

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

APRIL 28, 2022

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>George Hull Chair, NGEC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>George Hull, Jeffrey Gordon, Ray Hessinger, Jennifer Bastian, Jennifer Bastian also as proxy for Gurleen Boparai, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Ed Engle, Troy Hughes, Mike Jenkins, Art Peterson, Tarek Omar, Blair Slaughter, Steve Hewitt</i> Industry Members: <i>Josh Coran, James Campbell, Dave Warner, Joanna Hallisey, Marko Kroenke, Steve Ojalvo, Richard Curtis, Paul Arnone, Kevin Sudano, Ed Golitko, Rich Bowie, Tara Soesbee</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Gurleen Boparai, Matthew Simmons, Jason Biggs, Marci Petterson, Larry Salci, Mike Kraft, Mike Murray, Tammy Krause, Melissa Shurland, Rebecca Anger</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Technical subcommittee Chair George Hull, Amtrak, and called the meeting to order asking Steve Hewitt to call the roll of core team members.

After calling the roll, Steve Hewitt 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 Action Items – Steve Hewitt, NGEC Program Manager:

2022 NGEC Backgrounder educational document:

The 2022 NGEC two-pager is available in hard copy by request of Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

To date 125 hard copies and 450 electronic copies have been distributed.

Maintaining Industry Participation List:

There are just over 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".

Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement as of 4-14-22

Metro-North and Siemens are wrapping up the Preliminary Design Review phase.

Next Update: 5-12-22

Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 4-14-22:

On the Charger Locomotives – there are 4 units in service on the Chicago to Seattle line. Another unit is in Seattle for training. 3 or 4 units are in Wilmington for commissioning, and another is shipping out of Sacramento in a week or so. After that, there will be a hold while they resolve some access issues.

On the Acela – there was no update provided

On the Intercity Trainset (ICT) -Design Review continues.

Next Update: 5-12-22

Working Group on Weight Issues as of 4-14-22:

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 – 5-12-21

3. Approval of the Minutes from 3-31-22 – George Hull, Amtrak:

On a motion by Ed Engle Iowa DOT, and a second by Jennifer Bastian, Illinois DOT, the minutes from 3-31-22 were approved as submitted.

4. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 4-28-22 – Jennifer Bastian for Gurleen Boparai, Caltrans:

Gurleen Boparai was not available for this call, but provided the following for inclusion in the minutes, and to be read into the record by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT

The Cab Car Shell final design has been approved and the cab cars are in production. Remaining Cab Car FDRs are in the final submittal and review stage. Cab Car Safety Appliance documents have been sent to the FRA for review, and the Cab Car Clearance information has been approved by 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, and the test report is in review with FRA and the states. The revised cab car Compression test report is also in review. Cab Locking Luggage tower FAI will occur in May.

107 cars are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. Revenue Service relevant FMIs are in progress and open items related to Conditional Acceptance are being addressed.

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

On 4-28-22, Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes and asked Steve Hewitt to read them into the record on her behalf:

The Electronics Working Group is now being headed by Ken Martin of Sharma & Associates. They have scheduled a meeting, but I do not have the info at the moment.

Jeff Gordon confirmed that the Electronics on Trains working group will meet on 5-3-22 at 3:00pm Eastern.

The Materials Working Group met yesterday, and Michael Gill of SNC Lavalin/Atkins is heading the group. We are still looking for volunteers. The next call is 5-11-22 at 11:00am Eastern and we will be discussing Chapter 4 of the Single Level Specification.

If you are interested in joining the Carbody Materials Working Group, please let Tammy know.

The new DCR form has not been approved by the NGEN Executive Board yet because they did not meet last week. The form has been updated and improved based upon the last call.

Steve Hewitt will provide the revised DCR Form and the sample DCR to the Executive Board for their discussion on the next call (5-3-22) and it will be up to them whether to consider it for adoption on that call or wait until the call scheduled for 5-17-22.

Steve Hewitt also noted that the Bi-Level Specification update is underway, and he will ask Tammy to provide a status on the next subcommittee call (5-12-22).

Steve also note that he had hoped to hear from Tammy on the status of finalizing the technical writing of the approved DMU specification Revision A. He will hear for a status update on the 5-12-22 call.

6.

Update: University of Nebraska/FRA High Speed Wireless Study – Steve Hewitt for Hamid Sharif:

Hamid Sharif was not available for the call today, but provided the following for inclusion in the minutes and to be read into the record by Steve Hewitt:

In our study, we have been exploring the properties and capabilities of the 160 MHz RF band, and its suitability for a variety of applications, including Wireless Digital Trainline. This includes a key factor of investigating if 160MHz can alleviate the pressure on the 220MHz.

In this process, we designed and evaluated both a single-carrier transceiver architecture and an OFDM-based transceiver architecture, and conducted evaluations of both designs.

This quarter we expanded on our efforts by incorporating Forward Error Correction (FEC) Coding into these architectures. FEC is a way to improve the receive-side bit error rate, and thus communication distance, by sacrificing throughput capacity. The released throughput is instead used to carry additional information that the transmitter inserts into the data stream.

We plan to publish our results this summer.

Thank you.

Please contact Hamid Sharif @ University of Nebraska-Lincoln for any additional information.

Steve noted that Hamid plans to be on the 5-12-22 call and that he would ask him for an update on the presentation given at the 2022 Joint Rail Conference Railroad Engineering April 20 – 21.

7

Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming on today's call, George Hull adjourned the meeting at about 3:15pm Eastern.

Next Tech subcommittee Call: 5-12-22– 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

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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:

Gurleen Boparai, Caltrans, provided the following update for inclusion in the 4-28-22 meeting minutes and they were read into the record by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT:

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Steve also note that he had hoped to hear from Tammy on the status of finalizing the technical writing of the approved DMU specification Revision A. He will hear her for a status update on the 5-12-22 call.

Working Group on Weight Issues as of 4-14-22:

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 – 5-12-21

University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 4-28-22:

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Next Update: - 5-24-22

Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement –4-14-22

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Next Update: 5-12-22

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Next Update: As appropriate

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Next Update: 5-12-22

Next call 5-12-22

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

4-28-2022

The agenda for the meeting is below:

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|---------------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Approve Minutes from 4-14-22 | George Hull |

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| 4. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Gurleen Boparai |
| 5. Document Control Management | Tammy Krause |
| - Status Update– Technical writing – Finalizing Updated DMU Specification | |
| - Status Update – Bi-Level Specification Update | |
| - Status Update - Carbody Materials working group | |
| - Status Update- Electronics on Trains working group | |
| 6. Update: University of Nebraska/FRA High Speed Wireless Study | Hamid Sharif |
| 7. Other | All |
| 8. Adjourn | George Hull |

Next – meeting 5-12-22