

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2021 3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Joe Paul, Vice Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Core Team Members:</b> George Hull, Joe Paul, Jeffrey Gordon, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Momo Tamaoki, Jennifer Bastian, Ray Hessinger, Troy Hughes, Steve Hewitt, Michael Kraft, Art Peterson, Tarek Omar, Melissa Shurland, Blair Slaughter, Tammy Krause, Dave "Emeritus" Warner, <b>Industry Members:</b> Josh Coran, Paul Jamieson, Richard Curtis, Kevin Sudano, Julie Desrosier, Jeff Schultz, Brandon Teal, Paul Arnone, Jack Madden, Kevin Myles, Pete Basile, JD Daniel, Anthony Lucas, Rich Bowie, Matt Sibul, Stephen Mark, Jon Mullin, James Michel, Joe Kenas, Steve Ojalvo, Ed Golitko,
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Marci Petterson, Mathew Simmons, Phil Meraz, Mike Jenkins, Jason Biggs, Mike Murray, Larry Salci, Oscar Bermudez</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

### 1.

At George Hull's request (he had a poor cell connection while on the train), Vice Chairman Joe Paul, Amtrak, served as chair of this meeting and called it to order. He then asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll of core team members.

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 Agenda – Steve Hewitt – NGENC Program Manager:**

Steve Hewitt 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 is being updated and is now with MODOT graphic arts for final formatting. This 2021 version will be available for distribution by the Virtual Annual Meeting to be held on 2-23-21.

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

On the last call, Steve Hewitt asked industry members to review the list of NGENC industry participants and to let Steve know if there are any changes. Thus far, several updates/changes have been provided to Steve and those changes were made to the list. Any further updates or changes should be sent to Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).

##### **Status 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 NGENC 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.

**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**

**Connecticut DOT rail car Procurement:**

CtDOT is in the process of reviewing proposals.

**Next Update: As appropriate**

**Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement:**

As of 1-7-21, Metro-North was in the process of executing a contract with Siemens for the production of Dual Mode Locomotives.

Metro-North has agreed to provide a presentation on the Dual Mode Locomotive procurement during the NGEC Annual Meeting.

**Next Update: 2-23-21**

**Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 1-7-21:**

CAF Cars – Progressing well – should have a few more completed by the end of the month.

Acela – progressing well with the testing.

Long Distance Diesel-Electric Locomotives - they are progressing well and are on track.

Amfleet replacement procurement remains in the cone of silence, with Amtrak and vendors continuing to be in discussions.

**Next Update: 2-4-21**

**Developing a TSSSA spec/menu/template:**

On 1-7-21, George Hull reported that his intent is to have a draft to present on the Technical subcommittee on its call scheduled for 2-4-21.

**Next Update: 2-4-21**

**Electronics on Trains Working Group activities as of 11-12-20:**

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.*

Steve Hewitt reported that the working group was meeting this week (possibly today - 1-21-21) and Steve would ask for an update for 2-4-21.

**Next Update: 2-4-21**

**University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 1-7-21:**

On 1-7-21, Hamid Shari-Kashani reported that progress is continuing on the current phase which is studying frequency performance issues in congested areas. The current focus is on developing a theoretical model.

For more information, please contact Hamid Sharif ([hamidsharif@uni.edu](mailto:hamidsharif@uni.edu))

**Next Update: 2-4-21**

**3. Approval of the Minutes from 1-7-21– Joe Paul, Amtrak:**

On a motion offered by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT, and seconded by Curtis McDowell for NCDOT, the minutes from 1-7-21 were approved as presented.

**4. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement as of 1-21-21 – Momo Tamaoki, Caltrans:**

On 1-21-21, 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 are being coordinated with Caltrans, Siemens, and FRA. IDOT Café Car releases are ongoing and the Electrical FDR occurred on December 15. The Galley FDR is expected to be completed by the end of January. The new emergency egress windows are being installed on cars in California and Illinois. Cab Car Clearance, Lighting and Electrical FDR meetings occurred January 7 and 8.*

*The Maintainability Demonstration resumes this week in Stockton. IDOT Business Class table testing is tentative for February 9 in Spain. NEC testing for standard coach is complete and the report is accepted by FRA. Caltrans 238.111 testing is complete, and the report has been submitted to Amtrak. The IDOT 238.111 test runs are scheduled for the week of January 25<sup>th</sup>.*

*65 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. There are currently twelve Caltrans cars at the Stockton Facility and eighteen IDOT cars in Chicago.*

**5. Update: Document Control Management as of 1-21-21 – Tammy Krause:**

On 1-21-21, Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes:

*There are only two items to update this week on Document Control:*

*The Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Document final version was submitted to the working group for final review on 1-19-21.*

*Stadler Rail is continuing their review of the DMU specification and planned to have comments on Chapters 1 and 4 to me by 1-20-21. I have not received anything yet. I will reach out to them. The remaining chapter reviews will be completed by 2-12-21.*

**6. Update: Working Group on Specification Wright Issues – Jeff Gordon, FRA:**

Jeff Gordon, FRA, reported that the working group met today (1-21-21) for the second time.

There were 15 participants on the call. Jeff noted that new members continue to volunteer to participate. It is a popular working group and Jeff is pleased with the interest shown.

As assigned during the last meeting, car builders had taken one or more of the PRIIA specification to review the weight section and report back. Bombardier gave a nice presentation on the bi-level specification and provided recommendations for changes. The working group will look at those recommendations and see if they may also apply to the other PRIIA specs.

The working group received a brief report from Stadler on the DMU specification. They provided preliminary information and will present new information on the next call.

The next meeting has not yet been scheduled. Jeff sends out a Google poll with 8-10 dates and picks the date that works for the most working group members.

Jeff asked Steve Hewitt at the end of today's call, if he would like Jeff to give a status update on the working group activities during the Annual meeting. Steve thought this would be a great idea and would check with Chairman Ray Hessinger and follow up with Jeff.

**7. PRIIA use of APTA PRESS Standards "Announcement"– Steve Hewitt for Dave "Emeritus" Warner:**

In the absence of Dave Warner who was having technical difficulties with the connection, Steve Hewitt read into the record the following provided in advance by "Emeritus" Dave:

*All PRIIA specifications incorporate by reference the APTA PRESS Standards and Recommended Practices. This reliance on industry-wide documentation helped the Technical Subcommittee develop standard specifications. In the past few years, the PRESS Committees have made significant progress in updating (and catching up with) standards and recommended practices. The purpose of this "public service announcement" is to remind the working groups to periodically review the current revisions available on the APTA Standards web page. No action beyond reading is necessarily required. PRIIA people are involved in the PRESS effort, and two of them, Tammy Krause and Emeritus Dave, lead the Electrical and Mechanical Working Groups, respectively."*

Paul Jamieson added that there are some new standards and as they come out, they will be reviewed and added to the specifications at the appropriate time. Paul also suggested that agencies procuring equipment look at the APTA standards – they are on the APTA website – to see if they would be beneficial.

**8. NGENC 2021 Virtual Annual Meeting 2-23-21– Steve Hewitt:**

Steve Hewitt provided a brief overview of the upcoming NGENC Virtual Annual Meeting and reported that, to date, 72 NGENC members have registered to attend – 36 of which are members of the industry. Anyone who would like to attend should send an email to that effect to Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).

**9. Other Issues:**

With no other issues forthcoming, Technical subcommittee Vice Chair, Joe Paul adjourned the meeting at 3:24PM Eastern.

**Next Call: 2-4-21– 3:00pm Eastern**

**Decisions and Action Items**

**Updating Backgrounder educational document:**

As reported previously, the two-pager is being updated and is now with MODOT graphic arts for final formatting. This 2021 version will be available for distribution by the Annual Meeting 2-23-21.

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

**Update/action:** On 1-7-21, Steve Hewitt noted that he will be sending the full list out for a review by members.

As of 1-21-21, several members have provided updates.

Please let Steve know if there are more changes that are needed so it can be updated.

**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 1-21-21, 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 are being coordinated with Caltrans, Siemens, and FRA. IDOT Café Car releases are ongoing and the Electrical FDR occurred on December 15. The Galley FDR is expected to be completed by the end of January. The new emergency egress windows are being installed on cars in California and Illinois. Cab Car Clearance, Lighting and Electrical FDR meetings occurred January 7 and 8.*

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*65 cars total are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. There are currently twelve Caltrans cars at the Stockton Facility and eighteen IDOT cars in Chicago.*

#### **Document Control Update and action taken – 1-21-21:**

On 1-21-21, Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes:

*The Equipment Acquisition and Ownership Best Practices Document final version was submitted to the working group for final review on 1-19-21.*

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There were 15 participants on the call. Jeff noted that new members continue to volunteer to participate. It is a popular working group and Jeff is pleased with the interest shown.

As assigned during the last meeting, Car builders had taken one or more of the PRIIA specification to review the weight section and report back. Bombardier gave a nice presentation on the bi-level specification and provided recommendations for changes. The working group will look at those recommendations and see if they may also apply to the other PRIIA specs.

The working group received a brief report from Stadler on the DMU specification. They provided preliminary information and will present new information on the next call.

Additional members are welcome. To join this working group, send an email to Jeff Gordon ([Jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov)) and he will add you to the list and send out a meeting invite.

Steve Hewitt will check with Chairman Hessinger to see if he would like a status update from Jeff Gordon at the Annual Meeting.

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Next call: 2-4-21

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

**1-21-21**

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| 1. Roll Call   | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Action Items   | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Approve Minutes from 1-7-21   | George Hull  |
| 4. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement  | Momo Tamaoki |
| 5. Update: Document Control Management   | Tammy Krause |
| - Status – 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 – Finalizing DRAFT 305-200 Recommended Practices          |              |
| - Preparation of the Document Management 2020 Progress Report for the Annual Meeting                     |              |
| 6. Update: working group on specification weight issues  | Jeff Gordon  |

- |   |              |
|---|--------------|
| 7. PRIIA Use Of APTA PRESS Standards Announcement | Dave Warner  |
| 8. NGEC 2021 "virtual" Annual Meeting             | Steve Hewitt |
| 9. Other  | All          |
| 10. Review this meeting:                          | Steve Hewitt |

**Next call – 2-4-21**