

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JUNE 11, 2020

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Charlie King, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>Charlie King, Jeffrey Gordon, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Jennifer Bastian, Jennifer Bastian also as proxy for Momo Tamaoki, Charlie Poltenson for Ray Hessinger, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Steve Hewitt, George Hull, Art Peterson, Duncan Copland, Michael Kraft, Melissa Shurland, Tarek Omar, Mike Murray, Larry Salci, Tammy Krause, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Industry Members: Jon Mullin, Ed Goltko, Greg Gagarin, Jeff Schultz, Rich Stegner, James Michel, Josh Coran, Vlad Ciobanu, Paul Jamieson, Dick Bruss, Richard Curtis, Steve Morrison, Mitchell Abbott, Donald Sandala, Matt Sibul, Paul Arnone, Jack Madden, Kevin Carmody</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Matthew Simmons, Marci Petterson, Ray Hessinger, Momo Tamaoki, Jason Biggs, Mike Jenkins, Byron Comati, Oscar Bermudez</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

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

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 Meeting Agenda – Charlie King, Amtrak:

Chairman King provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda.

3.

Review Action Items – Steve Hewitt, NGENC Program Manager:

Requesting Background educational document:

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Contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com for copies – hard copy or PDF. If hard copies, let Steve know where to send them and how many.

Maintaining Industry Participation List: There are approximately 200 industry participation members.

Establish process and timeline for Tech SC review of Access Board NPRM Accessibility Guidelines and compare with current NGENC Specifications:

The intent of this effort is for states to submit their comments to the Access Board Docket on the Accessibility Requirement Guidelines (advanced) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Amtrak has submitted its comments already. Once the comments "have come back", the Technical subcommittee will compare them with the NGENC specifications to ensure compliance.

Following the call (5-28-20), Melissa Shurland informed Steve Hewitt that The US Access Board extended the comment period for Recommendations on Access for Rail Vehicles until July 14, 2020.

<https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/transportation/vehicles/update-of-the-guidelines-for-transportation-vehicles/advance-notice-of-proposed-rulemaking-2>

Electronics on Trains Working Group activities as of 5-14-20:

NGENC Electronics Subcommittee – Update for 5-14-20:

We are currently asking the group to help us with guidance on the original intent of the PRIIA 305 specification, including the topology, for the DTL system. In our last meeting, on April 21st, we discussed whether we should specify a RING topology or a Linear topology. This question came up because our initial find seemed to point to a Ring topology. But after review and feedback, it looked as though a linear topology would be more appropriate. Additionally, we have had industry suppliers tell us that we should specify the allowance for both topologies. This, as you know, would make interoperability between the two difficult, as one of them would have to be changed to the other to work correctly in the same consist.

We've yet to receive clarification as to the main intent.....do we need to design the specification(s) to ensure interoperability between all vehicles? Or, is this optional? And, if it does not apply to all vehicles, which vehicles or train sets would it apply to? That is the information that we are looking to clarify now.

Our next meeting is planned for May 19th.

Tammy Krause agreed to look at the issues/questions raised by David Brabb and to provide him with a response.

Update 6-11-20:

Steve Hewitt provided an update from David Brabb:

David Brabb expressed his appreciation for Tammy Krause's help in pointing them in the right direction.

The Electronics sub had a call on June 2nd. A topology was decided on and they are moving forward with for DTL. They are now making the appropriate changes to the specification.

The next meeting is Tuesday June 30th.

Next Update: 7-9-20

University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Study as of 5-14-20:

Hamid Sharif – University of Nebraska-Lincoln Report:

Completed Project:

We designed, developed, and evaluated a unified communications architecture for high-speed passenger rail services. We focused on our evaluation framework and tested it on 4G LTE. This testing framework is designed to be applicable to a wide range of technologies under test by utilizing software radios. It also allows us to conduct both lab tests and field tests, both stationary and mobile.

We utilized this platform to conduct a series of tests. These included lab tests using our channel emulator facility to evaluate it under different wireless channel models. It also included testing in rural, urban, and suburban environments, as well as mobile drive tests at Interstate velocities.

We found our testing framework to dependable and versatile. With this testing framework now available, our aim for the next phase is to study different technologies that fit into different aspects of our architecture design.

Next phase:

One key challenge that drives system expense is the limited wireless communications bandwidth available to support these railroad applications, especially in high-density traffic areas. For example, data shows that dense urban areas such as the Chicago area have spectrum shortages that are expected to severely impact the performance of PTC systems and railroad operations. The 220 MHz band is the primary frequency used for interoperable PTC systems. Other railroad frequency bands are therefore of considerable interest to the rail industry to alleviate the demand on currently utilized bands.

We plan to conduct an in-depth review of the operating regulations and restrictions of these frequency bands and their theoretical applicability for different key railroad applications such as wayside communication, onboard train control and monitoring operations, and the exploration of mixed voice/data applications.

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For more information, please contact Hamid Sharif (HSHARIF@UNL.EDU)

Next Update 6-25-20

Status: Developing a TSSSA template/menu of options:

Charlie reported that he is waiting on approval from a company to use one of the diagrams that was jointly prepared with Amtrak. Once he has that approval, he will be able to proceed in the development of the TSSSA template.

Next Update: 6-25-20

4. Approval of the Minutes from 5-28-20 – Charlie King, Amtrak:

On a motion offered by Charlie Poltenson, NYSDOT, and seconded by Curtis McDowell, NDCOT, the minutes from 5-28-20 were approved as submitted.

5. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 6-11-20 – Jon Mullin for Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:

Jon Mullin provided the following update on 6-11-20:

Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR is complete, and CEM element testing is currently planned for the week of July 6th, with setup for compression testing to follow later in July. The Cab Car brake system FDR is tentative for July 13. IDOT galley FDR reviews and releases are ongoing with the next review scheduled for June 16th.

Travel restrictions are being evaluated, with potential travel in July to reviews and test sites. Video and photos continue to be provided for tests that SMEs are unable to witness. NEC testing is complete, and the test car has returned to Sacramento.

49 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. System-level FAIs for standard coach are complete with final approvals in work for first car FAI. There are seven cars total at the Stockton facility. Cars 10 through 34 are in final assembly. Cars 11 and 12 are scheduled to be shipped near the end of June. The First IDOT cars are scheduled to ship in July.

The project teams continue to monitor potential production and schedule impacts due to the coronavirus and are receiving frequent updates from SCOA and Siemens.

6. Status Update – CT DOT Rail Car Procurement – Marci Petterson, CT DOT:

Marci Petterson was not on the call and did not provide an update – this item was tabled until the next call.

7. Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement – Charlie Poltenson for Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT:

While a lot of activity is occurring – it remains work that is within the “cone of silence” so no details can be provided at this time.

8. Update: Amtrak Equipment Procurement – Charlie king, Amtrak:

As of 6-11-20:

On the Acela:

The first Trainset is at Pueblo at TTCI for testing. It has reached speeds up to 165 mph on the test track and has 3,000 miles on the wheels.

The second Trainset has done a few early runs out of Philly a couple of times and has reached 125 mph. There are still a few PTC issues that are being worked on.

On the Locomotives:

While there has been a little slow down because of the COVID 19 pandemic, overall, it remains on schedule for February-March (2021) delivery of the first test locomotive.

On the Intercity Trainset Procurement:

This procurement is proceeding, but it is at a stage where it remains in the “cone of silence”.

9.

Update: Document Control Management - Tammy Krause:

As of 6-11-20:

The latest draft, Revision 3, of the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Document has been sent to the working group to review. Any comments on the proposed changes should be sent to me.

The Electronics on Trains Working Group had requested some background information on the Digital Train Line, and I provided additional information.

The DMU changes have been sent to the Working Groups and I have received some comments, and I would like to request that the remaining Working Groups send me their comments by next Friday, 6/19/20.

Steve Hewitt asked about the status of the final compilation of PRIIA 305-007 Revision B. Tammy Krause agreed to follow up with the Technical writer on this.

**10.
Other Issues:**

With no further business forthcoming for today's call, Charlie King adjourned the meeting at 3:16PM Eastern.

Next Call: 6-25-20– 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

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Reminder: The list is only as good as the information Steve is provided, and often members retire or move on to other companies and do not let Steve know so the list becomes inaccurate.

AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights Phase 4 as of 5-28-20:

Tarek Omar reported that they had a meeting last week – all testing has been done on Phase 4. On Phase 3 the report is complete and should be out soon. On Phase 4, Tarek expects to have a DRAFT report to share with the members of the TAG committee in a week or 2.

Next update as appropriate.

PRIIA Multi-State Procurement Update:

Multi-State Car Procurement - Caltrans (Lead State): Progress reports from the lead state will be provided on each subcommittee call.

See agenda item 5 for 6-11-20 update.

Document Control Update as of 6-11-20:

On the Locomotives:

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Next Update: 6-25-20

Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:

As of 6-11-20, Metro-North continued to be in the procurement "Cone of Silence".

Next Update: 7-9-20

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

On 4-30-20, Marci Petterson, Connecticut DOT announced that they are about to an RFP on new rail cars. Marci will send the link to Steve Hewitt for distribution to NGEC members.

There was no update provided on 6-11-20. This item was tabled until the next call.

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Next Update: 6-25-20

Next call: 6-25-20

Call in number is:

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

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

June 11, 2020

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- | | |
|--|--------------------------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Meeting Agenda | Charlie King |
| 3. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes from 5-28-20 | Charlie King |
| 5. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Jon Mullin for Momo Tamaoki |
| 6. Update: Connecticut Rail Car Procurement | Marci Petterson |
| 7. Update: Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement | Steve Hewitt for Ray Hessinger |
| 8. Update: Amtrak Equipment Procurement | Charlie King |
| 9. Update: Document Control Management | Tammy Krause |
| - Status: Completion of Single Level Trainset Specification 305-007 – Revision B | |
| - Status: DMU spec update – timeline | |
| - Updating list of Technical working group members | |
| - Status: Responding to Electronics on Trains Working Group Questions | |
| - Status: updating DRAFT Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Document | |
| 10. Other issues | All |
| 11. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday 6-11-20-20 / 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 –6-25-20 at 3:00pm Eastern