

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

JANUARY 16, 2014 3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Dave Warner, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Core Team Members:</b> <i>Dave Warner, Jeff Gordon, Kevin Kesler, Stan Hunter, Allan Paul, Jack Madden, Jeff Schultz, Melissa Wilbers, Phil Meraz, Tammy Krause, Michael Burshtin, Jeff Gordon, Curtis McDowell, Larry Salci, Melissa Shurland, Steve Hewitt</i> <b>Industry Participants:</b> <i>Steve Morrison, Bill Saddler, James Michel, Josh Coran, Mike Pracht, Craig McKeen, Chuck Wochele, Eric Wilde, Dan McNair, Al Engel, Paul Aichaulzer</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Dale Engelhardt, Charles Poltenson, Kevin Lawson, Michael Jenkins, Kerri Woehler, Darrell Smith, Greg Gagarin, Vincent Brotski, Andrew Wood, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Michael Coltman, Brian Marquis, Patricia Llana, Camren Cordell, Shayne Gill,</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

In the absence of acting chair Dale Engelhardt, Dave Warner, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order and asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

**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 of the Meeting Agenda – Dave Warner:**

Dave Warner provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda.

3.

**Review of Action Items – Steve Hewitt:**

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items, providing a brief update on those items that were not to be specifically covered on the agenda:

**Maintaining Industry Participation List: Status:** Steve reported that this remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **228** registered industry participants.

**Requesting Backgrounder educational document:** The 1 page double sided version of the Backgrounder has been finalized and printed. These items are available in hard copy, and have recently been revised to reflect changes to the current NGENC leadership. Supplies are limited. Subcommittee members should contact Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com) if you would like to receive hard copies of the new NGENC Backgrounder document. Please provide a mailing address and the number of copies being requested.

**Updating ECP Standards:** This is an ongoing item which the Technical subcommittee is tracking – it is anticipated that status updates will take place on every other call rather than on each call. There is no update for today's call.

**Metro North Dual Mode Specification:** Jack Madden, NYSDOT, will keep the subcommittee updated on the status of the Metro North Dual Mode specification as it is developed. (This is an internal New York State process and it is not an official NGENC effort.) This will remain as an open item to track the progress being made.

**Status:** Jack Madden, NYSDOT, provided the following status update for inclusion in today's minutes:

*"The last conference call of the MNR DM Team was on 12/12; the scheduled call on 12/19 was cancelled due to illness and the scheduled call on 1/16/14 was cancelled due to attendance at TRB. The next call is planned for next week.*

*On 12/18, MNR received responses to their RFI for the Dual Mode (DC 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail and Diesel) Locomotive, the Dual Power (DC 3<sup>rd</sup> Rail & AC Catenary) Electric Locomotive, and Multi-Level Coaches. For the Dual Mode Locomotive,*

five manufacturers responded:

Bombardier  
Brookville  
EMD/Progress Rail  
GE  
Siemens

On 1/8, I received the CD-ROM with the responses on it; thus far I only have reviewed the EMD and GE responses.

Due to internal MNR activity in response to the 12/1 derailment, there has been some slowing of work on the MNR Draft Dual Mode Specification, but we are still on target for end of 1 Qtr 2014."

**4. Approval of the Minutes of the December 5, and December 19, 2013 Technical subcommittee conference calls – Dave Warner:**

On a motion by Allan Paul, NCDOT and December 5, 2013 conference call were approved without exception.

On a motion by Jack Madden, NYSDOT, and a second by Allan Paul, NCDOT, the minutes from the December 19, 2013 subcommittee call were approved without exception.

**5. Accessibility Working Group Status Update –Melissa Shurland:**

Melissa Shurland, FRA, reported that the RVAAC committee met at the Access Board on January 9 and 10, 2014. This was the 2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the committee. Melissa gave the PRIIA presentation. She noted that most of the meeting was focused on the priority list that had been established during the first meeting.

The committee will "use the PRIIA recommendations as a baseline for going forward" and Melissa commented that the group "looked favorably at what we have done so far."

Melissa added that "what we have done is in line with what the Access Board, the industry and the Accessibility community is looking at."

FRA plans to give a Rail 101 presentation at a future meeting. This will help to provide "background about the constraints equipment is under...rail is not a dynamic environment."

Overall, the committee is "off to a good start and having reasonable discussions".

Melissa also noted that the committee has established several subcommittees to focus on a variety of issues such as: communication, on board access, vertical lifts on bi-level cars, etc. The subcommittees will hold conference calls between now and the next full committee meeting planned for some time in April, 2014. There will be weekly calls on the various issues beginning February 6<sup>th</sup> (signage) and on through to the April meeting.

The committee calls and meetings are all open to the public. Melissa will provide the dates of the meetings to Steve Hewitt for dissemination to the Technical subcommittee.

On other business of the Accessibility Working Group, Melissa reported that the FRA is working with Amtrak and Oregon State University on the single level drawing "to see how it fits into that envelope."

**6. Document Control Update – Dave Warner:**

Dave Warner submitted the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

*"Single Level specification Revision A metricization and updating continues. Less than five chapters remain to be completed. With the Executive Board having approved Trainset specification Revision A changes last month, Camren and I will work on this when the Single Level is complete.*

*The diesel locomotive award is getting close, so I would like to remind the procurement team that any proposed changes to the specification that may have been developed during the process must be reviewed and approved by the Review Panel and Executive Board in accordance with our Document Management Process document (305-*

100 Rev. B, available on [www.ngec503.org](http://www.ngec503.org).) Section 1.5.12 explains how this is done. This is the procedure we followed following the negotiation period associated with the Bi-level car award.”

**7.**

**Status: DTL specification Development – Tammy Krause:**

Tammy Krause, Amtrak, reported that progress continues to be made, and the next call of the working group is scheduled for January 28, 2014.

**8.**

**Update: Diesel-electric locomotive procurement – Art Peterson:**

In the absence of Art Peterson, Stan Hunter, Caltrans, provided a brief update on the diesel-electric locomotives procurement. The process is moving forward. Buy America audits were held last week at Siemens and at some suppliers. A Notice to Proceed (NTP) is anticipated for February, 2014.

Dave Warner and Jack Madden asked Stan Hunter to convey to the procurement team to be sure to submit changes that are anticipated to Rev A to Dave and to Jack asap as they will need to be worked through the NGEC DCR process.

**9.**

**NGEC Annual Meeting – February 21, 2014 – Steve Hewitt:**

Steve Hewitt again reminded members of the Technical subcommittee that the NGEC Annual Meeting will be held at the Hyatt on Capitol Hill, Washington, DC on February 21, 2014. The start time will be approximately 8:00am, ending by 4:00pm. All members of the NGEC family are invited and encouraged to attend the meeting. A draft agenda is under review by Chairman Bergeron and is expected to be discussed on the next Executive Board conference call – January 21, 2014.

The NGEC meeting is being held in conjunction with the SCORT meeting which will take place Tuesday through Thursday, with the NGEC meeting being held on Friday.

Steve mentioned that this year is election year for the NGEC Executive Board members (they serve two year terms) and the new Board will elect its officers.

Steve also pointed out that the NGEC Executive Board, on January 7, 2014, approved a SOW and budget for a grant agreement extension through June 30, 2015. Following this action, the Board asked Amtrak to submit a formal request for the extension to FRA. The request was submitted to FRA late afternoon on January 7, 2014. The most recent word is that the request is moving through the systems and no problems have come up so far.

The Annual Meeting should be productive and exciting with a new Board and officers taking shape; with strategies for the next year and a half beginning to be discussed; and with reports on the two NGEC procurements currently underway.

Kevin Kesler, FRA, asked if webcast or teleconference arrangements have been made. Steve replied that, as of yet, there have been no requests to do so, and the preference is to have as many in attendance as possible. If there is a demand for a webcast or teleconference, the Board would certainly consider doing it.

**10.**

**Adjourn:**

With no other business to come before the subcommittee today, Dave Warner adjourned this conference call meeting of the Technical subcommittee at approximately 3:30pm Eastern.

**Next conference call – January 30, 2014 – 3:00pm Eastern**

**Decisions and Action Items**



**January 16, 2014**

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- |  |                               |
|--|-------------------------------|
| 1. Roll Call   | Steve Hewitt                  |
| 2. Review meeting agenda   | Dave Warner                   |
| 3. Review Action Items   | Steve Hewitt                  |
| 4. Approve Minutes of December 5 <sup>th</sup> and December 19, 2013 | Dave Warner                   |
| 5. Accessibility Working Group/RVAAC Update                          | Melissa Shurland/Kevin Kesler |
| 6. Document Control update   | Dave Warner                   |
| 7. Status: DTL Specification Development                             | Tammy Krause                  |
| 8. Update: Diesel-electric Locomotive Procurement                    | Art Peterson                  |
| 9. NGEN Annual Meeting – 2-21-2014                                   | Steve Hewitt                  |
| 10. Review this meeting:   | Steve Hewitt                  |
| a) Decisions   |                               |
| b) New Action Items  |                               |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:  
Thursday January 16, 2014 3:00 Eastern 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#***

***Please call in a few minutes early so all is in attendance for Roll Call.  
Thank you***

***Next Call - 1-30-14 at 3:00pm Eastern***