

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JULY 17, 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, Jeff Gordon for Kevin Kesler, Stan Hunter, Marci Petterson, Allan Paul, Jack Madden, Phil Meraz, Dave Warner, Vincent Brotski, Michael Burshtin, Andrew Wood, Jeff Schultz, Melissa Shurland, Patricia Llana, Steve Hewitt, <b>Industry Members:</b> Tom Sisler, Josh Coran, Craig Mckeen, Eric smith, James Michel, Al Bieber, Walt Stringer, Bryant Hatten
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Kevin Kesler, Charles Poltenson, Art Peterson, Missy Wilbers, Darrell Smith, Tammy Krause, Greg Gagarin, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bieltz, Brian Marquis, Michael Cortman, Shayne Gill, Camren Cordell, Curtis McDowell, Larry Salci, Nico Lindenau, Sara Sarkhili</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

**1.**

Chairman Mario 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 – Mario Bergeron:**

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 **225** registered industry participants.

**Requesting Backgrounder educational document:** The updated Backgrounder remains available. Members who would like to receive Backgrounders should 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.

Paul Jamieson is on vacation – no update today.

**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, reported: No change in status.

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the June 19, 2014 Technical subcommittee conference call – Mario Bergeron:**

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Jeff Gordon, FRA, the Minutes from the June 19, 2014 Technical subcommittee call were approved without objection.

**5. Accessibility Working Group/related issues update –Melissa Shurland:**

Melissa reported that the RVAAC On Board sub-committee met this week and are in the process of review the matrix that has been developed. Once the review is complete and the matrix is finalized Melissa will send it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to the NGENC Technical subcommittee.

Melissa pointed out that the recommendation for wheelchair space is probably going to slightly exceed the NGENC bi-level specification but "we (NGEC) are pretty much on target with the recommendations of the RVAAC."

RVAAC has requested a number of chapters of the Bi-Level specification in Word. Dave Warner is working on this and will send the chapters as requested to Melissa Anderson at the Access Board within 24 hours. Melissa A has agreed to convert the chapters to a PDF file.

The next full RVAAC meeting will take place in the second week in September, 2014.

Review of the restroom drawings has been completed – thus far it has been determined that the layout used by Acela is accessible and will accommodate the average wheelchair size. There is nothing extra that needs to be done.

Within the next two weeks Melissa anticipates convening the AWG for discussion.

**6. Document Control update –Dave Warner:**

Dave Warner provided the following report for inclusion in today's minutes:

*"The latest proposed changes to the Bi-Level specification are with the Review Panel. There are rumblings of a few late-breaking DCRs that, if received and processed in time per the urgent DCR process, may be able to be included in Rev. C.2.*

*The IDOT/Locomotive procurement team has told me it is working towards a July 31 submission of changes.*

*Finally, work continues on updating the Trainset Revision A specification, but this is taking a back seat to Bi-Level specification work."*

**7. Update: NGENC Dual Mode Locomotive Specification Development – Dave Warner:**

Dave Warner reported that there is nothing new to report on this item.

**8 Update: NGENC Procurements:**

**a. Diesel-Electric Locomotive – Steve Hewitt for Rich Stegner:**

Rich Stegner provided Steve Hewitt with the following update to be read into the minutes of today's call:

*"We have completed the Preliminary Design Review. Now processing action items.*

*NTP + 30, 45, 90 and 120 CDRLs are being processed.*

*A QA alignment meeting was held at the contractor's factory on 7/1 & 7/2. The contractor's QA processes are robust.*

*Proposed items for specification change are being compiled. Target completion is 7/31.*

*Intermediate design reviews are planned for October/November in Chicago."*

**b. Bi-Level Car Procurement – Stan Hunter:**

Stan Hunter reported that there have been "high level" meetings among the FRA, Caltrans, IDOT and Nippon Sharyo and Sumitomo in an effort to finalize the delivery schedule.

Discussions are moving forward on pre-production scheduling.

The Grant Agreement is also under discussion including option assignments. Stan anticipates having more to report on the results of the high level discussions on the next Technical subcommittee call.

Based on the proposed delivery schedule, Caltrans has completed its fleet deployment plan; and IDOT is working on theirs.

Stan emphasized issues related to weight reduction and agreed to keep the subcommittee apprised on the weight reduction plan as it is completed.

He will also keep the subcommittee apprised of the status of the grant agreement and option assignments

## **9.**

### **Update: DTL Specification Development – Dave Warner for Tammy Krause:**

Dave Warner provided the following update from Tammy Krause for inclusion in today's minutes:

*"A very productive meeting was held last Thursday in Washington with representatives from the AAR, NGEC, Amtrak, Nomad (Amtrak's DTL contractor), FRA and APTA to discuss railroad industry progress on digital trainlines.*

*The NGEC described its progress on the DTL hardware, and even provided samples of inter-vehicle connection hardware being used on California's refurbished Comet cars; AAR reiterated that the NGEC hardware effort was at least two years ahead of them.*

*The AAR has been working on locomotive control information to send along the DTL, not hardware. A demonstration of information transmission (what, not necessarily how) is planned for this September at TTCI.*

*Thus, the two efforts dovetail nicely. At end of the meeting this group was dubbed the "trainline communications coordinating committee." Major responsibilities assigned were for NGEC/APTA to continue work on the intercar connection hardware. The goal is to develop one design that satisfies all parties, and the one shown at the meeting was very close to achieving that. AAR will work on developing the information to be included on a vital MU DTL. This will be useful in the NGEC/APTA distant future when the passenger industry looks to move MU 27-pin information to a DTL.*

*The next conference call/web-meeting of this group is scheduled for September 10."*

Discussion ensued with regard to concerns over the possibility of "mixing and matching" as a result of the work of different groups (ECP and the DTL)."

Dale Engelhardt noted that the freight railroads are interested in on line brakes and "we are looking more at the communication side".

Dale noted "we are concentrating on the communication side for passenger rail and putting in sufficient bandwidth to accommodate future issues such as brakes, but it is not the time to do items that will require safety regulations".

Dave Warner noted that this subject did come up in the meeting with AAR and it is understood that the DTL and ECP efforts are different. DTL is one thing and the DTL group takes care of other items.

Dave noted that he is no longer concerned about mixing and matching. Jeff Gordon, FRA, concurred.

## **10.**

### **Adjourn:**

With no other business to come before the Technical subcommittee today, the call was adjourned at approximately 3:30pm Eastern.

**Next conference call – July 31, 2014 – 3:00pm Eastern**

**Decisions and Action Items**

RVAAC subcommittee conference calls are held once a month. The schedule was included in the meeting minutes of April 24, 2014. The full RVAAC will meet again September 11-12, 2014. Information on the meetings can be found on the RVAAC website. Members of the Technical subcommittee and Industry participants are asked to assist with support for the subcommittees. If interested in helping please contact Blair Slaughter – [slaughB@amtrak.com](mailto:slaughB@amtrak.com).

Dave Warner is converting chapters (requested by RVAAC) to Word and will send them to Melissa Anderson at the Access Board within 24 hours.

The on board subcommittee of the RVAAC is completing its matrix of recommendations. When complete it will be sent to Steve Hewitt for distribution to the Technical subcommittee.

Updating ECP Standards: remains as a standing action item and as activities occur; Paul Jamieson will provide status updates to the subcommittee. (Ongoing) Next update July 31, 2014.

Maintaining Industry Participation List: This remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **227** registered industry participants. (ongoing)

MN Dual Mode Locomotive Specification development: 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.

Dual Mode Locomotive Specification Development: This effort remains contingent upon completion of the D-E Locomotive Rev A.1. As of now that schedule has slipped about a month from the previous time frame.

**ATTACHMENTS**



**PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting**

**July 17, 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 June 19, 2014                              | Mario Bergeron                |
| 5. Accessibility Working Group/related issues update             | Melissa Shurland              |
| a. RVAAC update  |                               |
| b. AWG Status Update: single level restroom drawings             |                               |
| 6. Document Control update                                       | Dave Warner                   |
| 7. Update: Dual Mode Diesel Locomotive Specification Development | Dave Warner                   |
| 8. Update: Procurements  |                               |
| a. Diesel-electric locomotive                                    | Steve Hewitt for Rich Stegner |
| b. Bi-level Cars   | Stan Hunter                   |
| 9. Update: DTL Specification development                         | Dave Warner for Tammy Krause  |
| a. Status: Hardware specification                                |                               |
| b. Status: Software specification                                |                               |
| c. Report on July 10 meeting in DC with AAR/Amtrak/States/FRA    |                               |
| 10. Review this meeting:   | Steve Hewitt                  |
| a) Decisions   |                               |
| b) New Action Items  |                               |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:  
Thursday July 17, 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 – 7-31-14 at 3:00pm Eastern***