

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JULY 7, 2022

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Joe Paul Vice Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Joe Paul, Jeffrey Gordon, Jennifer Bastian, Jennifer Bastian also as proxy for Gurleen Boparai, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Marci Petterson, Mike Jenkins, Troy Hughes, Art Peterson, Blair Slaughter, Tarek Omar, Steve Hewitt Industry Members: Richard Curtis, Paul Jamieson, Kevin Sudano, Dave Warner, Rich Stegner, Paul Arnone, Joanna Hallisy, Ed Golitko, James Michel, Kevin Myles, Justin Halverston, James Campbell, Leo Sanchez, Joe Kenas, Steve Ojalvo
ABSENTEES	<i>George Hull, Mathew Simmons, Ed Engle, Ray Hessinger, Jason Biggs, Tammy Krause, Mike Kraft, Melissa Shurland, Mike Murray, Rebecca Anger, Larry Salci</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Technical subcommittee Vice Chair Joe Paul, Amtrak, 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:

2022 NGENC Backgrounder educational document:

The 2022 NGENC two-pager is available in hard copy by request of Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

To date 125 hard copies and 450 electronic copies have been distributed (575 – total).

Maintaining Industry Participation List:

There are just over 200 industry participants.

Any updates or changes to this list should be sent to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

Marci Petterson reported to the Technical subcommittee on 6-9-22 that a Pre-proposal meeting was scheduled for 6-10-22. Marci had previously announced (on 5-12-22) that Connecticut's Initial Coach Procurement RFP was rescinded, and a new RFP was released on 5-11-22.

On 7-7-22, Marci Petterson reported that the Pre-proposal meeting was held on 6-10-22 as scheduled and that the first round of questions are due next week. (week of 7-11-22)

Next Update: As Appropriate

Document Control:

On 7-7-22, Steve Hewitt reported that Tammy Krause is on vacation, so no update was called for on this agenda. However, the most recent update was provided to the Executive Board on 6-28-22:

The Bi-Level Specification proposed update has received no DCRs to date. Several reminder e-mails have been sent out giving extending the **deadline for DCR submittals to 7-11-2022** (it was originally 6-30-22). Since the most recent reminders went out

several DCRs have been received. Anyone who has not sent changes they wish to have considered – please do so by the deadline.

Tammy provided an updated list of the PRIIA documents to Steve Hewitt, who has sent it to AASHTO for posting.

Tammy is working with the Technical Writer on the update to the PRIIA document 305-100 (procedures), specifically updating the specification review group members to be current.

The Carbody Materials working group meeting of June 22 was cancelled and the next meeting was scheduled for July 6 (yesterday) They are continuing to work on Chapter 4 – Carbody, of the Single Level Specification.

The Electronics on Trains working group will be meeting on Tuesday July 12.

Next Update: 7-21-22

Update: University of Nebraska/FRA High Speed Wireless Study:

As of 5-12-22 Hamid Sharif reported:

In our study, we have been exploring the properties and capabilities of the 160 MHz RF band, and its suitability for a variety of applications, including Wireless Digital Trainline. This includes a key factor of investigating if 160MHz can alleviate the pressure on the 220MHz.

In this process, we designed and evaluated both a single-carrier transceiver architecture and an OFDM-based transceiver architecture, and conducted evaluations of both designs.

This quarter we expanded on our efforts by incorporating Forward Error Correction (FEC) Coding into these architectures. FEC is a way to improve the receive-side bit error rate, and thus communication distance, by sacrificing throughput capacity. The released throughput is instead used to carry additional information that the transmitter inserts into the data stream.

We plan to publish our results this summer.

Please contact Hamid Sharif @ University of Nebraska-Lincoln for any additional information.

Next Update: 7-21-22

3. Approval of the Minutes from 6-9-22 – Joe Paul, Amtrak:

On a motion by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, and a second by Troy Hughes, MODOT, the minutes from 6-9-22 were approved as submitted.

4. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 7-7-22 – Jennifer Bastian for Gurleen Boparai, Caltrans:

On 7-7-22, Gurleen Boparai provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes presented for the record by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT:

The Cab Carshell final design has been approved and the cab cars are in production. Remaining Cab Car FDRs are in the final submittal and review stage. Cab Car Safety Appliance documents have been sent to the FRA for review, and the Cab Car Clearance information has been approved by Amtrak. IDOT Café Car FDRs are in the closure stage with Galley open items being addressed.

The Cab Car Collision and Corner Post Appendix F testing is complete, and the test report has been reviewed and Siemens is addressing the final comments. FRA comments to the Compression Test report have been addressed. The Final FAI Cab Carshell Report is in review.

113 cars are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. Revenue Service relevant FMIs are in progress and open items related to Conditional Acceptance are being addressed. IDOT coaches are currently in revenue service and Caltrans is planning revenue start once necessary agreements are in place.

5. Update: Progress/performance Venture Cars – Jennifer Bastian, IDOT:

This item was covered under agenda item 4. Nothing additional to report.

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

Ray Hessinger was unavailable for this call, so this item was tabled.

**7.
Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements – Joe Paul, Amtrak:**

On 7-7-22, Joe Paul reported:

On the Charger Locomotive: A Notice to Proceed to add 50 option locomotives has been issued. To date, 11 Chargers have been accepted and 22 are presently under construction. Amtrak is currently running on the Empire Builder service, and plans to begin running on the City of New Orleans in the next few days. The California Zephyr is the next line where they will begin to run the Chargers.

On the Intercity Trainset (ICT): Preliminary Design Review is complete, and Intermediate Design Review is halfway complete.

On the Acela 21: It is anticipated that revenue service will begin in the Fall of 2023. There have been some delays regarding modeling.

**8.
Update: Working Group On Weight Issues – Jeff Gordon, FRA:**

Jeff Gordon reported the last scheduled meeting was canceled and he has not yet rescheduled it.

**9.
NGEC 2023 Annual Meeting – date and location – Steve Hewitt:**

The 2023 NGEC Annual Meeting will be held a bit earlier than in past years. This year it will be held on February 3rd. The location is, once again, the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, Washington, DC, Capitol Room B. The time for the meeting will likely be the same as last year (8:00am Registration – Meeting 8:30am – Noon Eastern).

Other related meetings will take place, as usual in conjunction with the AASHTO Council on Rail Transportation – all will take place at the Hyatt:

Schedule:

1-31-23 States for Passenger Rail Coalition (SPRC)
2-1-23 AASHTO Council on Rail Transportation – General Session
2-2-23 States Amtrak Intercity Passenger Rail Committee (SAIPRC)
2-3-23 The Next Generation Corridor Equipment Committee (NGEC)

Steve will provide more information as the meeting date draws closer. He will send a save the date notice soon.

**10.
Adjourn:**

With no other business forthcoming on today's call, Joe Paul adjourned the meeting at about 3:20pm Eastern.

Next Tech subcommittee Call: 7-21-22– 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

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Maintaining Industry Participation List: There are about 200 industry participants.

There have been several updates/changes to the list that have been provided to Steve Hewitt and those changes were made.

Any further updates or changes should be sent to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement:

On 7-7-22, Gurleen Boparai provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes presented for the record by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT:

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Next Update – 7-21-22

Document Control Update:

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The Electronics on Trains working group will be meeting on Tuesday July 12.

Next Update: 7-21-22

Working Group on Weight Issues as of 7-7-22:

The scheduled Working Group meeting for 6-9-22 was canceled due to a schedule conflict. Jeff Gordon is looking at dates for the next meeting.

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 – 8-4-22

University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 4-28-22:

As of 5-12-22:

In our study, we have been exploring the properties and capabilities of the 160 MHz RF band, and its suitability for a variety of applications, including Wireless Digital Trainline. This includes a key factor of investigating if 160MHz can alleviate the pressure on the 220MHz.

In this process, we designed and evaluated both a single-carrier transceiver architecture and an OFDM-based transceiver architecture, and conducted evaluations of both designs.

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We plan to publish our results this summer.

Please contact Hamid Sharif @ University of Nebraska-Lincoln for any additional information.

Next Update: - 7-21-22

Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement –7-7-22

On 6-9-22, Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, reported that Metro-North and Siemens concluded the Preliminary Design Review (PDR) and have moved to Final Design Review (FDR). Siemens has started the process of preparing FDR submittals to Metro-North.

On 7-7-22, Ray Hessinger was unavailable, and no update was provided.

Next Update: 8-4-22

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement as of 6-9-22:

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Next Update: As Appropriate

Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 7-7-22:

On the Charger Locomotive:

A Notice to Proceed to add 50 options has been issued. To date, 11 Chargers have been accepted and 22 are presently under construction. Amtrak is currently running on the Empire Builder service, and plans to begin running on the City of New Orleans in the next few days. The California Zephyr is the next line where they will begin to run the Chargers.

On the Intercity Trainset (ICT):

Preliminary Design Review is complete, and half of the Intermediate Design Review is complete.

On the Acela 21:

It is anticipated that revenue service will begin in the Fall of 2023. There have been some delays regarding modeling.

Next Update: 8-4-22

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Steve will provide more information as the meeting date draws closer. He will send a "save the date" notice soon.

Next call 7-21-22

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

Agenda

7-7-2022

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| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Approve Minutes from 6-9-22 | Joe Paul |
| 4. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Gurleen Boparai |
| 5. Update: Progress/performance - Venture cars | Jennifer Bastian |
| 6. Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement | Ray Hessinger |
| 7. Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements | Joe Paul |
| 8. Update: Vehicle Weights Working Group | Jeff Gordon |
| 9. NGEC 2023 Annual Meeting-date and location | Steve Hewitt |
| 10. Other | All |
| 11. Adjourn | Joe Paul |

Next – meeting 7-21-22