

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

APRIL 24, 2014

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Mario Bergeron, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Core Team Members:</b> Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Kevin Kesler, Stan Hunter, Allan Paul, Jack Madden, Marci Petterson, Phil Meraz, Melissa Wilbers, Vincent Brotski, Michael Burshtin, Andrew Wood, Jeff Schultz, Nico Lindenau, Sara Sarkhili, Jeff Gordon, Curtis McDowell, Art Peterson, Steve Hewitt, <b>Industry Participants:</b> Al Engel, Randy Thomure, Joe Moore, Bill Slater, Richard Stegner, Steve Morrison, Josh Coran, Tom Hunt, Chuck Wochele, James Michel
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Kerri Wohler, Dave Warner, Darrell Smith, Tammy Krause, Greg Gagarin, Melissa Shurland, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Michael Coltman, Brian Marquis, Patricia Llana, Camren Cordell, Larry Salci, Shayne Gill</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Chairman Bergeron called today's meeting to order and asked 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](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com)**

2.

**Review of the Meeting Agenda – Dale Engelhardt:**

Mario Bergeron provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda.

3.

**Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:**

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: Status:** Steve reported that this remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **226** registered industry participants.

**Requesting Backgrounder educational document:** The Backgrounder, as updated, is available now. Today Steve received a request from Al Engel for a quantity of Backgrounder's for distribution at an upcoming conference on the US Intercity Passenger Rail Program. If others have similar opportunities to utilize the Backgrounder and talk about the benefits of the NGENC, please let Steve know how many copies are needed and where to send them.

**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 rather than on each call.

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

*"The technical team is meeting this week to continue work on the base technical specification at NYAB – Watertown, NY.*

*Amtrak Test: Weekly teleconferences are being held with NYAB and Wabtec for the installation of the coach car equipment. Amtrak has scheduled a meeting with the Barre, DE facility personnel to finalize the coach car installation. Installation should start in May with single car testing to be scheduled with FRA participation.*

*Safety Analysis: PHA and Safety Risk Model initial review completed and comments under discussion. FMECA draft documents have been received and currently under review and discussion."*

**Metro North Dual Mode Specification:** Jack Madden, NYSDOT, will continue to keep the subcommittee updated on the status of the Metro North Dual Mode specification as it is developed. (This is an internal New York State process, not an official NGENC effort.)

**Status:** Jack Madden, NYSDOT, submitted the following report for inclusion in today's minutes:

*"The NY Team has had conference calls on Friday 4 April and again this morning, Thursday 24 April. Due to issues beyond the Team's control, the project effort to develop a draft Metro North Dual Mode Specification has stalled."*

**DTL Specification development:** This is an ongoing activity. Tammy Krause will provide a status report on every other call of the Technical subcommittee. **Status:** Next update: May 8, 2014.

**4.**

**Approval of the Minutes of the March 27, 2014 Technical subcommittee conference calls – Mario Bergeron:**

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Jack Madden, NYSDOT, the Minutes from the March 27, 2014 Technical subcommittee call were approved without objection.

**5.**

**Accessibility Working Group/related issues update – Kevin Kesler for Melissa Shurland:**

In the absence of Melissa Shurland, Kevin Kesler, FRA, submitted the following report from Melissa for inclusion in the minutes:

- a. *Accessibility Working Group (AWG) – Amtrak sent a series of car drawings to Oregon State University. The drawings are being converted to electronic format using SolidWorks. Dave Warner has been extremely helpful to the research team. In the near future we will be able to reconvene the AWG to review the drawings with the added accessibility recommendations, and to update the recommendations.*
- b. *THE RVAAC Committee met April 9-10. The morning of the first day was focused on education presentation about passenger rail transportation and equipment. The highlights of the two days were the breakout subcommittee meetings. Four subcommittees will be meeting once a month to advance their progress in developing their recommendations for improved accessibility to the Full RVAAC committee.*

*On-board Circulation and Seating will meet via teleconference May 7, June 12, July 10 and August 14. Communications subcommittee will meet May 1, June 5, July 3, and August 7. Rooms and Spaces will be meeting May 29, June 19, July 17 and August 21. Boarding and Alighting will meet May 22, June 25, July 24 and August 28. The full RVAAC will meet again September 11-12, 2014. Info on the meetings can be found on the RVAAC website.*

**6.**

**Document Control update – Jeff Gordon for Dave Warner:**

Dave Warner provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes, and, in Dave's absence, Jeff Gordon read them into the record:

*"Camren is working on updating the Trainset Revision A specification that was approved last December by the Executive Board.*

*Prior to our last call, Jeff Gordon and I had received, reviewed and returned the proposed changes to the diesel-electric locomotive specification to the procurement team. I know the procurement team is working on addressing our comments, and I was told on Monday that we would be receiving them this week.*

*The proposed changes to the Bi-Level specification were finally received last Friday. Jeff Gordon and I are reviewing them as we did the diesel locomotive changes. There are over 120 proposed changes, so screening them in advance of being submitted to the Executive Board is taking a while. We hope to finish our review next week. Format-wise, in general, the submission is closer to what is needed for the DCR process than was the diesel locomotive submission."*

Stan Hunter, Caltrans, reported that he has received the table and DCRs back from Camren Cordell and is preparing the cover email to send the DCR list to Eric Curtit, Dave Warner and Jeff Gordon later today. Stan pointed out that these changes are ones which have come through the RFP period of the diesel-electric locomotive procurement.

Mario Bergeron thanked Stan for his time and effort in moving this forward. He asked Stan what the anticipated

timeline was to complete the process, especially with regard to the upcoming Dual Mode Locomotive specification which the Technical subcommittee will be developing next.

Stan noted that many of the changes proposed to the diesel-electric locomotive have to do with clean-up and errata, and many would not apply to the dual mode specification.

Stan re-iterated his intent to get the DCR list out to Eric, Dave and Jeff by the end of the day today (4-24-14), and once Dave and Jeff had completed their review – Chairman Curtit would take the next step of convening the Locomotive Review Panel to go through the proposed changes and submit a report with recommendations to the Board for its consideration.

## **7.**

### **Update: NGEC procurements:**

#### **Diesel-electric locomotive - IDOT:**

Art Peterson for IDOT reported that the Diesel-electric Locomotive procurement “kick-off” meeting took place in Sacramento on April 14-14, 2014, and was very productive and successful.

A preliminary design review schedule has been developed with a plan calling for regularly scheduled conference calls.

He anticipates preliminary design review to commence in a couple of weeks.

#### **Bi-Level Car Procurement – Stan Hunter, Caltrans:**

Stan Hunter reported that they are currently in day 4 of a 2 week final design review in Illinois.

Stan reported that they are doing final design review on the remaining items not taken up previously, and the process is moving along very well.

He also reported that they are re-evaluating certain items such as the electric locker that has been redesigned as a result of the initial review. The re-evaluation will take place at the plant in Rochelle utilizing the full scale mock up.

Stan reported that he had been in Japan for a final design review of the car shell, and that last week; meetings took place in Cambridge, Ma at Volpe to review items such as car shell structure and Crash Energy Management (CEM). Stan noted that he attended via conference call, but ascertained that “FRA seemed satisfied that the car shell was well designed.”

He concluded his comments noting that “we are starting to finalize the design and getting ready to put together the first parts.”

Stan then asked Jeff Gordon to provide his perspective on how the meetings went in Cambridge.

Jeff reported that the review went well and was successful. Nippon Sharyo was at the meeting, as was FRA, Caltrans and IDOT. A total of about 20 people attended.

The general view is that “the design is well thought out; the ‘proof in the pudding’ will be the validation of the test results.”

## **9.**

### **Other:**

Chairman Bergeron entertained comments/thoughts on the current bi-weekly conference call frequency of the Technical subcommittee. He noted that when the subcommittee was initially established there “was no road map” and the calls have “evolved over time.” He added, “given where we are at right now, I’d like to get your thoughts on the frequency of these calls.” He emphasized that “I value your time”.

Kevin Kesler, FRA, commented on the fact that he anticipates an increase in work load for the subcommittee with change requests coming in, and, with that in mind, the call frequency should remain as is, at least for now.

Phil Meraz, Iowa DOT, urged that the call frequency remain bi-weekly commenting “I am an outsider in all of this,

so these bi-weekly calls are my only real way to understand and keep up with this...less frequent calls would help me to lose track." He added that the calls usually are over in about a half hour and, to him, it is a very valuable half hour.

Jack Madden, NYSDOT noted "I find it (the bi-weekly call) a very productive meeting. It helps me to keep my focus. I recommend we stay at every other week."

Bill Slater, Wabtec, added his support to the bi-weekly calls and how valuable he finds them to be, noting "these calls are essential to me."

Mario Bergeron noted that he appreciated the comments and reiterated that "I value your time so I ask the question. I thank you for calling in...I know we all have day jobs, so I want to thank you for your contributions... it is clear that we have a passion for what we do, and I value your comments." He added – "there is no road map...we are here because of all of you."

He encouraged subcommittee members to continue to provide their thoughts and comments on this topic on future calls or through emails.

**10.  
Adjourn:**

With no other business to come before the subcommittee today, Mario Bergeron adjourned this conference call meeting of the Technical subcommittee at approximately 3:35pm Eastern.

**Next conference call – May 8, 2014 – 3:00pm Eastern**

**Decisions and Action Items**

A schedule of RVAAC subcommittee conference calls is contained in the minutes (above). The full RVAAC will meet again September 11-12, 2014. Information on the meetings can be found on the RVAAC website.

Updating ECP Standards: remains as a standing action item and as activities occur; Paul Jamieson will provide status updates to the subcommittee. (Ongoing)

Maintaining Industry Participation List: This remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **226** registered industry participants. (ongoing)

Jack Madden, NYSDOT, will keep the subcommittee informed if and when the Metro North Dual Mode specification effort resumes.

Requesting Backgrounder educational document: The "Backgrounder" has been updated to reflect the new Board members and leadership of the Committee, and is available for distribution. Members who would like copies of the new Backgrounder should contact Steve Hewitt.

Tammy Krause will continue to provide a status update on the DTL specification on every other Technical subcommittee call (sooner, if appropriate). Next update is scheduled for May 8, 2014.

Stan Hunter will submit the Diesel-electric locomotive DCRS to Eric Curtit, Dave Warner and Jeff Gordon later today (4-24-14).

For now, the frequency (bi-weekly) of technical subcommittee calls will remain as is. Comments/thoughts are welcome.

Single Level car Rest room drawings: Amtrak has sent a series of car drawings to Oregon State University. The drawings are being converted to electronic format using SolidWorks. The AWG will be re-convened soon to review the drawings

with the added accessibility recommendations, and to update the recommendations.

ATTACHMENTS

Next Generation  
Equipment Committee



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

**PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting**

**April 24, 2014**

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 March 27, 2014                     | Mario Bergeron |
| 5. Accessibility Working Group/related issues update     | Kevin Kesler   |
| a. RVAAC update  |                |
| b. Status Update: NDA re: single level restroom drawings |                |
| 6. Document Control update                               | Jeff Gordon    |
| 7. Update: Procurements                                  |                |
| a. Diesel-electric locomotive                            | Art Peterson   |
| b. Bi-level Cars   | Stan Hunter    |
| 8. Review this meeting:                                  | Steve Hewitt   |

- a) Decisions
- b) New Action Items

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:  
Thursday April 24, 2014 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 – 5-8-14 at 3:00pm Eastern***

DRAFT