

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

APRIL 19, 2018

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Charles King, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Core Team Members:</b> <i>Charlie King, Jeff Gordon, Allan Paul, Art Peterson for Jennifer Bastian, Ray Hessinger, Eric Curtit, , Phil Meraz, Michael Burshtin, Steve Hewitt, Tarek Omar, Sal DeAngelo, Christopher Witt, Tammy Krause, Dave "Emeritus" Warner</i> <b>Industry Members:</b> <i>Darrell Smith, Josh Coran, Bill Slater, James Michel, Hamid Sharif, Joe DiLiello, Mario Bergeron, Reggie Wingate, Dick Bruss, Bill Saddler, Steve Morrison, Craig McKeen, Reggie Wingate, Jack Madden</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>George Hull, Momo Tamaoki, Charlie Poltenson, Marci Petterson, Jennifer Bastian, Curtis McDowell, Melissa Shurland, Brian Marquis, Anand Prabhakaran, Larry Salci,</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

**1.**

Technical subcommittee Chairman Charlie King, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

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

**As always, industry participants are asked to email a notification of their attendance to Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com)**

**2.**

**Review of the Meeting Agenda – Charlie King:**

Charlie King 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 **245** registered industry participants.

**Requesting Backgrounder educational document:** The new updated two-pager was released on 2-23-18 and is available electronically or by hard copy. For hard copies contact Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com) with the number requested and an address to send 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.

On 3-8-17, Paul Jamieson, who was unavailable for the call, provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes and to be read into the record by Steve Hewitt:

*For the reporting period ending in January 2018, the ECP revenue service demonstration mileage is 557,546 ECP miles, 1,822,848 emulation (brake pipe operation) miles and total 2,390,394 miles. Currently, Amtrak is performing preventive maintenance and interior upgrades to the four coaches and cab car. This preventive maintenance and interior upgrades have resulted in a reduction of the ECP monthly mileage, but the other coaches remain in emulation revenue service demonstration.*

*The PRESS Mechanical ECP working group is working on completing the standards for voting by mid-2018. The NYAB and Wabtec annual equipment inspection reports are being prepared for FRA submittal. The CFR draft language is still under FRA review. The project completion is scheduled for the end of 2018.*

There was no update for today's call 4-19-18.

**AWG/RVACC Update:**

Melissa Shurland, provided a complete update on the RVAAC and AWG efforts at the NGEAC Annual Meeting on 2-23-18. The presentation is available on the NGEAC website at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org).

There was no update for today's call 4-19-18.

**Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement Update:**

As of 3-22-18, NYSDOT reported that Metro-North was beginning its procurement process for the Dual-Mode Locomotives and had advertised for a pre-bid meeting for interested builders. The meeting was to take place in NYC on 3-28-18.

It was agreed on 3-22-18 that this procurement will be carried as an open action item and when there are activities to be reported, Ray Hessinger and/or Metro-North will provide an update.

**Status as of 4-19-18:**

Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT reported that Metro North held an information meeting in NYC on 3-28-18 for entities interested in the Dual Mode Locomotive procurement. The meeting was well attended with all major locomotive builders well represented. NYSDOT, Connecticut DOT, and Amtrak were also present at the meeting.

Metro North will be working with the MTA Board on the information gathered from the meeting and hopes to be releasing an RFP (which will be a 2 step RFP process) by late May or early June 2018.

Ray also noted that there was a brief discussion during the meeting on the specification, and it is noted that it is to be based on the PRIIA Dual Mode Locomotive specification with modifications. Metro North will bring those modifications to the NGEAC, but not until after the release of the RFP.

**Electronics on Trains Working Group** – no update today – next update scheduled for 5-3-18.

**University of Nebraska presentation on High Speed wireless technology:**

Hamid Sharif, from the University of Nebraska gave an overview of the project on 3-22-18 and is available to members off line as well. This item will remain "on the docket" with periodic updates.

As a follow up to the presentation that Hamid gave to this subcommittee of 3-22-18, Hamid and I spoke to see what should be the steps going forward. Hamid noted that they hope to complete the study (which is being conducted for the FRA) at the end of the summer, and would be interested in potentially doing field tests to put their findings in practice. They are interested in learning how they can best support to the railroad community – with the NGEAC, Amtrak and others. I have suggested that Hamid provide the Technical subcommittee with a monthly update/progress report similar to the updates that Tarek provides on the TAG Committee on LED Headlights. If the Chair agrees we can schedule this as a standing update for every other call – staggering it with the TAG Committee update. In the meantime members are encouraged to reach out to Hamid to provide input or ask questions about the study off-line.

Chairman King agreed to the suggestion to have Hamid provide a brief update on every other call of the Technical subcommittee, staggering this report with the TAG Committee report so both are on a once a month basis. The next report from the University of Nebraska will be scheduled for 5-3-18.

**Contact Information:**

**Hamid Sharif**  
**Phone: 402-554-3628**  
**Email: hsharif@unl.edu**

**4. Approval of the Minutes from 3-22-18 – Charlie King, Amtrak:**

With a quorum having been confirmed, Charlie King called for a motion to approve the minutes from the 3-22-18 conference call:

A motion to approve was offered by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and seconded by Art Peterson for IDOT. With no objections or exceptions forthcoming, the minutes from the 3-22-18 conference call were considered approved as

presented.

**5.**

**Update: Multi State Car Procurement – Steve Hewitt for Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:**

Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, was not available for today's call (4-19-18), but provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes. Steve Hewitt read the report into the record:

- *Caltrans, IDOT, and Amtrak's Public Health Team met on 4/6 to go over the Galley Updates. Discussions were productive, and information offered by Amtrak was very helpful. The follow up meeting will take place in summer 2018.*
- *Caltrans, IDOT, Amtrak and the FRA team visited the Brightline's West Palm Beach facility in the week of April 9. We reviewed some of the components in the cars, such as toilet rooms, gangway, HVAC, communication system, etc.*
- *Caltrans, IDOT, SCOA, and Siemens met in Sacramento, CA on 4/16 for the executive board meeting. We discussed the status of design review, high-level schedule overview, as well as areas of concerns.*
- *The production of the first Carshell has begun on 4/6.*
- *The design review meeting is taking place in Sacramento, CA this week. The discussion topics included exterior doors, double sliding steps, communication system – Analog, trap doors, electrical system. The meetings have been productive, and a lot of action items are being closed.*
- *Caltrans has been developing and submitting Document Change Requests (DCR) to NGEN. All DCRs have been sent to the appropriate working group(s) and discussion and votes are pending.*

**6.**

**Charger Locomotive Update and DEF/UREA Implementation update – Art Peterson for Jennifer Bastian, IDOT:**

***Locomotive Update:***

*Of the 33 units IDOT locomotive order, all 33 have been conditionally and finally accepted with Siemens.*

*238.111a testing still needs to be completed on two Michigan corridors pending resolution of equipment and testing issues. The locomotives for the MI corridors are still being held in Pueblo until this testing is completed.*

*Twenty-Three Chargers are currently in the Midwest.*

*The locomotives stored at TTCI will ship to Chicago as soon as storage space becomes available. Storage space in Chicago is being freed-up with the re-deployment of P42 locomotives by Amtrak.*

*WSDOT units are operating in revenue service.*

*Caltrans locomotives are operating revenue service.*

*The Failure Review Board is established and running, with all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens and the new addition of Brightline as participants.*

*A recurring bi-weekly warranty meeting is being held by Siemens and includes all JPE's, Amtrak, Siemens, MARC and Brightline.*

***DEF update:***

*DEF supply and usage are reported to be working well in all areas of the country where the Chargers are in use. No issues reported. The one item that is being worked on is the information needed from Amtrak on usage amounts, for invoicing in the Midwest in relation to the multi-state split.*

**7.**

**Document Control Update – Michael Burshtin, Amtrak:**

Michael Burshtin, Amtrak, provided the following Document Control Update:

Earlier this week two DCR spreadsheets providing a summary of proposed changes that have been dispositioned through the appropriate technical working groups. The spreadsheets contain a total of 21 DCRs that have been accepted or accepted as amended.

The intent is for the Technical subcommittee to review the spreadsheets and send any comments or questions to Michael Burshtin (and Tammy Krause) between now and the next call. The changes will be considered for approval by the Technical subcommittee on the next call – 5-3-18.

**DCR003-0160 – Seat Track Dimensions:**

Michael Burshtin reported that one specific DCR – 003-0160 – Seat Track Dimensions - has been under review for disposition in the Interiors technical working group for some time. The group's team leader, Andrew Wood, Amtrak, has informed Michael that the group is at an impasse in adjudicating this DCR. According to one group member, the discussions have been going on for 6 weeks with no final decision on a recommendation.

The key question revolves around whether the DCR, if approved as written, would comply with PRIIA's mandate for standardized equipment. The DCR calls for there to be an option to comply with the current seat track requirements or use a different track positioning. There are passionate arguments on both sides of the issue. Some working group members see it as providing an option, and others see it as a rejection of standardization.

Citing the PRIIA Document Management Process 305-100 Revision B, Dave Warner, the original Revision Control Coordinator(RCC) for the NGECC, (who was at the lead in developing the document management process), explained the concept of standardization. Dave emphasized that standardization is the primary purpose of the PRIIA Section 305 Next Generation Corridor Equipment Pool Committee (NGECC). Dave also provided a brief overview of the DCR handling process, as identified in 305-100-Revision B.

The Technical working groups are assigned to review DCRs that have been submitted in relation to their area of responsibility. In the case DCR 003-0160- it was provided to the Interiors working group led by Andrew Wood, Amtrak. A working group is responsible for adjudicating each DCR it receives and making a recommendation to the Document Control Coordinator (DCC) to accept or reject it. The DCC then informs the RCC of the recommendation. There is no provision for an impasse, the group is expected to come to a recommendation – accept, accept as amended or reject. If, however, there is no recommendation forthcoming, Dave likened it to a "hung jury", and noted that the RCC should determine that the DCR is rejected.

Once rejected, the originator of the DCR is informed that it has been rejected. The originator can revise the DCR and resubmit it for a new determination. This has occurred several times during this current procurement process – and – in fact – there are several DCRs on the afore mentioned DCR summary of changes spreadsheets that were initially rejected, amended, resubmitted, as amended, and ultimately, recommended by the technical working group to be accepted as amended.

**Discussion:**

The DCR in question - DCR 003-160 - is seen by its supporters as providing the manufacturer with options. It is seen by those who are opposed as impacting standardization and cutting to the very core of the PRIIA mandate. The general view is that options, as defined by the NGECC, are meant to address customer options for amenities, colors, etc., but not for structural type items such as seat tracks. PRIIA equipment is meant to provide interoperability across the system and to provide standard interchangeable equipment that can serve the pool of equipment nationally. Standardization is also meant to decrease costs through economies of scale and encourage competition.

Art Peterson, representing IDOT on today's call (4-19-18), expressed his concern that rejecting this DCR will cause a considerable ripple effect from the manufacturer and will potentially delay production. Art commented that this procurement has seen enough delays and it would not be good to have it subjected to yet another delay.

Jeff Gordon, FRA, added for clarification, that "position of the track is the subject of the DCR". Jeff also noted that "schedule is not a reason for rejecting standardization".

Dave Warner added that schedule never came up in PRIIA as a criterion for building a car. The only issue with schedule was building it before the funding ran out.

Warner further added that it took a lot of work to develop standardized specifications, and, along the way, there were a lot of compromises, but having there be an option A or Option B in a structural matter such as seat tracks would be "an arrow in the heart of standardization".

Art Peterson noted that the JPEs on the project agree with the proposed changes identified in DCR 003-160 and emphasized "this order will be for 130 plus cars".

After some further discussion the current RCC, Michael Burshtin, in accordance with the Document Management

Process (305-100 Revision B) determined that with the Interiors working group unable to come to a decision, he is recommending that DCR- 003-0160, as written, be rejected. The next step would be for Michael to add this item to the DCR summary of changes spreadsheet and for it to be considered along with the other DCRs on the 5-3-18 call of the full Technical subcommittee. It was noted that the originator can resubmit an amended DCR for consideration by the Interiors working group for a recommendation.

Charlie King, Technical subcommittee Chair, concurred with Michael's determination, based on the discussion today, but did note he wanted to get this issue resolved. He asked Steve Hewitt and NGECC Chair Eric Curtit if this item would be on the upcoming Executive Board call agenda (4-24-18) to inform the Board. Steve Hewitt said that the agenda, as approved by Eric Curtit, will have a document control update, to be given by Michael Burshtin, and this discussion will be a part of that report. Steve also noted that the agenda includes the Chair re-convening the single level car and single level trainset Review Panels to confirm members and to get the panels stood up and ready to begin their review as soon as the Technical subcommittee vote takes place.

More discussion ensued with Eric Curtit and, later, Jack Madden, asking if the manufacturer (Siemens) of Brightline as well as this procurement, used the seat track requirements in the PRIIA spec for the Brightline train. The answer seemed to be yes. This added confusion as to why the change is necessary now – what is different?

James Michel, Marsh Global, a member of the Interiors working group, and an industry member of the NGECC, commented that for seat manufacturers the standardization of seat tracks and other such structural elements made it possible to create a competitive environment marketplace, and improved cost efficiency. Also, if, down the road, there is a substitute car builder, having the same mounting is important. Whatever it is it should be standard.

With no further discussion forthcoming, Charlie King moved forward to the next agenda item for today's call.

**8. Update: AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights – Tarek Omar, FRA:**

Tarek Omar provided a brief update on the AAR TAG committee on LED Headlights. He noted that they are in the final stages of the project with their initial analysis and conclusions. The final report will be out May 11<sup>th</sup> and that will be the end of the project.

**9. Other Issues:**

Tammy Krause reported that the Diesel-Electric Locomotive Specification Revision B has been finalized and will be signed today by NGECC Chair Eric Curtit. She will forward the final specification document to Steve Hewitt as soon as the cover page has been signed – (later today 4-19-18 or tomorrow 4-20-18) - and it will be available by request through Steve Hewitt.

With no other business forthcoming for today's call, Charlie King adjourned the meeting at 3:49pm Eastern.

**Next Call: 5-3-2018 – 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.

On 3-8-17, Paul Jamieson, who was unavailable, provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes and to be read into the record by Steve Hewitt:

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4-19-18 – Nothing new to report

**AWG/RVACC Update:**

On 2-23-18, Melissa provided an update on the FRA/OSU project. She also provided a complete update on the RVAAC effort at the NGEC Annual Meeting on 2-23-18. The presentation is available at [www.ngec305.org](http://www.ngec305.org)

4-19-18 – Nothing new to report.

**Requesting Background educational document:** The new updated two-pager was released on 2-23-18 and is available electronically or by hard copy. For hard copies contact Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com) with the number requested and an address to send them to.

**Maintaining Industry Participation List: Status:** There are currently **245** registered industry participants. Members are asked to review the industry member list and send any corrections – additions – deletions to Steve Hewitt.

**AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights:**

The AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights is in the final stages of the project with the initial analysis and conclusions. The final report will be out May 11<sup>th</sup> and that will be the end of the project.

Next update: 5-17-18

**Procurement Updates:**

**Multi-State Car Procurement - Caltrans (Lead State):** Progress reports from the lead state will be provided on each subcommittee call. See agenda item 5, above, for today's update (4-19-18).

**Charger Locomotive Update** – see agenda item 5 for today's update (4-19-18).

**Document Control Update:**

See agenda item 7 for complete update and discussion.

Decisions and action items from 4-19-18:

The DCR summary spreadsheets for the single level car specification sent out to all Technical subcommittee members prior to the 4-19-18 conference call will be updated to combine the two spreadsheets into one and to add the rejected DCRs.

Due to an impasse on DCR -003-160 – the recommendation was to reject it as submitted. It will be added to the spreadsheet.

On 5-3-18 – the Technical subcommittee will consider the summary of changes as recommended by the technical working groups.

**Electronics on Trains Working Group:**

Next update 5-3-18

**DEF-UREA Update:**

DEF supply and usage are reported to be working well in all areas of the country where the Chargers are in use. No issues reported. The one item that is being worked on is the information needed from Amtrak on usage amounts, for invoicing in the Midwest in relation to the multi-state split.

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Ray also noted that there was a brief discussion during the meeting on the specification, and it is noted that it is to be based on the PRIIA Dual Mode Locomotive specification with modifications. Metro North will bring those modifications to the NGEC, but not until after the release of the RFP.

**Next call: 5-3 -18**

**Call in number is:**

**888 585-9008 access #: 559-120-127**

**ATTACHMENTS**



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

**PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting**

**April 19, 2018**

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Roll Call   | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Meeting Agenda                                   | Charles King |
| 3. Review Action Items                                     | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes from 3-22-18                            | Charles King |
| 5. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement                | Steve Hewitt |
| 6. Updates: Charger Locomotive and DEF/UREA Implementation | Art Peterson |

- |  |                  |
|--|------------------|
| 7. Document Control Update                     | Michael Burshtin |
| 8. Update: AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights | Tarek Omar       |
| 9. Other issues                                | All              |
| 10. Review this meeting:                       | Steve Hewitt     |
| a) Decisions                                   |                  |
| b) New Action Items                            |                  |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:***  
***Thursday 4-19-18 / 3:00pm Eastern / 1-888 585-9008 / passcode 559-120-127#***  
***Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.***  
***Thank you***  
***Next Call -5-3-18 at 3:00pm Eastern***