

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JULY 18, 2013

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, Chair NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Tammy Krause, Dave Warner, Michael Burshtin, Vincent Brotski, Kevin Kesler, Melissa Shurland, Devin Rouse, Michael Coltman, Stan Hunter, Jack Madden, Allan Paul, Curtis McDowell, Art Peterson, Phil Meraz, Missy Wilbers, Larry Salci, Steve Hewitt Industry Participants: Randy Thomure, Paul Jamieson, Tom Hunt, Mike Pracht, Eric Wilde, Lew Hoens, Steve Morrison, Josh Coran, Bobby Doyle, Kevin Brubaker
ABSENTEES	<i>Darrell Smith, Greg Gagarin, Andrew Wood, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Nico Lindenau, Sara Sarkhili, Brian Marquis, Charles Poltenson, Jeff Schultz, Kevin Lawson, Shayne Gill</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Chairman Mario Bergeron, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to take the roll.

Steve called the roll and 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 of the Agenda – Mario Bergeron:

Mario Bergeron provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda and asked Steve Hewitt to review action items.

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 **218** registered industry participants.

Requesting Backgrounder educational document: Backgrounders have been extremely well received. Backgrounders remain available and all are encouraged to use them – educate your own leadership as well as legislators. Subcommittee members should contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com if they would like to receive hard copies of the NGENC Backgrounder document. Please provide a mailing address and the number of copies being requested. **Status:** AASHTO has completed a sixth printing (500 more copies) of the Backgrounders. Keep those orders coming...

Natural Gas Conference Report: As soon as the report from the Natural Gas Needs conference is released, Melissa Shurland will provide it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to the subcommittee members. **Status:** Melissa Shurland reported that a meeting of the working group will take place in two weeks to finalize the report, and after that it is expected that to be ready for dissemination.

Updating ECP Standards: Status: Paul Jamieson provided the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

"The PRESS ECP administrative and technical sub-working groups' representatives met on Wednesday, 17 July, in the APTA offices in Washington, DC. The results of these discussions are as follows:

- *FRA grant for the safety analysis is in process.*
- *Safety analysis statement of work was finalized.*
- *Work breakdown structure is in development to properly manage the task interrelationships.*

- *Valve characterization study for in-service equipment has been completed. New valve production characterization is planned. These tasks will be used to design the brake cylinder pressure software control for emulation mode.*
- *Test program activities have been agreed upon between Amtrak and the manufacturers.*
- *49 CFR 238.111 for in-service testing is under development.*
- *APTA is awaiting formal response from the AAR regarding the memorandum of understanding.*
- *APTA standard format to allow direct comparison to the AAR standards was finalized.*

Full working group teleconference is scheduled for Friday, 26 July 2013 at 11:00 AM. If you want to participate, please send an email to Jeff Gordon or Paul Jamieson."

Working/Review Group – Developing Commuter Equivalent of NGEN Bi-Level Specification:

Working/Review Group – Developing Commuter Equivalent of NGEN Bi-Level Specification: This effort (not an official NGEN effort) continues with Kevin Kesler, FRA, in the lead. kevin.kesler@dot.gov. On the last call Kevin Kesler reported that the group last met, via conference call, on June 11, 2013. They are developing a report to be sent to the Executive Board of the NGEN and to the APTA commuter rail CEO's. Once this has occurred, there will be two options for the group – continuing as an ad hoc group or ending the group's activities with the distribution of its report. **Status:** Kevin Kesler reported that he will be meeting this week with APTA to discuss this effort. He also noted that the report is not yet complete, but he will keep the subcommittee apprised of its progress.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the June 20, 2013 Technical subcommittee call – Mario Bergeron:

On a motion offered by Allan Paul, NCDOT, and a second by Jack Madden, NYSDOT, the Minutes of the June 20, 2013, conference call meeting of the Technical subcommittee, were approved without exception.

5. Discussion: Tech SC review of ADAAG Document with feasibility Categories - Kevin Kesler:

Mario Bergeron opened up the discussion by informing the subcommittee members that on July 9th the Executive Board Chairman asked that the draft ADAAG document with Feasibility Categories be reviewed by the Technical subcommittee for technical feasibility. Steve Hewitt distributed the document on July 9th to all subcommittee members and participants.

Kevin Kesler, FRA, provided a brief history of the steps that led to this point.

Originally, a letter was sent by the USDOT Secretary in regard to the application of architectural designs to rail vehicles when there is so other regulation. The letter called on the rail community to work with FRA to determine what would be feasible for rail cars.

After the ADAAG guidance document was developed by the AWG and approved by the Technical subcommittee it was submitted to the Executive Board. At that point, Chairman Bronte convened the Accessibility Policy Group (APG) and asked for it to review the Guidance document and provide the Board with a recommendation.

The APG met and tasked Kevin Kesler and Melissa Shurland with developing a draft document identifying items in feasibility categories of: "ones that fit; ones that don't fit; and ones that are indeterminable."

This draft document was then sent to the Technical subcommittee for an assessment of factual feasibility.

Chairman Bergeron noted that there were two primary issues to consider when reviewing the items and determining whether or not they are in the right category or need to be moved to another category. First, there must be a rationale for moving from one category to another; and two, feasibility must be determined from a factual technical oriented perspective. Mario emphasized "feasibility is not about ease..."

After some further discussion, Chairman Bergeron laid out an action plan and timelines for this effort to be completed in time for the Board to communicate with the Access Board in advance of its September 15th meeting during which it (the Access Board) will begin its update.

Action Plan and Timeline:

July 18 – Dale Engelhardt to contact each of the Technical Working Group leaders and ask them to reconvene

their members and begin review of the document.

August 8 – All comments/changes are to be submitted by the Technical working groups to Melissa Shurland, FRA.

August 12 – A revised version with changes incorporated by Melissa, will be sent to the full technical subcommittee through Steve Hewitt.

August 15 – The regular Technical subcommittee call will take place with a discussion on the revised document on the agenda. The intent will be to get the document to the Executive Board and APG following the August 15th Technical subcommittee call. This should give the Board time to approve the document and prepare a letter to be sent to the Access Board in advance of its September 15th meeting.

**6.
Accessibility Working Group Update – Melissa Shurland:**

Other than the item just discussed (agenda item 5) there was nothing new to report from the AWG.

**7.
Document Control Update – Dave Warner:**

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

"We're scheduled to vote on the Trainset Specification Revision A later in the call. This revision brings the Trainset Specification up to the same level of basic corrections and updates at Bi-level Rev. C. No comments were received during the past four weeks, so a quick approval is anticipated.

The DMU Initial Release specification is complete, and has been submitted to AASHTO for posting. At the same time it gets posted, you'll also find a link to a new document at the top of the Documents/Specifications page. I have created a list of all NGECC 305 technical documents and specifications.

The next "background" effort to be accomplished will be creating the Single Level Revision A specification. No action is required by this group because Revision A was approved by the Executive Board last November."

**8.
Consideration of approval of Rev A Single Level Trainsets – Mario Bergeron:**

Chairman Bergeron called for a motion for approval of the Revision A Trainset Summary Sheet as distributed on June 20, 2013.

Allan Paul, NCDOT made the motion to approve and after a second by Art Peterson for IDOT, Steve Hewitt polled the voting members who were present:

Mario Bergeron, Amtrak – yes
Kevin Kesler, FRA – yes
Stan Hunter, Caltrans – yes
Jack Madden, NYSDOT – yes
Art Peterson, IDOT – yes
Phil Meraz, Iowa DOT – yes
Melissa Wilbers, Missouri DOT – yes
Allan Paul, NCDOT – yes

With a quorum having been established and all voting members present voting in the affirmative, the motion carried.

On behalf of Mario Bergeron, Steve Hewitt will send the Revision A Summary Sheet, as approved today, to Executive Board Chair Bill Bronte and ask that he reconvene the Trainset Review Panel during the July 23, 2013 Executive Board call. The Review Panel is asked to review Revision A and provide a report with recommendations to the Board at a date to be determined by the Panel. Steve will also ask that the Review Panel include the participation of Dave Warner so that he can answer any questions the panel may have.

**9.
Status/Update: Locomotive Procurement - IDOT:**

Art Peterson, on behalf of IDOT, provided a brief update on the status of the Locomotive Procurement.

A conference call among the partners in the procurement effort was held today, and "good progress was made towards finishing the RFP". Art noted that there are a few issues yet to be resolved, with the biggest issue being that of DBEs. The RFP team is actually drafting different versions each dependent upon the eventuality of this issue. The team remains diligent and anticipates meeting the timeline of releasing the RFP around August 1, 2013.

10.

Update: Digital Trainline Communication effort – Dale Engelhardt/Tammy Krause:

Dale Engelhardt reported that the sub group or team that was formed after the last subcommittee call held a call with 11 participants. The group is now working on a rough draft of a proposed requirements document which will be reviewed before being revised and submitted to the full subcommittee.

Dale also reported (and read) what he described as a mission statement that is under development and not yet approved.

After some discussion about when the draft requirements document will be ready for review and who will do the review, it was agreed that Dale Engelhardt and Tammy Krause will "develop a project timeline and who is to do what by when" and present it to the subcommittee on the August 1s conference call.

Others who are interested in participating in this effort are to contact Tammy Krause (Krauset@amtrak.com) and she will add them to the Digital Trainline Team.

11.

Other:

With no other business to come before the Technical subcommittee today, the call was adjourned at approximately 3:50PM EDT.

Next conference call – August 1, 2013 – 3:00pm EDT

Decisions and Action Items

Working/Review Group – Developing Commuter Equivalent of NGEC Bi-Level Specification: This effort (not an official NGEC effort) continues with Kevin Kesler, FRA, in the lead. kevin.kesler@dot.gov. Kevin Kesler is meeting with APTA this week to discuss this effort. A report will be developed and submitted to the APTA CEOs and NGEC Board when it is ready. Kevin will keep the subcommittee apprised of this progress being made.

As soon as the report from the Natural Gas Needs conference is released, Melissa Shurland will provide it to Steve Hewitt for distribution to the subcommittee members. The report is under review by conference attendees, and it is anticipated to be ready for public distribution in about two weeks.

The Trainset Revision A Summary Sheet was approved by the Technical subcommittee on today's call. Steve Hewitt will send it to Bill Bronte with a request that he re-convene the Trainset Review Panel on July 23rd (next Board call) and that he task it with developing a report with recommendations. Bill will also be asked to include Dave Warner in the effort as support for the Review panel to answer any questions that it may have.

Updating ECP Standards: remains as a standing action item. The next full group teleconference is scheduled for July 26 at 11:00 AM. Anyone wishing to get involved in this effort should contact Paul Jamieson or Jeff Gordon.

Digital Trainline Communication effort: The Digital trainline subgroup held its first meeting and has begun drafting a req. document and mission statement. On the next Tech SC call a timeline and action plan will be presented.

Tech SC review of ADAAG Document with feasibility Categories: A timeline and action plan was agreed to on today's Tech SC call:

July 18 – Dale Engelhardt to contact each of the Technical Working Group leaders and ask them to reconvene their members and begin review of the document.

August 8 – All comments/changes are to be submitted by the Technical working groups to Melissa Shurland, FRA.

August 12 – A revised version with changes incorporated by Melissa will be sent to the full technical subcommittee through Steve Hewitt.

August 15 – The regular Technical subcommittee call will take place with a discussion on the revised document on the agenda.

ATTACHMENTS



PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

July 18, 2013

The agenda for the meeting is below:

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|--|-----------------------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review meeting agenda | Mario Bergeron |
| 3. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes of June 20, 2013 | Mario Bergeron |
| 5. Discussion: Tech SC review of ADAAG Document with feasibility | Mario Bergeron/Kevin Kesler |

Categories

- | | |
|--|------------------------------|
| 6. Accessibility Working Group Status Update | Melissa Shurland |
| 7. Document Control update | Dave Warner |
| 8. Consideration of approval of Rev A Single Level Trainsets | Mario Bergeron |
| 9. Status/Update: Locomotive Procurement | IDOT |
| 10. Update: Digital Trainline Communication effort | Dale Engelhardt/Tammy Krause |
| 11. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
-
- a) Decisions
 - b) New Action Items

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday July 18, 2013 3:00 EDT: 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#***

***Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.
Thank you***

Next Technical Subcommittee Call: 8-1-13 at 3:00pm EDT