. The "maintainer" will ultimately define how this is done by storage tanks or by truck.

9.

Update: AAR Committee – Jeff Gordon:

Jeff Gordon reported that he had spoken to the AAR Committee facilitator – Dave Cacovic - recently. Dave informed Jeff that, while progress has been made in several key areas, the committee has mostly been on hiatus since late November. Dave anticipates resuming activities in the near future.

Among the outstanding activities to be resumed are: Interoperability (being addressed by an industry team), Vehicle Dynamics or Vehicle Track Interaction (being addressed by industry members and TTCI), and, developing a test plan and reviewing best practices (being addressed by TTCI).

10.

Update: GAO Study – Swati Deo:

Swati Deo, GAO, reported that the team continues to work on drafting the report and anticipates that it will go out to the agencies sometime in April, 2016.

Mario Bergeron asked "is there is anything else we can help you with?"

Swati responded – not at the moment, but "we will let you know, once we hear back from the agencies".

Mario replied "Ok. We will stand by."

11.

Other Issues:

Adjourn: With no other issues to come before the subcommittee today, Mario Bergeron adjourned today's conference call meeting at 3:26PM Eastern.

Next Call: March 24, 2016 – 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

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.

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

DEF Working Group: Progress continues and regular bi-weekly updates are provided to the subcommittee. (Ongoing)

AAR Committee: Next update: 4-7 -16. (Ongoing)

GAO project: The GAO team is in the process of writing the DRAFT report for internal circulation with a target /estimated time frame for agency review and comment in April, 2016. The next GAO update to the Technical subcommittee is due on 4-7-16. (Ongoing)

ATTACHMENTS



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

PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

March 10, 2016

The agenda for the meeting is below:

1. Roll Call
2. Review meeting agenda

Steve Hewitt

Mario Bergeron

- | | |
|---|-----------------------------|
| 3. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes of February 11, 2016 | Mario Bergeron |
| 5. Overview: 6 th NGEAC Annual Meeting – held on 2-19-16 | Mario Bergeron/Steve Hewitt |
| 6. Document Control Update | Tammy Krause |
| 7. Update: Procurements | |
| a. Bi-level Cars | Tom Peacock |
| b. Diesel-electric locomotive | Art Peterson |
| 8. Update: Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) / UREA Working Group | Art Peterson |
| 9. Update: AAR Committee | Jeff Gordon |
| 10. Update: GAO Study | Swati Deo |
| 11. Other Issues | All |
| 12. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday March 10, 2016 / 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 – 3-24-16-16 at 3:00pm Eastern