

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

AUGUST 16, 2012

3:00PM EDT

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, Chairman, S305 Technical subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>Mario Bergeron, Darrell Smith, Tammy Krause, Greg Gagarin, Dave Warner, Michael Burshtin, Andrew Wood, Kevin Kesler, Melissa Shurland, Anand Prabhakaran, Nico Lindenau, Jeff Gordon, Michael Coltman, Stan Hunter, Camren Cordell, Jack Madden, Jeff Schultz, Art Peterson, Phil Meraz, Ron Adams, Larry Salci, Steve Hewitt, Industry Participants:</i> <i>Tim Buchanan, George Mekosh, Tom Hunt, Jim Lindsay</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Dale Engelhardt, Devin Rouse, Charles Bielitz, Ryan Swick, Brian Marquis, Allan Paul, Curtis McDowell, Charlie Poltenson, Kevin Lawson, Eric Curtit, Shayne Gill</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

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

Steve Hewitt took the roll and, ultimately, a quorum was established as present. Industry participants are asked, as always, to email a notification of their attendance to Steve at shewitt109@aol.com.

Review of Action Items:

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items and provided a brief update on those items that were not to be specifically covered on the agenda:

Maintaining Industry Participation List:

Steve Hewitt reported that this remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **205** registered industry participants.

Dual Mode Locomotive specification development:

Dave Warner will meet with Locomotive subgroup leaders and present alternative 2 as a potential plan for developing the Dual Mode Locomotive Specification. He will report on the results of those conversations on the next subcommittee call. Status: **This will be covered on the agenda today.**

Melissa Shurland will request a meeting among FRA, OST and Amtrak legal prior to FRA issuing guidance on the issue of counter top heights and building code regulations. Melissa Shurland reported on the last call that guidelines are not in the purview of FRA, but is the responsibility of the Office of General Counsel in the Office of the Secretary. Amtrak's legal interpretation has been sent to the General Counsel along with the request for a meeting as described in the action item. Melissa will report back when she hears from the General Counsel's office. Status: **Melissa Shurland reported that there was nothing new on this item for today— it will remain as an open action item.**

Melissa, however, did provide the following summary of Accessibility Working Group activities for inclusion in the minutes:

"The AWG has met twice since I last reported out to the TSC. We are currently working on identifying the impact studies that will need to be done in order for the Group to make a decision on the two DCRs for accessible Communications. The Group is reviewing a SOW that will enable us to get outside technical support to conduct economic, safety, and operations impact analyses of the DCRs, and ultimately, all of the accessible recommendations."

Approval of the Minutes of the July 19, 2012 Technical subcommittee call – Mario Bergeron:

On a motion by Jack Madden, NYSDOT, and a second by, Art Peterson, IDOT the Minutes of the July 19, 2012, conference call meeting of the Technical subcommittee, were approved without objection.

Update: Document Control Management – Dave Warner:

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

"A dozen-dozen DCRs for the Single-Level specification based on DCRs from the Bi-Level specification Revs A, B and C of Bi-Level plus a few "bonus items" have been reviewed and completed by the Technical Working Groups. The Summary Sheet was distributed on July 31, 2012, in an email from Steve Hewitt. In the email was an intended voting date on the Summary Sheet of today, but that was based on having a Technical Subcommittee call before the voting call. Since the August 2 call was cancelled, we'd like to vote on the Summary Sheet at the August 30, 2012 call.

The Repository has been updated with all Bi-Level files related to the initial release and Revisions A, B and C that aren't on the Specification and Documents page. Included are superseded versions of the initial release, Rev. A and Rev. B specifications; Initial Release Requirements Document; the Rev. A, Rev. B and Rev. C Summary Sheets and the Review Panel Reports for all the Bi-Level specification versions. Thanks to Andy House and Leo Penne for getting these items posted to improve the quality of the repository and to Camren Cordell for creating the "superseded" documents.

Finally, a program note related to document control. The DMU Review Panel meeting is now scheduled for August 23, 2012. This means we can anticipate a vote to approve the DMU specification by the Executive Board in early September. "

Update/status: Locomotive RFI – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt gave an update on the status of the Locomotive RFI:

As reported on the last call, the Locomotive RFI was released on July 6, 2012 to a comprehensive industry list, and was posted on the website on July 9, 2012 in two locations to ensure wide spread notification. Responses were due on July 20, 2012. On August 9, 2012, the RFI Response Review Team (a subset of the JPTF) met to review the responses received to be reported back to the full JPTF, which, will, in turn, report to the Executive Board.

Mario Bergeron asked Steve if this item was going to be on the Executive Board agenda for next week. Steve responded, "yes".

Plan for Dual Mode Locomotive Specification Development – Dale Engelhardt/Dave Warner:

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

"At the July 19, 2012 meeting, Jack Madden and I took an action to discuss with members of the Locomotive and DMU-Propulsion Working Groups the three proposed schedules that had been discussed. We had completed our discussions in advance of the August 2, 2012 call, but when that call was cancelled, we took advantage of the additional time to further discuss schedules with interested respondents.

The position of all the respondents had been, and still was that to do the writing of the Dual Mode specification after the award of the Diesel Electric Locomotive contract, was the preferred alternative. During a conference call with the respondents held last week, however, we reached a consensus to essentially blend the Slow Concurrent and Post Award schedules because manufacturers reported their intent to develop the design of their Diesel Electric Locomotive with the intent that it will be a common platform for the future Dual Mode Locomotive.

What will be done is that the locomotive manufacturers and major vendors (external to the official RFP) keep a copy of the Dual Mode Requirements Document "adjacent" to their work station while working on the RFP. They will identify and note issues, concerns and modifications which might be needed to the Dual Mode Requirements Document and which should be made for the Dual Mode Specification.

It should be recognized that very little actual writing on the specification will be performed until the RFP/award process for the Diesel Electric Locomotive is completed. But, we will then be in a position to get to work much more quickly once the post-award version of the Diesel Electric Locomotive Specification is available. "

Other:

Kevin Kesler, FRA, reported on an effort by APTA to update its standards for commuter rail equipment, and to potentially use the NGEC specifications "as a starting point". Kevin has been having discussions with APTA about this and feels that "some interest has been expressed" to have the APTA PRESS (Passenger Rail Equipment Safety Standards) working group "pulled together to review all of their standards". Their (APTA's) concern is that they have lost many of their members over time. Kevin has noted that there are many members of the NGEC who may well be interested in supporting this effort.

Kevin also noted that there was an email earlier today, from Steve Hewitt, on behalf of Paul Jamieson, in regards to ECP standards and informing NGEC members who may be interested, that a meeting will be put together soon.

Kevin noted that these are two different activities, but will likely merge at some point.

Mario Bergeron asked how the NGEC technical subcommittee could support the effort. Kevin explained that there are two steps that are being taken to get the broader effort rolling.

1. Convene a meeting of a small group from APTA to take a look at what the NGEC did in creating specifications and "see about applicability to commuter rail."
2. Develop an Action Plan
APTA would want to constitute a group to come up with NGEC consistent specs and update existing APTA standards, and would want to involve interested members of the NGEC.

Kevin will keep the subcommittee apprised of how this activity is moving forward and notify Steve Hewitt of the date for a meeting as soon as this has been set. Kevin anticipates that a meeting will convene in around six weeks or so.

Steve Hewitt asked for clarification in regards to the activity Kevin has described and that which Paul Jamieson is leading.

Jeff Gordon, FRA, explained that Paul's invitation to NGEC members (sent out today through Steve Hewitt) was to develop APTA ECP standards that will bridge the gap between AAR and APTA for passenger rail. He noted that the dates cited in Paul's email invite will likely be revised and the effort will kick off around the end of October.

Kevin Kesler added, these are similar efforts "ECP is due to be updated, but there are also many other standards that need to be looked at and updated."

Mario Bergeron asked if there are "resources within APTA" for this effort. Kevin responded that there were, but "very limited". Most of the support will be volunteer, much like the NGEC activities involving FRA, Amtrak, suppliers and manufacturers.

Larry Salci, consultant, complimented Kevin on his efforts. "I applaud what you are doing", while this needs to be coordinated and teamed up, "there are lots of similarities". He added, "lots of work to be done, but not overly difficult."

Kevin responded that it was good to hear, and that "we do need everyone's support". He added that he thought now was a good time because the Technical subcommittee was not, at the moment, engaged in a "lot of intense work" so he is hoping participants will have some time to assist in this effort.

Larry Salci suggested that there be a "shake out meeting at the APTA Annual Meeting in October." Kevin thought that was a good idea and would talk to APTA about it.

Jack Madden, NYSDOT, asked Melissa Shurland if she would give a brief overview of a possible meeting in mid-September that she had informed Jack and his propulsion team about. The meeting, as he understood it, was to be with the Department of Energy (DOE) in regards to natural gas propulsion for locomotives.

Melissa explained that the FRA met with DOE to see "what options there were for natural gas technology". DOE was excited to hear that FRA "was thinking along these lines" in looking for potential uses for natural gas propulsion for locomotives. They have suggested that there be a research workshop to look into the possibilities.

FRA has reached out to industry members to arrange a workshop meeting in late September, 2012, to help put together a list of possible research projects. They are not looking to obtain proprietary information, but ideas. Thus far they have heard from 2 manufacturers.

The workshop would be two half day sessions – beginning on the first day around lunch time and ending on the second day around three PM. Melissa added that, “DOE will produce a report out of the meeting highlighting prioritized research needs”.

Melissa will keep the Technical subcommittee apprised as this effort moves forward and will let us know when the meeting is scheduled.

Next conference call – August 30, 2012 – 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

Melissa Shurland has requested a meeting among FRA, OST and Amtrak legal prior to the Office of General Counsel issuing guidance on the issue of counter top heights and building code regulations and has provide the General Counsel with the Amtrak Legal interpretation. Melissa will report back to the subcommittee when she receives a response from the General Counsel.

All voting members of the Technical subcommittee are asked to review the summary sheet distributed by Steve Hewitt on July 31, 2012 and be prepared to vote on it on the August 30, 2012 conference call.

Kevin Kesler will inform Steve Hewitt of the date for a meeting in regards to updating APTA standards and determining if the NGEN Standards are applicable. Kevin will continue to apprise the subcommittee as this effort moves forward.

Melissa Shurland will keep the subcommittee informed as to when the DOE/FRA research work shop in regards to developing a list options for natural gas technology will be held.

ATTACHMENTS



PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

August 16, 2012

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 July 19, 2012 | Mario Bergeron |
| 5. Update: Document Control Management | Dave Warner |
| 6. Update/status: Locomotive RFI | Steve Hewitt |
| 7. Plan for Dual Mode Locomotive Specification Development | Dale Engelhardt/Dave Warner |
| 8. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday August 16, 2012 3:00 EST: 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#***

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