

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

OCTOBER 29, 2020 3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>George Hull, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>George Hull, Jeffrey Gordon, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Momo Tamaoki, Ray Hessinger, Marci Petterson, Jennifer Bastian, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Joe Paul, Steve Hewitt, Art Peterson, Mike Kraft, Hamid Sharif-Kashani, Mike Murray, Larry Salci, Industry Members: Rich Stegner, Kirk Klug, Dick Bruss, Jon Mullin, Jeff Schultz, Darrell Smith, James Michel, Richard Curtis, Anthony Lucas, Bill Saddler, Josh Coran, Rich Bowie, Ed Golitko, JD Daniel, Steve Ojalvo, Jack Madden, Joe Kenas, Paul Arnone, Steve Morrison</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Mathew Simmons, Jason Biggs, Mike Jenkins, Tammy Krause, Tarek Omar, Blair Slaughter, Melissa Shurland, David Brabb, Oscar Bermudez</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Chairman George Hull, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

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 Meeting Agenda – George Hull, Amtrak:

On behalf of Chairman Hull, Steve Hewitt provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda.

3.

Review Action Items – Steve Hewitt, NGENC Program Manager:

Requesting Background educational document:

As reported previously, the two-pager has been updated and is available in hard copy and/or PDF versions. To date about 420 copies (Electronic or hard copies) have been distributed.

Contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com for copies – hard copy or electronic version. If hard copies, let Steve know where to send them and how many.

The two-pager is currently under review by the NGENC Finance and Administrative subcommittee for its annual update.

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

Status Update: Electronics on Trains Working Group:

The following update was provided for inclusion in the minutes of 9-17-20 by David Brabb:

The NGENC Electronics subcommittee had a web conference on Tuesday, September 8th. We have received the final comments/edits to the latest PRIIA 305 DTL Hardware specification. After implementing the comments/edits, we plan to issue revision 2020B before our next scheduled web conference on September 29th. In that meeting we plan to discuss the next step in the specification development process which likely will be the addition of firmware specs/info to the DTL doc.

On 9-17-20, Steve Hewitt pointed out that he has asked Tammy Krause, Document Control Manager, to reach out to David Brabb to make sure that the NGENC procedures are being followed in revising/updating the specification.

On 10-1-20, Steve Hewitt received and reported on the working group's activities as provided by David Brabb:

The Electronics working group had a meeting Tuesday, September 29th. We are issuing the 305-919 DTL Hardware spec to our group for final comments on it. We will then begin adding the firmware specs to the same DTL Hardware spec. This will then lead

to the next round of edits/comments by our small group.

We will then do as Tammy Krause said and submit the hardware spec to your big group (the full Technical subcommittee) and follow what is needed to get it complete (approved).

Finally, further down the road we will address the 305 - 920 software spec.

Our next web-call is scheduled for October 27th.

On 10-29-20:

Steve Hewitt reported that David Brabb contacted him to let him know that the working group meeting scheduled for 10-27-20 had been postponed, but work is continuing on completing the changes to the DTL 305-919 specification and getting them to Tammy Krause.

Next Update: 11-12-20

AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights Update:

On 6-25-20, Tarek Omar reported that Phase 3 and 4 are complete and they are working on the final report. Tarek hopes to be able to share the report with this group soon.

On 8-20-20, Tarek Omar noted that the LED testing is complete except for ice melting – which will need to wait a few months on. Steve Hewitt asked if he should remove this item as a regular update. It was agreed that he would take it off as a monthly standing agenda item and will make a note to check in with Tarek in December 2020.

Next Update: December 2020 or as appropriate

Establish process and timeline for Tech SC review of Access Board NPRM Accessibility Guidelines and compare with current NGENC Specifications

On 8-20-20, Melissa Shurland, FRA, reported that the comment period ended on 7-14-20 (after having been extended to that date) and the Access Board is now processing those comments received. Melissa stated, "we are in a holding pattern to see what the comments were and what the Access Board's disposition of them will be." Melissa will keep the NGENC technical subcommittee informed as the process is completed.

On 10-15-20, Melissa Shurland reported that there still was no update from the Access Board on this activity.

Next Update: As appropriate

Developing a TSSSA spec/menu/template:

On 10-15-20, George Hull reported that there was no update on this activity as of yet.

Next Update: As appropriate

4. Approval of the Minutes from 10-15-20– George Hull, Amtrak:

On a motion offered by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, and seconded by Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, the minutes from 10-15-20 were approved as presented.

5. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 10-29-20 – Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:

On 10-29-20, Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, provided the following update:

Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR is complete and the structural test plans have been reviewed and are in revision. Reviews for Vending Cars, Cab Car Interiors, and Diagnostic Systems occurred the week of September 28. IDOT Café Car releases are ongoing. FDR Communications, Diagnostics and Interiors took place in early October. The Café Car IDR has been approved. The new emergency egress window was successfully demonstrated to FRA on September 29.

Workstation table testing is ongoing in Spain and though some parameters have not passed, overall results are positive. Minor modifications and preparation for repeat testing are in work. NEC testing for standard coach is complete and report reviews are

ongoing with FRA. Caltrans 238.111 testing is complete, and the final report is in work. The IDOT 238.111 test runs on the IDOT corridors is pending results of the 213 report discussions. Cab Car Compression Test Preparation is ongoing, and test setup is tentative for mid-November.

60 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. System-level FAIs and the Complete Coach FAI are now approved for the standard coach. There are nine cars delivered to the Stockton facility. Four more CALTRANS cars are scheduled to ship on December 2nd. The third IDOT shipment occurred on September 30th and additional cars are tentatively scheduled to ship Mid-November.

The project teams continue to monitor potential production and schedule impacts due to the coronavirus and are receiving frequent updates from SCOA and Siemens.

6. Update: Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement – Marci Petterson, Conn DOT:

Marci Petterson reported that they are expecting proposals on Monday (11-2-20).

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

Ray Hessinger reported that the Metro-North procurement remains in the cone of silence.

8. Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements – George Hull:

George Hull reported that they (Amtrak) are also in the cone of silence period.

9. Update: Document Control Management as of 10-15-20 – Steve Hewitt for Tammy Krause:

Steve Hewitt read Tammy Krause's report for the record:

The only updates I have are:

The is additional information on the DMU DCRs, the Mechanical Group made several proposed changes and the Interiors Group added two new DCRs. These were sent out earlier and if the TSC is OK with them I will send them to Larry Salci to add to his review.

The Ownership best practices document was delayed because I was away last week and was unable to get the additional information needed by the Technical Writer until this week. She is busy this week and is going to call me later today to discuss dates.

Steve Hewitt went on to expand upon the fact that the additional changes to the DMU specification, sent out today from Tammy Krause, need to be discussed and, if agreed upon, the Technical subcommittee could vote on them. If approved they would be passed on to Larry Salci for inclusion in his review of the summary of changes.

An email from industry member Rich Bowie asked for consideration of another change:

First row regarding calipers: our WZKT's maintain 1.5+/-0.5mm between pad and disc. These are successfully deployed in significantly large quantities.

Can this be reconsidered?

Jeff Gordon will take this request back to the Mechanical working group. He anticipates this will be no problem and will be approved.

Jeff raised the issue that there are two sets of numbers that need to be reconciled. The replacement language in 40 and 41 are not the same. Weight needs to be representative of what the industry thinks it should be and, once resolved, it should be the same in both places in the specification.

Jeff agreed to contact Tammy Krause to discuss this and remedy the issue. Larry Salci also stated he would give Tammy a call as he was involved initially with the DMU and the discussion of weight.

Steve Hewitt recommended, and Chairman Hull agreed, that the vote on the items distributed today should be tabled until the issue

is resolved.

It is anticipated that the issue can be resolved over the next two weeks and can be considered on the next Technical subcommittee call on 11-12-20. Larry Salci, Review Panel consultant for the NGEN, will conduct his review of the summary of changes approved previously by the Technical subcommittee while awaiting resolution of the issues raised today.

10.

Status Update: University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Study – current phase – Hamid Shariff Kashani:

Hamid Shari-Kashani reported that they are continuing to progress the current phase in which they are studying frequency performance issues for the different band widths. They are looking to find a way to resolve saturation. Their focus is on 160 Mega Hertz. They are looking at their previous modeling to see if they can adapt it for 160 Mega Hertz.

Any questions or input from members can be sent to Hamid.

11.

Discussion: Industry Email Addresses posted on the NGEN website being used for solicitations – Steve/George:

Steve Hewitt reported that a concern was raised by an NGEN industry participant regarding the posting of the email addresses of industry members on the NGEN website. Steve Hewitt noted that the NGEN is required to keep open records and has always posted contact information for all registered members of the industry as well as the states, Amtrak, FRA etc. The individual raised the issue because he received a solicitation (as did many, or "all" of the industry participants) from an entity that is not associated with the NGEN in any way. This entity must have gotten the email list from the public (open record) NGEN website.

The individual raising the concern, favored having all industry email addresses removed from the contact list on the website.

Steve Hewitt took the issue to the NGEN Executive Board on 10-20-20. The Board asked him to take it to the Technical subcommittee and ask the industry members what their preference was. Steve was asked to offer to remove the email addresses if there were concerns by member. On the call, more than half of the industry members in attendance weighed in on this. Everyone stating that they had no issue with having their email addresses listed on the website.

The resolution of this issue is that Steve Hewitt will remove the email address of the member that raised the concern and will that of any member who requests it going forward. Otherwise the list will remain as is.

12.

Other Issues:

With no other issues forthcoming, George Hull adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:40PM Eastern.

Next Call: 11-12-20– 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

Requesting Background educational document:

As reported previously, the two-pager has been updated and is available in hard copy and/or pdf versions. To date about 410 copies have been distributed.

Contact Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com for copies – hard copy or PDF. If hard copies, let Steve know where to send them and how many.

On 10-1-20, Steve Hewitt reminded members that the two-pager is currently under review by the NGEN Finance and Administrative subcommittee with the intent of updating it and making it current. The work on this will be completed by January 2021. As of 10-15-20, this effort is underway.

The status on 10-29-20 remains the same – the 2020 document is available, and the 2021 document is being developed and will be available in January of 2021.

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

AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights Update:

On 6-25-20, Tarek Omar reported that Phase 3 and 4 are complete and they are working on the final report. Tarek hopes to be able to share the report with this group soon.

On 8-20-20, Tarek Omar noted that the LED testing is complete except for ice melting – which will need to wait a few months on. Steve Hewitt asked if he should remove this item as a regular update. It was agreed that he would take it off as a monthly standing agenda item and will make a note to check in with Tarek in December 2020.

Next Update: December 2020 or as appropriate

PRIIA Multi-State Procurement Update 10-29-20:

Multi-State Car Procurement - Caltrans (Lead State): Progress reports from the lead state will be provided on each subcommittee call.

On 10-29-20, Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans, provided the following update:

Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR is complete and the structural test plans have been reviewed and are in revision. Reviews for Vending Cars, Cab Car Interiors, and Diagnostic Systems occurred the week of September 28. IDOT Café Car releases are ongoing. FDR Communications, Diagnostics and Interiors took place in early October. The Café Car IDR has been approved. The new emergency egress window was successfully demonstrated to FRA on September 29.

Workstation table testing is ongoing in Spain and though some parameters have not passed, overall results are positive. Minor modifications and preparation for repeat testing are in work. NEC testing for standard coach is complete and report reviews are ongoing with FRA. Caltrans 238.111 testing is complete, and the final report is in work. The IDOT 238.111 test runs on the IDOT corridors is pending results of the 213 report discussions. Cab Car Compression Test Preparation is ongoing, and test setup is tentative for mid-November.

60 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. System-level FAIs and the Complete Coach FAI are now approved for the standard coach. There are nine cars delivered to the Stockton facility. Four more CALTRANS cars are scheduled to ship on December 2nd. The third IDOT shipment occurred on September 30th and additional cars are tentatively scheduled to ship Mid-November.

The project teams continue to monitor potential production and schedule impacts due to the coronavirus and are receiving frequent updates from SCOA and Siemens.

Document Control Update and action taken - 10-29-20:

Steve Hewitt read Tammy Krause's report for the record:

The only updates I have are:

The is additional information on the DMU DCRs, the Mechanical Group made several proposed changes and the Interiors Group added two new DCRs. These were sent out earlier and if the TSC is OK with them I will send them to Larry Salci to add to his review.

The Ownership best practices document was delayed because I was away last week and was unable to get the additional information needed by the Technical Writer until this week. She is busy this week and is going to call me later today to discuss dates.

Steve Hewitt expanded on the issue raising the fact that the additional changes to the DMU specification, sent out today from Tammy Krause, need to be discussed and, if agreed upon, the Technical subcommittee could vote on them. If approved they would be passed on to Larry Salci for inclusion in his review of the summary of changes.

An email from industry member Rich Bowie asked for consideration of another change:

First row regarding calipers: our WZKT's maintain 1.5+/-0.5mm between pad and disc. These are successfully deployed in significantly large quantities.

Can this be reconsidered?

Jeff Gordon will take this request back to the Mechanical working group. He anticipates this will be no problem and will be approved.

Jeff raised the issue that there are two sets of numbers that need to be reconciled. The replacement language in 40 and 41 are not the same. Weight needs to be representative of what the industry thinks it should be and, once resolved, it should be the same in both places in the specification.

Jeff agreed to contact Tammy Krause to discuss this and remedy the issue. Larry Salci also stated he would give Tammy a call as he was involved initially with the DMU and the discussion of weight.

Steve Hewitt recommended, and Chairman Hull agreed, that the vote on the items distributed today should be tabled until the issue is resolved.

It is anticipated that the issue can be resolved over the next two weeks and can be considered on the next Technical subcommittee call on 11-12-20. Larry Salci, Review Panel consultant for the NGEC, will conduct his review of the summary of changes approved previously by the Technical subcommittee while awaiting resolution of the issues raised today.

Electronics on Trains Working Group activities as of 10-29-20:

On 10-1-20, Steve Hewitt received and reported on the working group's activities as provided by David Brabb:

The Electronics working group had a meeting Tuesday, September 29th. We are issuing the 305 -919 DTL Hardware spec to our group for final comments on it. We will then begin adding the firmware specs to the same DTL Hardware spec. This will then lead to the next round of edits/comments by our small group.

We will then do as Tammy Krause said and submit the hardware spec to your big group (the full Technical subcommittee) and follow what is needed to get it complete (approved).

Finally, further down the road we will address the 305 - 920 software spec.

On 10-29-20, Steve Hewitt reported that David Brabb contacted him to let him know that the working group meeting scheduled for 10-27-20 had been postponed, but work is continuing on completing the changes to the DTL 305-919 specification and getting them to Tammy Krause.

Next Update: 11-26-20

University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 10-29-20:

Hamid Shari-Kashani reported that they are continuing to progress the current phase in which they are studying frequency performance issues for the different band widths. They are looking to find a way to resolve saturation. Their focus is on 160 Mega Hertz. They are looking at their previous modeling to see if they can adapt it for 160 Mega Hertz.

For more information, please contact Hamid Sharif (HSCHARIF@UNL.EDU)

Next Update: 11-26-20

Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement – 10-29-20:

As of 10-29-20, Metro-North continued to be in the procurement "Cone of Silence".

Next Update: 11-26-20

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement – 10-29-20:

Conn DOT is expecting proposals on Monday 11-2-20.

Next Update: 11-26-20

Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 10-29-20:

As of 9-3-20:

On the Acela:

The first two "prototypes" continue in different phases of testing.

Trainset #1 is in Pueblo and has been consistently hitting 165 mph.

Trainset #2 is at Penn Coach Yard for testing and is working through various access issues. #2 has the instrumented wheels under it. Today (9-3-20) the Philadelphia Fire Department came out and assisted Amtrak in some testing – simulating a rainstorm to test the trainset to ensure that it is watertight.

As of 10-1-20:

On the Locomotives:

There are 12 units in various stages of production with 2 in the final stages.

On the AmFleet Replacement:

It continues to progress, but it is also currently in the “cone of silence” phase.

On 10-29-20, George Hull reported that discussions continue, but they are within the cone of silence.

Next Update: 11-26-20

Establish process and timeline for Tech SC review of Access Board NPRM Accessibility Guidelines and compare with current NGEC Specifications

On 8-20-20, Melissa Shurland, FRA, reported that the comment period ended on 7-14-20 (after having been extended to that date) and the Access Board is now processing those comments received. Melissa stated, “we are in a holding pattern to see what the comments were and what the Access Board’s disposition of them will be.” Melissa will keep the NGEC technical subcommittee informed as the process is completed.

On 10-15-20, Melissa Shurland reported that there still was no update from the Access Board on this activity.

Next Update: As appropriate

Developing a TSSSA spec/menu/template:

On 10-15-20, George Hull reported that there was no update on this activity as of yet.

Next Update: As appropriate

Discussion: Industry Email Addresses posted on the NGEC website being used for solicitations – Steve/George:

Steve Hewitt reported that a concern was raised by an NGEC industry participant regarding the posting of the email addresses of industry members on the NGEC website. Steve Hewitt noted that the NGEC is required to keep open records and has always posted contact information for all registered members of the industry as well as the states, Amtrak, FRA etc. The individual raised the issue because he received a solicitation (as did many, or “all” of the industry participants) from an entity that is not associated with the NGEC in any way. This entity must have gotten the email list from the public (open record) NGEC website.

The individual raising the concern, favored having all industry email addresses removed from the contact list on the website.

After much discussion, the resolution of this issue is that Steve Hewitt will remove the email address of the member that raised the concern and will that of any member who requests it going forward. Otherwise the list will remain as is.

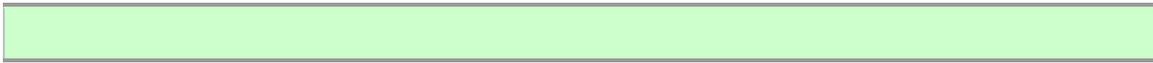
Next call: 11-12-20

By Computer: <https://stephenhewitthewittconsulting.my.webex.com/meet/shewitt109>

by phone: 1-415-655-0001

Access code: 126-073-1531

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

October 29, 2020

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- | | |
|--|----------------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Meeting Agenda | George Hull |
| 3. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes from 10-15-20 | George Hull |
| 5. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Momo Tamaoki |
| 6. Update: Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement | Marci Petterson |
| 7. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement | Ray Hessinger |
| 8. Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements | George Hull |
| 9. Update: Document Control Management | Tammy Krause |
| - Review/approval – additional DMU specification changes | Tammy/George |
| - | |
| - Status: Completion of Technical formatting of Single Level Trainset Specification 305-007 – Revision B | |
| - Status: Finalizing updated list of Technical working group members | |
| - Status: Equipment Acquisition & Ownership WG – Updated DRAFT Recommended Practice document | |
| - Status: Electronics on Train Working Group changes to 305-919 | |
| 10. Status Update: University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Study current phase | Hamid Sharif Kashani |
| 11. Discussion: Industry Email addresses posted on the NGEC website being used for solicitations | Steve/George |
| 12. Other | All |
| 13. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |

- a) Decisions
- b) New Action Items

Next Call -11-12-20 at 3:00pm Eastern