

Next Steps for the NGEC Specification Development



Developing the Future Work Plan

- What are the options?
- Specifications versus process development
- Potential acquisitions
- Potential corporate entity
- Needs of states
- Visionary approach
- Non-standard equipment types

What are the next options?

- Development of additional specifications?
 - Dual mode locomotive
 - Higher capacity single level vehicle
 - DMU
 - VHSR
- What are the needs of the operators that we are trying to meet?
- How do we develop the processes necessary for the future?

Specs Versus Process Development

- Working groups that involve cross industry participation exist
- Recreating the groups at a later stage would be more difficult
- If the groups are needed, is now the time to make use of them?
- What is the willingness of industry to continue to participate if the goals are longer term?
- Should the focus be on the existing specifications and how they are supported in the longer term?
- What else is going to be necessary to support acquisitions?

Potential Acquisitions

- Several acquisition programs could commence soon.
- Who is going to be the lead on those acquisitions?
- What technical support is necessary for those acquisition programs?
- Will NGECC be required to provide that technical support?
- How does the outcome of the acquisition process feed back to the existing specifications?

Potential Corporate Entity

- Discussion is underway on the possible creation of a pool of equipment centrally owned
- If such an entity is created, it will need strong technical capabilities
- The systems engineering process will be vital
- How will maintenance be performed on pooled fleets
- Long term support to the fleets will require technical capability
 - Development of the fleets in service
 - Monitoring of in service maintenance practices and performance
 - Reliability growth strategies
 - Investment in overhauls
 - Acquisition processes and project management

State Needs and Long Term Vision

- States have been surveyed on their requirements for equipment and for support in acquiring that equipment
- Pooling of needs and potential financial support are primary areas of interest
- Does NGEC react to the immediate goals of the states or focus on the longer term vision?
- One longer term vision option is the corporate entity.
 - Own equipment pool
 - Provide flexibility to the states in their equipment needs
 - Economies of scale in equipment acquisition
 - Flexible approaches to funding of equipment
- How does the work of the NGEC develop to meet those goals

Next Generation
Equipment Committee

