

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JUNE 24, 2021

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Joe Paul, Vice Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Joe Paul, Jeffrey Gordon, Momo Tamaoki, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Ray Hessinger, Jennifer Bastian, Troy Hughes, Jason Biggs, Steve Hewitt, Art Peterson, Larry Salci, Tammy Krause, Industry Members: Steve Ojalvo, Steve Morrison, Kirk Klug, Tom LaMano, Stephen Mark, Ed Golitko, Richard Stegner, Dick Bruss, Richard Curtis, Paul Jamieson, Kevin Sudano, Kevin B. Myles, Josh Coran, James Michel, Paul Arnone, Bill Saddler, Rich Bowie, Jack Martinson
ABSENTEES	<i>Ed Engle, Mike Jenkins, Matthew Simmons, George Hull, Blair Slaughter, Marci Petterson, Blair Slaughter, Mike Kraft, Melissa Shurland, Tarek Omar, Mike Murray, Oscar Bermudez</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Chairman George Hull was unavailable, Vice Chair Joe Paul chaired the meeting.

Joe called the meeting to order and asked 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, NGENC Program Manager:

2021 NGENC Backgrounder educational document:

The 2021 version of the NGENC two-page backgrounder/educational document has been released and is available electronically or in hard copy by request - contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

Over 550 electronic copies have been distributed to date.

Maintaining Industry Participation List: There are just over 200 industry participants.

There have been several updates/changes to the list that have been provided to Steve Hewitt and those changes have been made. Any further updates or changes should be sent to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

This procurement remains in the "cone of silence" period.

Next Update – as appropriate

Working Group on Weight Issues as of 6-10-21:

Jeff Gordon provided the following update for inclusion in the 6-10-21 minutes:

The NGENC Vehicle Weight Working Group had its 6th meeting on June 9. There were 15 members in attendance. The group discussed various topics which were not finished during our previous call including:

- *defining the baseline production weight for different types of equipment,*
- *allowable serial production vehicle weight deviations,*

- *lateral and end-to-end imbalance requirements (and how these should be defined),*
- *requirements for vehicle scales,*
- *and initial discussion on dynamic P2 forces and whether P2 limits for coaches are needed.*

The next meeting of the Working Group has not yet been scheduled but will occur during the week of July 12.

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: 7-8-21

University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 6-10-21:

Hamid reported that the study has been looking at the spectrum for variable applications and developing models for 160MH and 450 MH. They have completed models on various items with tools to compare different variables. Next - channel interference based on the environment of various applications will be evaluated.

Asked if they will be issuing interim reports, Hamid responded yes – at the end of July 2021, they should have a complete report on the first phase of the project. It should be available in August. Hamid will provide it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to the NGEAC members.

For any questions, please contact Hamid Sharif at hamidSharif@UNL.edu.

Next Update: 7-8-21

3. Approval of the Minutes from 6-10-21– Joe Paul, Amtrak:

On a motion by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, and a second by Curtis McDowell, NCDOT, the minutes from the 6-10-21 were approved as submitted.

4. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 6-24-21 - Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:

On 6-24-21, Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, provided the following update:

Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR is complete and in the approval process. The Cab Car HVAC FDR occurred on June 14. The Cab Car Cab Layout FDR is scheduled for July 1st and the Cab Car Safety Appliance & Clearance FDR is scheduled for July 14. IDOT Café Car FDR releases are ongoing and the Galley FAI occurred June 23 in Texas.

The Cab Car Compression Test setup is in process in Sacramento with testing planned to begin July 13. Cab Car Collision and Corner Post testing has been reserved for August in Germany. NEC testing for standard coach is complete and the report is accepted by FRA. Caltrans and IDOT 238.111 testing is complete and both reports have been submitted to Amtrak and FRA.

90 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. Car deliveries are ongoing to Chicago and Beech Grove for IDOT, and Stockton for Caltrans. The initial consists for Caltrans and IDOT are being prepared for Conditional Acceptance and revenue service while open items are addressed.

5. Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements – Joe Paul, Amtrak:

Joe Paul provided a brief update on some of the Amtrak equipment procurements that are underway:

On the ALC42 Locomotives – the first one (#300) has been delivered to Wilmington and was a kick-off meeting yesterday (6-23-21). The commissioning process is beginning.

On the Intercity Passenger Rail Trainset – Negotiations between Amtrak and the manufacturer continue.

6. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT:

Ray Hessinger reported that Siemens and Metro-North continue to conduct initial design review with Siemens providing material to Metro-North. They are "working through the process".

7.

Update: Document Control Management as of 6-24-21- Tammy Krause:

On 6-24-21, Tammy Krause was unable to participate, but sent in the most recent update (from 6-15-21) for inclusion in the minutes from today's call:

The rewrite of the trainset specification continues. All the chapters have been reviewed. The non-technical specification change sheet is now complete. The DCRs are now all complete and will be sent out his week to the WGs.

I have reached out to the WGs that are working on the DCRs for the DMU and I have received the status on the comments from two of the four groups. I am going to reach back out and request that I have the comments by 6/25/21. That will allow the document compiling to be complete by 7/16/21 and sent to the TSC prior to the 7/22/21 meeting.

The Electronics on Trains WG's next meeting is 6/29/21 and discussing the possible new specification concerning Cellular Communication on Railcars is on the agenda.

8.

Reauthorizing the NGEC – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt reported that the House and Senate Committees of jurisdiction released their versions of Federal Surface Transportation Authorization legislation. The House has passed its bill through the T&I Committee – next step the Floor of the House. The Senate Commerce Committee passed its bill through the committee last week.

Neither bill included NGEC reauthorization despite requests to do so by numerous associations and the industry (SPRC, MIPRC, AASHTO, CSG-East, Siemens).

Senate Commerce staff was reached out to on 6-11-21 by SPRC and it was acknowledged that the NGEC had not gotten into the legislation. Staff was not sure what happened but, in the discussion, commented that he thought the funding request was for \$5 million. SPRC told staff that the number was \$2.5 million and was for the full life of the bill - \$500,000 a year. Hearing this, staff asked for an email to that effect (and it was provided) and suggested that a member of the Senate be asked to submit an amendment to the Committee by Noon on 6-14-21.

Steve Hewitt – on 6-12-21 – provided an FYI and call to action to all NGEC State members to reach out to their Senator(s) if possible, to ask for an amendment to be put forth to include the reauthorization of the NGEC with funding. Steve also reached out to industry member(s) as well.

No amendments to either bill in committee were presented – so as the bills go to their next step, the NGEC remains out of reauthorization.

Steve Hewitt has since followed up with industry members to make them aware of this and asking for them to reach out to see if they could get a member to request a managers' amendment when the House bill is on the Floor.

While there is still some opportunity to get the NGEC into the reauthorization bill, that opportunity is narrowing.

9.

NGEC's 12th Annual Meeting – Steve Hewitt:

The NGEC's 12th Annual Meeting will be held in-person in Washington DC at the Hyatt Regency, Capitol Hill on 2-25-22.

10.

Adjourn:

With no other business forthcoming on today's call, Joe Paul adjourned the meeting at 3:21PM.

Next Tech subcommittee Call: 7-8-21– 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

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PRIIA Multi-State Procurement Update 6-24-21:

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

On 6-24-21, Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, provided the following update:

Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR is complete and in the approval process. The Cab Car HVAC FDR occurred on June 14. The Cab Car Cab Layout FDR is scheduled for July 1st and the Cab Car Safety Appliance & Clearance FDR is scheduled for July 14. IDOT Café Car FDR releases are ongoing and the Galley FAI occurred June 23 in Texas.

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Next Update: 7-8-21

Electronics on Trains Working Group activities provided by David Brabb on 5-27-21:

- 1. We submitted the 305-919 DTL Hardware to the group Tuesday. Once received back, will submit for a Revision A.*
- 2. We are beginning on 305 -920 Software spec now.*
- 3. Met with Amtrak (Mr. Matt Sidden and Mr. Jesse Whaley) and will be addressing the following list of items, one at a time, starting during next month's call.*

The list includes:

- Evolving Security in Onboard Technology and the Groundside Systems that support them.*
- Establishing Standards for Train to Ground communications.*
- Establishing standards for Train Telemetry, both from a Metadata and Data perspective.*
- Establishing Standards for Integration that promote modern integration architectures*
- Aligning Onboard Passenger Information Systems with Digital ADA Standards*

We are not yet sure of the order in which we will address them. The results of the discussions will need to be incorporated into 919 and 920 where appropriate.

Next meeting 6-29-21 – 3:00PM

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Next Update: 7-22-21

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

On 8-20-20, Melissa Shurland, FRA, reported that the comment period ended on 7-14-20 (after having been extended to that date) and the Access Board is now processing those comments received. Melissa stated, "we are in a holding pattern to see what the comments were and what the Access Board's disposition of them will be." Melissa will keep the NGEC technical subcommittee informed as the process is completed.

In January 2021 Melissa Shurland informed Steve Hewitt that there still was no update from the Access Board on this activity – it remains in a holding pattern.

Next Update: As appropriate

Reauthorizing the NGEC in the next Federal Surface Transportation Authorization Act as of 6-24-21:

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Next call: 7-8-21

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

6-24-21

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- | | |
|---|---------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Approve Minutes from 6-10-21 | Joe Paul |
| 4. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Momo Tamaoki |
| 5. Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements | Joe Paul |
| 6. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement | Ray Hessinger |
| 7. Update: Document Control Management | Tammy Krause |
| Update: Electronics on Trains working group activities
Status of completing Single Level Trainset rewrite – Timeline for completion
Status completing review of DMU Revision – Anticipated timeline | |
| 8. Reauthorizing the NGEC | Steve Hewitt |
| 9. NGEC 12 th Annual Meeting | Steve Hewitt |
| 10. Other | All |
| 11. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |

Next call – 7-8-21