

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

NOVEMBER 12,
2020

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>George Hull, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: <i>George Hull, Melissa Shurland for Jeffrey Gordon, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Momo Tamaoki, Ray Hessinger, Marci Petterson, Jennifer Bastian, Jennifer Bastian also as proxy for Jason Biggs, Phil Meraz, Troy Hughes, Joe Paul, Steve Hewitt, Blair Slaughter, Michael Kraft, Tammy Krause, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, Industry Members: Kirk Klug, Richard Curtis, Kevin Myles, Greg Gagarin, Anthony Lucas, Paul Jamieson, Jack Madden, Rich Stegner, Rich Bowie, Steve Morrison, Martin Bloedt, Tom LaMano, Edward Golitko, Paul Arnone, Darrell Smith, Dick Bruss, Jeff Schultz, James Michel, Steve Ojalvo, Julie Desrosiers, Fabio Cussigh</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Jeff Gordon, Mathew Simmons, Jason Biggs, Mike Jenkins, Tarek Omar, Mike Murray, Art Peterson, Larry Salci, 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.

Steve Hewitt noted that this week was a busy week in that he has welcomed several new industry members to the NGENC. It is great to see interest in the NGENC and its work continues to grow!

2.

Review Meeting Agenda – George Hull, Amtrak:

Chairman Hull 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 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.

Update: The two-pager continues to be under review by the NGENC Finance and Administrative subcommittee for its annual update. The Finance and Administrative subcommittee formed a working group which has met once to discuss updates. The group will meet again on Monday 11-16-20 to further the effort. The intent is to complete the update by January 2021 for distribution at least by the February 2021 NGENC Virtual Annual Meeting.

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

Status Update: Electronics on Trains Working Group:

The following update was provided by David Brabb on 11-12-20 – Steve Hewitt read it into the record:

We met on Tuesday, November 10th. We are buttoning up the DTL 305-919 Hardware spec. We discussed moving a few items from the original 920 draft to 919 because they are related more to hardware. We plan to stop the current 919 revision now and will add the firmware and the other items discussed when we are able. We are at a stopping point due to contractual issues at this time but still plan to hold our next meeting on December 15th.

Update: The Passenger ECP Final Test Report:

Update: On 11-12-20, Paul Jamieson provided the following update on the ECP Final Test Report – Steve Hewitt read it into the record:

"The Passenger ECP Final Test Report has been submitted to the FRA observer and docket. The docket reference is FRA-2015-0078 for all information that was formally submitted to the FRA. Draft ECP regulatory language was submitted to the FRA observer and the text will appear in a future NPRM.

NGEC technical specification's recommended changes will be submitted separately for inclusion in future revisions. These changes will include the two performance standards APTA PR-M-S-20-17 Emulation Performance Requirements and APTA PR-M-S-21-17 ECP Passenger Performance Requirements are issued and available of the APTA website <https://www.apta.com/research-technical-resources/standards/passenger-rail-equipment-safety-standards/> . An APTA PRESS standard to address ECP Ready requirements, as addressed in the NGEC technical specification, will be issued as APTA PR-M-030-21, and is in final publication preparation.

APTA will be issuing a standard to address passenger vehicle piping requirements. This standard will be APTA PR-M-S-029-21 and is in final publication preparation."

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact Paul at:

Paul E Jamieson, PE Retired
Mobile: 18643236956
jamiespe@outlook.com

Paul also recommended that the NGEC, as one of the project sponsors, may want to post this report on the website.

Steve Hewitt will provide the link to AASHTO and asked that the report be posted on the Technical subcommittee section of the NGEC website.

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 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**Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:**

On 10-29-20, Marci Petterson reported that they are expecting proposals on Monday (11-2-20).

Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:

On 10-29-20, Ray Hessinger reported that the Metro-North procurement remains in the cone of silence.

Amtrak Equipment Procurements:

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

University of Nebraska High Speed Wireless Study – current phase:

On 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.

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

4. Approval of the Minutes from 10-29-20– George Hull, Amtrak:

On a motion offered by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, and seconded by Curtis McDowell, NCDOT, the minutes from 10-29-20 were approved as presented.

5. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 11-12-20 – Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:

On 11-12-20, 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. IDOT Café Car releases are ongoing. The FDR for Cab Car Safety Appliances is scheduled for November 18 and the documents are in review. The Café Car IDR has been approved. The new emergency egress windows are now being installed on cars in California and Illinois.

Workstation table testing is ongoing in Spain and though some parameters have not passed, overall results are positive. A repeat test is scheduled for Thursday, November 12. NEC testing for standard coach is complete and report reviews are ongoing with FRA. Caltrans 238.111 testing is complete, and the report is in final review. 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 being planned. 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 November 20th. A shipment of 5 cars is scheduled to ship to IDOT this week.

6. Update: Document Control Management as of 11-12-20 – Tammy Krause:

On 11-12-20, Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes:

I have sent out requests for contact information to members of the Structural, Interiors and Mechanical Working Groups. If you are a member of one of these groups and did not receive an email from me, please send me an email with your contact information and which of these three working groups you are a member of.

The (hopefully) final draft of the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership document was received from the technical writer today and will be sent to that Working Group shortly.

(Steve Hewitt confirmed that he received the document – Recommended Practice PRIIA 305-002 – today and it has been distributed to the working group.)

I am now meeting with the Technical Writer weekly to work on the outstanding documents. The Trainset specification work is the next to work on now that the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership document has been submitted.

I have received notice that Stadler intends to submit some proposed changes to the DMU specification revision. I am waiting to receive those changes before I reissue the list of changes. I am going to reach out to Stadler and request that they send me any proposed changes next week and I will update the table and send it out early the week of 11/22/2020.

Steve Hewitt added that the NGENC Technical consultant, Larry Salci, has begun reviewing the changes that were previously approved by the subcommittee, but will have to wait on these latest changes and the ones discussed on the last call – 10-29-20 before completing his report for submittal to the NGENC's DMU Specification Review Panel.

7. NGENC 2021 Annual Meeting – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt informed the Technical subcommittee members that the NGENC 2021 Annual Meeting will be held "virtually" rather than in person. While this is unfortunate, it is necessary due to COVID 19 concerns. All members of the NGENC, as usual, will be invited to attend the Meeting. A date and an agenda will be set by NGENC Executive Board Chairman – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT - in the next month or so. A calendar appointment will be sent out by Steve Hewitt once the date and time has been determined.

8. Other Issues:

Jack Madden, Erdmann Anthony, took a moment to acknowledge that it yesterday (11-11-20) Veterans Day was celebrated. In honor of Veterans Day, Jack expressed his thanks to all those who have served this nation. The sentiment was echoed by many on the call.

We owe our Veterans a debt of gratitude and an expression of our appreciation.

With no other issues forthcoming, Technical subcommittee Chair, George Hull adjourned the meeting at approximately 3:21PM Eastern.

Next Call: 12-10-20– 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 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.

Update as of 11-12-20: The two-pager continues to be under review by the NGENC Finance and Administrative subcommittee for its

annual update. The Finance and Administrative subcommittee formed a working group which has met once to discuss updates. The group will meet again on Monday 11-16-20 to further the effort. The intent is to complete the update by January 2021 for distribution at least by the February 2021 NGEC Virtual Annual Meeting.

Maintaining Industry Participation List: There are over 200 industry participants. This past week the NGEC welcomed three new members.

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 11-12-20, 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. IDOT Café Car releases are ongoing. The FDR for Cab Car Safety Appliances is scheduled for November 18 and the documents are in review. The Café Car IDR has been approved. The new emergency egress windows are now being installed on cars in California and Illinois.

Workstation table testing is ongoing in Spain and though some parameters have not passed, overall results are positive. A repeat test is scheduled for Thursday, November 12. NEC testing for standard coach is complete and report reviews are ongoing with FRA. Caltrans 238.111 testing is complete, and the report is in final review. 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 being planned. 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 November 20th. A shipment of 5 cars is scheduled to ship to IDOT this week.

Document Control Update and action taken – 11-12-20:

On 11-12-20, Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes:

I have sent out requests for contact information to members of the Structural, Interiors and Mechanical Working Groups. If you are a member of one of these groups and did not receive an email from me, please send me an email with your contact information and which of these three working groups you are a member of.

The (hopefully) final draft of the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership document was received from the technical writer today and will be sent to that Working Group shortly.

(Steve Hewitt confirmed that he received the document – Recommended Practice PRIIA 305-002 – today and it has been distributed to the working group.)

I am now meeting with the Technical Writer weekly to work on the outstanding documents. The Trainset specification work is the next to work on now that the Equipment Acquisition and Ownership document has been submitted.

I have received notice that Stadler intends to submit some proposed changes to the DMU specification revision. I am waiting to receive those changes before I reissue the list of changes. I am going to reach out to Stadler and request that they send me any proposed changes next week and I will update the table and send it out early the week of 11/22/2020.

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

The following update was provided by David Brabb on 11-12-20 – Steve Hewitt read it into the record:

We met on Tuesday, November 10th. We are buttoning up the DTL 305-919 Hardware spec. We discussed moving a few items from the original 920 draft to 919 because they are related more to hardware. We plan to stop the current 919 revision now and will add the firmware and the other items discussed when we are able. We are at a stopping point due to contractual issues at this time but still plan to hold our next meeting on December 15th.

Next Update: 12-10-20

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: 12-10-20

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: 12-10-20

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

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

Next Update: 12-10-20

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: 12-10-20

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

NGEC 2021 Annual Meeting – Steve Hewitt:

Steve Hewitt informed the Technical subcommittee members that the NGEC 2021 Annual Meeting will be held “virtually” rather than in person. While this is unfortunate, it is necessary due to COVID 19 concerns. All members of the NGEC, as usual, will be invited to attend the Meeting. A date and an agenda will be set by NGEC Executive Board Chairman – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT - in the next month or so. A calendar appointment will be sent out by Steve Hewitt once the date and time has been determined.

Next call: 12 10-20

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

November 12, 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 10-29-20 | George Hull |
| 5. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement | Momo Tamaoki |
| 6. Update: Document Control Management | Tammy Krause |
| - Review/approval – additional DMU specification changes | |
| - 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 | |
| 7. NGEN 2021 Annual Meeting | Steve Hewitt |
| 8. Other | All |
| 9. Review this meeting: | Steve Hewitt |
| a) Decisions | |
| b) New Action Items | |

Next Call –12-10-20 at 3:00pm Eastern