

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

APRIL 7, 2016

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, Jeff Gordon, Allan Paul, Marci Petterson, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Art Peterson for Jennifer Bastian, Tammy Krause, Andrew Wood, Renee Stroli, Jay Gilfillan, Melissa Shurland, Sal DeAngelo, Curtis McDowell, Steve Hewitt, Dave "Emeritus" Warner <b>Industry Members:</b> Paul Jamieson, Jack Madden, Steve Morrison, Josh Coran, Tom Hunt, Rich Stegner, Martin Bloedt, Wulf Dickie, Al Bieber <b>Guest:</b> Maria Wallace, GAO
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Momo Tamaoki, Charlie Poltenson, Jennifer Bastian, Jason Biggs, Vincent Brotski, Michael Burshtin, Jonathan Hines, Devin Rouse, Jeff Schultz, 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](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com)**

**After the call of the roll, Chairman Bergeron offered his "thoughts and prayers" in the wake of the tragic accident that occurred on Sunday (4-3-16) on Train 89 when it hit a back hoe on the track and derailed. The tragic loss of two Amtrak employees (the operator of the back hoe and the supervisor) is heartfelt.**

**Mario noted that the locomotive on Train 89 is a new one. The train derailed and came to a stop with around 30 of 400 passengers injured. Mario offered his "thoughts and prayers" to all who were injured as well as the two Amtrak employees who lost their lives in this tragic event.**

**Amtrak is taking this very seriously and is working closely with the NTSB in its investigation and the FRA in its review of the accident.**

**Mario noted that the accident is a "very public event, and rightfully so...the investigation is ongoing", and, he added, "we are a small industry, and I know we are all devastated by these events."**

**Mario then called for a moment of silence for those who were injured and those who lost their lives.**

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 **259** registered industry participants. We added one new member this morning – Martin Bloedt, Siemens – welcome!

**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.

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

*"Test committee web conference with all parties represented was held on Monday, March 28, 2016. The test committee approval responsibility and schedule was addressed. The technical committee met via web conference on Friday, April 1, 2016, to review the document preparation responsibility and submittal schedule to the test committee and the FRA. The technical committee has scheduled a call for Wednesday, April 13, 2016 to review the Amtrak training requirements for the ECP equipment introduction.*

*The Interoperability Test Demonstration will be held on July 12, 2016 at NYAB Watertown, NY. This test demonstration will show that compatible between suppliers' equipment prior to the static and dynamic train test."*

**Requesting Backgrounder educational document:** The NGEC Executive Board is finalizing a new "two-pager" education and outreach document. Once approved, it will be printed by AASHTO and made available to all members.

**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 background and status update during the Annual Meeting – the presentation has been posted to the NGEC website. (ongoing)

**Status:** Melissa Shurland reported that she (FRA) and Oregon State University (OSU) met with Amtrak to discuss the feasibility of the proposed layouts for single level trains. There are some concerns especially with regard to containment of the wheels. It was agreed that they would reach out to the FRA Office of Safety with regard to the lack of containment, and the possibility of doing some testing.

Overall, Melissa said "we have some traction, but we seem to be uncovering issues as we go along." She intends to call a meeting of the accessibility Working Group within the next week or so to discuss the issues and a path forward.

**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](mailto:Melissa.shurland@dot.gov). Melissa provided a background and status update during the Annual Meeting – the presentation has been posted to the NGEC website. (ongoing)

No update today, other than that the work of the AWG will provide input into the Access Board and its report.

#### **4. Approve Minutes from March 24, 2016 – Mario Bergeron:**

On a motion by Amtrak, and a second by FRA, the Minutes from the 3-24-16 Technical subcommittee conference call meeting were approved without exception.

#### **5. Update: Diesel-electric Locomotive Procurement – Rich Stegner for Jennifer Bastian:**

Rich Stegner, on behalf of Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

- *All previous invoices for project milestones have been paid by IDOT. New invoice for Change Order #5 (Grab Handles) is being processed by IDOT.*
- *JPEs continue to review Siemens' revised schedule, weekly. Although some delay for the first 11 locomotives, the overall schedule for delivery of the last locomotive is still within the ARRA funding window.*
- *All of the supplier's factory FAIs are complete. The remaining FAIs will take place at Siemens' factory in Sacramento. At the time when the locomotive-complete FAI is scheduled in early June, it is planned that the FRA sample car inspection can also take place.*
- *The next monthly QA review is planned for April 13<sup>th</sup> at Siemens factory in Sacramento.*
- *Functional tests for locomotive sub-systems has started for unit #1. JPE subject matter experts are witnessing the tests.*
- *The first six of 15 DCRs have been sent to Tammy Krause. We target to complete in the next few weeks. The Diesel Electric DCRs are tracking parallel to the edits for the Dual Mode Locomotive Specification.*
- *The test plan for 125 mph testing on the North East Corridor is being prepared and will be submitted to FRA by MARC, with IDOT/JPE will send letter of concurrence.*
- *Each JPE has had kick-off meetings with Siemens and Amtrak for commissioning of the locomotives, as working out details for pre-revenue test plans.*
- *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.*

- *There is a separate report the Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) planning team.*
- *The locomotive weight was reported in February 2016, at 271,924 lbs (+/-). Based on actual component weights, the locomotive weight has varied little in the last six months. The calculated P2 force is within specified limits. Weight is being closely monitored, each month.*

Mario Bergeron asked if the first two locomotives were still on target to be released in June. Rich Stegner responded that it is anticipated that the first two will be released to go to Pueblo by the end of June arriving in early July.

## **6.**

### **Update: DEF Working Group – Rich Stegner for Jennifer Bastian:**

Rich Stegner, for Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, provided a brief update on the activities of the DEF Working Group:

The DEF working group last met on 3-31-16 and will meet again on 4-14-16.

They have received additional questions from Amtrak regarding fuel range capacity and DEF Tank capacity, as well as ground power needs.

They are awaiting, still, the receipt of a pending letter of intent between Amtrak and IDOT.

The group is working on a training plan.

Mario Bergeron mentioned that, although it is out of the scope of 305, he wondered if the letter of intent was going to get in the middle of the DEF arrangements.

Renee Stroli, Amtrak, commented that it would not. Renee and Mario agreed to discuss off line.

Renee asked Art Peterson about getting a training plan in place for the use of DEF. "Our environmental folks created language, but training is still up in the air."

Art and Rich Stegner noted that "we will go into this" on the next working group call."

## **7.**

### **Update: Bi-Level Car Procurement – Steve Hewitt for Momo Tamaoki:**

Steve Hewitt read the following update, provided by Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, on the status of the Bi-Level car procurement:

**FAIs** –*Truck Assembly FAI is scheduled in Rochelle, IL on April 7 and 8.*

**Car shell** –*NS continues to work on the countermeasures on the Car shell. Next Car shell update web-meeting took place on April 6, Wednesday. The face to face meeting in Sacramento, CA is scheduled on April 27.*

**Schedule** – *The revised production schedule will be submitted in mid-April.*

**Misc.** –*Next QA/Manufacturing Readiness meeting is scheduled on 4/7.*

## **8.**

### **Document Control Update:**

Tammy Krause, Amtrak, provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

*Document Control has received the first six DCRs for the Charger Locomotives and has begun processing them.*

## **9.**

### **AAR Committee Update – Jeff Gordon:**

Jeff Gordon reported that he has contacted Dave Cacovic, AAR TTCI organizer, and he (Dave) acknowledged that there has not been a lot of activity from the committee since November. He also acknowledged that there are key issues that will need TTCI input - namely - VTI, loss of shunt, and interoperability.

Members of the committee can anticipate getting a meeting invite from Dave soon.

**10.  
GAO Update – Maria Wallace:**

Maria Wallace, GAO reported that they continue to work on drafting the report and obtaining internal review. She anticipates that the Draft report will be released to the agencies (FRA and Amtrak) in the next week or so for their review and comment.

Maria thanked Chairman Bergeron for “letting us participate on these calls... it has been very helpful.”

**11.  
Other Issues:**

None forthcoming.

**Adjourn:** With no other issues to come before the subcommittee today, Mario Bergeron adjourned today’s conference call meeting at 3:27PM Eastern.

**Next Call: April 21, 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. (ongoing)

*“Test committee web conference with all parties represented was held on Monday, March 28, 2016. The test committee approval responsibility and schedule was addressed. The technical committee met via web conference on Friday, April 1, 2016, to review the document preparation responsibility and submittal schedule to the test committee and the FRA. The technical committee has scheduled a call for Wednesday, April 13, 2016 to review the Amtrak training requirements for the ECP equipment introduction.*

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**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 NGEAC Annual Meeting in DC on 2-19-16.

**Status:** Work is progressing and outreach has been made to the FRA Office of Safety with regard to containment and possible testing. An AWG meeting will be arranged in the near future to discuss this and other issues.

**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](mailto:Melissa.shurland@dot.gov).

**Status:** Nothing new to report other than that the work of the AWG will provide input into the Access Board and its report.

**Requesting Background educational document:** 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.

**Maintaining Industry Participation List:** This remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **259** registered industry participants. (Ongoing)

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

**AAR Committee:** Next update: 5-5-16. (Ongoing)

**GAO project:** The GAO team is continuing to work on drafting the report and obtaining internal review. It is anticipated that the Draft report will be released to the agencies (FRA and Amtrak) in the next week or so for their review and comment. The next GAO update to the Technical subcommittee is due on 5-5-16. (Ongoing)

**Procurement Updates:** Progress reports from the lead states on the two PRIIA multi-state equipment procurements are provided on each technical subcommittee call. (ongoing)

#### 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 7, 2016**

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 24, 2016   | Mario Bergeron   |
| 5. Update: Diesel-electric Procurement | Jennifer Bastian |
| 6. Update: DEF Working Group           | Jennifer Bastian |
| 7. Update: Bi-level Procurement        | Steve Hewitt     |
| 8. Document Control Update             | Tammy Krause     |
| 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 April 7, 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 – 4-21-16 at 3:00pm Eastern***