

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JULY 23, 2020

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Charlie King, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Core Team Members:</b> <i>Charlie King, Jeffrey Gordon, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Ray Hessinger, Marci Petterson, Jennifer Bastian, Jennifer Bastian also as proxy for Momo Tamaoki, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Steve Hewitt, Art Peterson, Tarek Omar, Mike Murray</i> <b>Industry Members:</b> <i>Richard Stegner, Paul Jamieson, Greg Gagarin, Anthony Lucas, Tom LaMano, Darrell Smith, Jeff Schultz, Dick Bruss, Donald Sandala, Steve Ojalvo, Josh Coran, Ed Golitko, Rich Bowie, James Michel, Paul Arnone, Bill Saddler</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Matthew Simmons, Charlie Poltenson, Jason Biggs, Mike Jenkins, Melissa Shurland, Mike Kraft, George Hull, Duncan Copland, Byron Comati, Oscar Bermudez, Larry Salci, Tammy Krause</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

**1.**

Chairman King, 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](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).**

**2.**

**Review Meeting Agenda – Charlie King, Amtrak:**

Chairman King provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda.

**3.**

**Review Action Items – Steve Hewitt, NGENC Program Manager:**

**Requesting Backgrounder educational document:**

As reported previously, the two-pager has been updated and is available in hard copy and/or PDF versions. To date over 400 hard copies and PDF copies have been distributed.

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

**Maintaining Industry Participation List:** There are approximately 200 industry participation members.

**AAR Tag Committee on LED Headlights – Phases 3 and 4:**

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

Next Update: As appropriate

**Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:**

As of 7-9-20, Metro-North continued to be in the procurement "Cone of Silence".

Next Update: 8-6-20

**Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:**

Marci Petterson provided the following update for inclusion in today's (7-9-20) minutes:

*RFP went public on April 30<sup>th</sup>*

*Pre-proposal conference held 6/12  
First round of questions is due tomorrow  
Second round due at the end of August  
Anticipate awarding in January  
We are using a best value selection process*

Next Update: as appropriate

**Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 7-9-20:**

On the Acela:

They continue to meet modeling on the test trainsets. Instrumented wheels are to come off Trainset 1 in Pueblo and will go to the NEC for Trainset 2 testing.

Trainset 2 continues to be out on the track on the NEC – and was out yesterday for testing.

Trainsets 3 and 4 continue to be built in Hornell.

The COVID 19 virus is having an impact on some of the material – but the plan remains for revenue service by Spring or Summer 2020. This would mean 8 trainsets in service.

On the Locomotives:

Seven units are in various stages of construction – with the first one almost looking like a locomotive. Seven fuel tanks are done. Thus far the locomotive procurement remains on time to go to Wilmington for final preparation and acceptance next February (2021) with an early Summer/late Spring 2021 revenue service.

On the Intercity Passenger Rail vehicles:

Amtrak continues to evaluate bid proposals – nothing further to announce now.

Next Update: 8-6-20

**Update: Electronics on Trains working group – Steve Hewitt for David Brabb:**

David Brabb provided the following update for 7-9-20:

*We had our call on June 30th. We are buttoning up the latest revision of PRIIA 305 DTL specification to include recommended topologies. That is planned to be completed for limited review this week. Our next call is scheduled for July 21st.*

Next Update: 8-6-20

**4. Approval of the Minutes from 7-9-20– Charlie King, Amtrak:**

On a motion offered by Phil Meraz, IOWA DOT, and seconded by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, the minutes from 7-9-20 were approved as presented.

**5. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 7-23-20 – Steve Hewitt for Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:**

Momo Tamaoki was unavailable for this call, but provided the following update which Steve Hewitt read into the record of the meeting:

*Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR is complete. Setup for cab car structure compression testing is tentative for August in Sacramento depending on travel restrictions. The Cab Car brake system FDR occurred on July 9<sup>th</sup>. IDOT galley FDR reviews and releases are ongoing, and the latest galley review occurred on June 16<sup>th</sup>.*

*Travel restrictions are being evaluated, but travel to Europe from the U.S. for testing is unlikely in the near term. Video and photos continue to be provided for tests that SMEs are unable to witness. This was successfully demonstrated using live video for Cab Car CEM testing. NEC testing is complete, and the test report has been sent to FRA and Amtrak for review. Caltrans 238.111 testing is underway this week. The IDOT 238.111 test runs on the IDOT corridors are expected to be performed in August or September.*

51 cars in total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. System-level FAIs for standard coach are complete and approved with final open items in work to complete first car overall FAI. The complete car FAI for IDOT and a follow-up FRA Sample Car Inspection occurred June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. There are nine cars in total at the Stockton facility. Cars 11 and 12 were shipped to Stockton on June 30th. The IDOT cars are expected to begin shipments in August.

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: Document Control Management as of 7-23-20 – Steve Hewitt for Tammy Krause:**

Tammy Krause was unavailable for this call but provided the following for inclusion in the minutes:

*Document Control activities in the past two weeks have involved only the Trainset specification. I am working to finish the reconfiguring of the specification by the end of the month.*

Steve Hewitt added an update on the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Working Group's progress on developing Recommended Practices. Based on comments received and comments previously accepted, and some new section re writes, Tammy and the technical writer will be revising the previous draft to include all updates and to recirculate to working group members. The members will be provided with the document two weeks in advance of the next call. Initially, the next call was scheduled for 7-30-20. Because the updated DRAFT has not yet been completed or distributed, Chairman Hessinger has canceled the 7-30-20 call and will reschedule it once the new DRAFT has been provided with a two-week review period.

**7. Update: University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Study – Hamid Sharif-Kashani:**

Hamid Sharif-Kashani reported that they have completed the most recent phase of the study and are preparing for the next phase which will begin in September. They will be testing a frequency that will connect car voice and data at the same time to see if this will ease some of the saturation that occurs.

Hamid expressed appreciation for the support they have received from FRA and, specifically from Tarek Omar.

Please contact Hamid if you would like more information on this effort.

**8. Status: Developing a TSSSA primer/template – Charlie King:**

On 7-23-20, Charlie King reported that this item remains "on the stove" and should be completed over the next couple of months. Completion of the DRAFT primer has been slowed by issues the more immediate workload from the procurements underway and issues related to COVID 19.

**9. Status: Accessibility Requirement Guidelines (advanced NPRM) comments were due on 7-14-20 – Melissa Shurland, FRA:**

Melissa Shurland was unavailable for the call and no update was provided.

**10. Other Issues:**

With no further business forthcoming for today's call, Charlie King adjourned the meeting at 3:15PM Eastern.

**Next Call: 8-6-20– 3:00pm Eastern**

**Decisions and Action Items**

**Requesting Backgrounder educational document:**

As reported previously, the two-pager has been updated and is available in hard copy and/or pdf versions. To date over 400 hard copies and electronic copies have been distributed.

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

**Maintaining Industry Participation List:** There are approximately 200 industry participation members.

Reminder: The list is only as good as the information Steve is provided, and often members retire or move on to other companies and do not let Steve know so the list becomes inaccurate.

**AAR TAG Committee on LED Headlights Update:**

As of 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.

Next update as appropriate.

**PRIIA Multi-State Procurement Update 7-23-20:**

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

*Design review for the standard coach is complete. The Cab Car structure FDR is complete. Setup for cab car structure compression testing is tentative for August in Sacramento depending on travel restrictions. The Cab Car brake system FDR occurred on July 9<sup>th</sup>. IDOT galley FDR reviews and releases are ongoing, and the latest galley review occurred on June 16<sup>th</sup>.*

*Travel restrictions are being evaluated, but travel to Europe from the U.S. for testing is unlikely in the near term. Video and photos continue to be provided for tests that SMEs are unable to witness. This was successfully demonstrated using live video for Cab Car CEM testing. NEC testing is complete, and the test report has been sent to FRA and Amtrak for review. Caltrans 238.111 testing is underway this week. The IDOT 238.111 test runs on the IDOT corridors are expected to be performed in August or September.*

*51 cars in total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. System-level FAIs for standard coach are complete and approved with final open items in work to complete first car overall FAI. The complete car FAI for IDOT and a follow-up FRA Sample Car Inspection occurred June 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. There are nine cars in total at the Stockton facility. Cars 11 and 12 were shipped to Stockton on June 30<sup>th</sup>. The IDOT cars are expected to begin shipments in August.*

*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 as of 7-23-20:**

Document Control activities in the past two weeks have involved only the Trainset specification. I am working to finish the reconfiguring of the specification by the end of the month.

Steve Hewitt added an update on the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Working Group's progress on developing Recommended Practices. Based on comments received and comments previously accepted, and some new section re writes, Tammy and the technical writer will be revising the previous draft to include all updates and to recirculate to working group members. The members will be provided with the document two weeks in advance of the next call. Initially, the next call was scheduled for 7-30-20. Because the updated DRAFT has not yet been completed or distributed, Chairman Hessinger has canceled the 7-30-20 call and will reschedule it once the new DRAFT has been provided with a two-week review period.

**Electronics on Trains Working Group activities as of 7-9-20:**

David Brabb provided the following update for 7-9-20:

*We had our call on June 30<sup>th</sup>. We are buttoning up the latest revision of PRIIA 305 DTL specification to include recommended topologies. That is planned to be completed for limited review this week. Our next call is scheduled for July 21<sup>st</sup>.*

Next Update: 8-6-20

**University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 7-23-20:**

Hamid Sharif-Kashani reported that they have completed the most recent phase of the study and are preparing for the next phase which will begin in September. They will be testing a frequency that will connect car voice and data at the same time to see if this will ease some of the saturation that occurs.

Please contact Hamid if you would like more information on this effort.

Next Update: 9-3-20

#### **Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:**

As of 7-9-20, Metro-North continued to be in the procurement "Cone of Silence".

Next Update: 8-6-20

#### **Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:**

Marci Petterson provided the following update for inclusion in today's (7-9-20) minutes:

*RFP went public on April 30<sup>th</sup>  
Pre-proposal conference held 6/12  
First round of questions is due tomorrow  
Second round due at the end of August  
Anticipate awarding in January  
We are using a best value selection process*

Next Update: as appropriate

#### **Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 7-9-20:**

On the Acela:

They continue to meet modeling on the test trainsets. Instrumented wheels are to come off Trainset 1 in Pueblo and will go to the NEC for Trainset 2 testing.

Trainset 2 continues to be out on the track on the NEC – and was out yesterday for testing.

Trainsets 3 and 4 continue to be built in Hornell.

The COVID 19 virus is having an impact on some of the material – but the plan remains for revenue service by Spring or Summer 2020. This would mean 8 trainsets in service.

On the Locomotives:

Seven units are in various stages of construction – with the first one almost looking like a locomotive. Seven fuel tanks are done. Thus far the locomotive procurement remains on time to go to Wilmington for final preparation and acceptance next February (2021) with an early Summer/late Spring 2021 revenue service.

On the Intercity Passenger Rail vehicles:

Amtrak continues to evaluate bid proposals – nothing further to announce now.

Next Update: 8-6-20

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

The intent of this effort is for states to submit their comments to the Access Board Docket on the Accessibility Requirement Guidelines (advanced) Notice of Proposed Rulemaking. Amtrak has submitted its comments already. Once the comments "have come back", the Technical subcommittee will compare them with the NGECC specifications to ensure compliance.

**Reminder: The extended comment period for Recommendations on Access for Rail Vehicles ended on 7-14-20.**

<https://www.access-board.gov/guidelines-and-standards/transportation/vehicles/update-of-the-guidelines-for-transportation-vehicles/advance-notice-of-proposed-rulemaking-2>

**Status Update – 8-6-20**

**Developing a TSSSA spec/menu/template - status as of 6-25-20:**

On 7-23-20, Charlie King reported that this item remains "on the stove" and should be completed over the next couple of months. Completion of the DRAFT primer has been slowed by issues the more immediate workload from the procurements underway and issues related to COVID 19.

Next Update: 9-3-20

**Next call: 8-6-20**

**Call in number is:**

**888 585-9008 access #: 559-120-127**

**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**

**July 23, 2020**

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- |   |                      |
|---|----------------------|
| 1. Roll Call  | Steve Hewitt         |
| 2. Review Meeting Agenda  | Charlie King         |
| 3. Review Action Items  | Steve Hewitt         |
| 4. Approve Minutes from 7-9-20  | Charlie King         |
| 5. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement   | Momo Tamaoki         |
| 6. Update: Document Control Management  | Tammy Krause         |
| - Status: Completion of Single Level Trainset Specification 305-007 – Revision B - Timeline |                      |
| - Status: DMU spec update – Timeline Update   |                      |
| - Updating list of Technical working group members  |                      |
| - Equipment Acquisition & Ownership WG - DRAFT Recommended Practice document                |                      |
| 7. Update: University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Effort                                | Hamid Sharif-Kashani |
| 8. Status: Developing a TSSSA Primer/template   | Charlie King         |

9. Status: Accessibility Requirement Guidelines (advanced) NPRM – comments were due 7-14 -20 Melissa Shurland
10. Other All
11. Review this meeting: Steve Hewitt
- a) Decisions
  - b) New Action Items

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:***  
***Thursday 7-23-20 / 3:00pm Eastern / 1-888 585-9008 / passcode 559-120-127#***  
***Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.***  
***Thank you***  
***Next Call –8-6-20 at 3:00pm Eastern***