

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

DECEMBER 19,
2013

3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Dale Engelhardt, Acting Chair NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	Core Team Members: Dale Engelhardt, Dave Warner, Jeff Gordon, Kevin Kesler, Allan Paul, Jeff Schultz, Melissa Wilbers, Tammy Krause, Michael Burshtin, Nico Lindenau, Sara Sarkhili, Curtis McDowell, Art Peterson, Steve Hewitt Industry Participants: Steve Morrison, Paul Jamieson, Richard Curtis, William Willauer, Tom Sisler, Bill Saddler, James Michel, Lew Hoens, Josh Coran, Randy Thomure, Mike Pracht, Paul Aicholzer, Craig McKeen, Walt Stringer
ABSENTEES	<i>Stan Hunter, Jack Madden, Charles Poltenson, Phil Meraz, Kevin Lawson, Michael Jenkins, Kerri Woehler, Darrell Smith, Greg Gagarin, Vincent Brotski, Andrew Wood, Melissa Shurland, Devin Rouse, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Michael Coltman, Brian Marquis, Patricia Llana, Camren Cordell, Larry Salci, Shayne Gill,</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Dale Engelhardt, Amtrak, called today's meeting to order and wished all participants a happy holiday. Dale then asked Steve Hewitt to call the roll.

After completing the roll, the lack of the presence of a quorum was noted, and it was agreed to continue the call, but to make no formal decisions.

As always, industry participants are asked to email a notification of their attendance to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com

2.

Review of the Meeting Agenda – Dale Engelhardt:

Dale Engelhardt provided a brief overview of today's meeting agenda. Dale also announced that, with the pending retirement of NGENC Executive Board chair Bill Bronte (effective 12-31-13), vice chair Mario Bergeron will become the Board chairman temporarily (effective January 1, 2014). During this time, Mario has asked Dale to serve as acting chair of the Technical subcommittee beginning with this call.

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 new 1 page double sided version of the Backgrounder has been finalized and printed. These new items are now available in hard copy. Subcommittee members should contact Steve Hewitt at 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.

Status: Paul Jamieson submitted the following update for inclusion in today's minutes:

"The APTA PRESS ECP Working Group held a teleconference on December 13. The technical sub working group is working on the emulation/ECP operation involving changing between these two operational modes. The new production test report should be available before year end. APTA is finalizing the safety analysis contract with the selected supplier. During January, the working group will continue on the standard development, finalizing the

demonstration test and starting the safety analysis activities. Happy Holidays!"

Working/Review Group – Developing Commuter Equivalent of NGEN Bi-Level Specification: This effort (not an official NGEN effort) continues with Kevin Kesler, FRA, in the lead. kevin.kesler@dot.gov. Kevin has submitted a draft concept to Chairman Bergeron, and he and Kevin have agreed to discuss the concept proposal at some point in the future.

Status: Kevin Kesler reported that it has been determined that "we will wait until a commuter property comes along to buy equipment and wants to use an NGEN spec, and at that point, invoke the process." For now "we are waiting for that to happen...Martin Schroeder is going to inform APTA of this decisions as an FYI."

Steve Hewitt will remove this item from the ongoing action items report until something new occurs.

Review Panel Report - Trainset Revision A: The Trainset Revision A Review Panel met on November 14th and approved, with very minor corrections, the Review panel Report and recommendations prepared by Larry Salci. The report was transmitted to the Executive Board in final form on November 26, 2013 and will be discussed and considered for approval by the Board on its call on December 10, 2013.

Status: Task Complete: On the December 10, 2013 Executive Board conference call, the Trainset Specification Revision A Report and recommendation was accepted by the Board and unanimously adopted.

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 NGEN effort.) This will remain as an open item to track the progress being made.

Status: Jack Madden was unavailable for today's call so there was no new status update.

4. Approval of the Minutes of the December 5, 2013 Technical subcommittee conference calls – Dale Engelhardt:

This item was tabled until the next conference call due to a lack of a quorum.

Steve Hewitt recommended that the chair move agenda item 8 up to item 5 so that the good news on the diesel electric locomotive procurement can be discussed. The chair agreed, and asked Art Peterson to provide the update.

5. Diesel-electric locomotive procurement update – Art Peterson:

Art Peterson, on behalf of IDOT, reported that on December 18, 2013, the IDOT Chief Procurement Officer released a memo recommending that Siemens Industry, Inc. be awarded the Contract for the Multi-state Locomotive Procurement. Art noted that the IDOT procurement web site has the memorandum posted as well as the Final Offer Evaluation Report.

Steve Hewitt agreed to provide the link and the reports to the NGEN Technical subcommittee email list following today's call.

Kevin Kesler, FRA, noted "IDOT's efforts were tremendous...they pulled the team together...and dealt with the federal government very well...congratulations – great effort!"

Art expressed appreciation for the kind remarks and agreed to take them back to the key members of the team.

6. Accessibility Working Group Status Update –Kevin Kesler:

Kevin Kesler reported for Melissa Shurland on the status of the FRA RVAAC presentation. He stated that Melissa had distributed it for review (through Steve Hewitt) after the last call, and, at this point, had received no comments.

Kevin then provided a brief review of the history of this effort and the fact that the Access Board is looking at rail accessibility requirements. The Access Board had requested that FRA brief the RVAAC group and provide an

overview of the successes of the NGEN efforts in this area. Kevin noted that this is a great opportunity, "we have a good team and a good road map in place." He added "the presentation does a good job" in getting the message across and in helping to establish the NGEN as a resource. Kevin also noted that the RVAAC will ultimately submit recommendations to the Access Board.

Dave Warner, Amtrak, asked for a clarification on what the presentation was and what it was not. He noted - based on discussions at previous Executive Board and Technical subcommittee meetings about the presentation - that it should be made clear to the RVAAC that the presentation is FRA's and that it describes "what we've done in PRIIA and then talks about things that would be nice to do, but this is an FRA presentation, and that these "in the future" things are what FRA would like to see, but does not represent a PRIIA wish list."

Kevin Kesler agreed and noted that there would be a meeting with the Amtrak team and FRA prior to the RVAAC meeting (January 8, 2014) "to review the message." Kevin added, "we will listen to any recommendations and correct any factual errors, should they exist."

Dale Engelhardt, Amtrak, noted that he was aware of the meeting that was set to take place prior to the RVAAC meeting.

7.

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.

With the diesel locomotive award getting close, 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.ngec305.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. "

Kevin Kesler, FRA, noted that the Caltrans/Nippon Sharyo team had "an accumulation of changes (bi-level procurement) – and asked "when will these be addressed by the document control process?"

Dave Warner replied that "no DCRs have been received from Caltrans/Nippon Sharyo yet."

Dale Engelhardt noted that some questions in regard to equipment measurements had been raised by Nippon Sharyo, and that a meeting was planned in Chicago for a team to come in and "measure the locomotives they are interested in."

Kevin Kesler stated "it may be useful to inform the Caltrans team that if they have revisions that they get them in so that "they can be brought back to the subcommittee."

Dale agreed and noted "we will let them know."

8.

Status: DTL specification Development – Tammy Krause:

Tammy Krause, Amtrak, reported that the second draft DTL specification is still under review by the working group. The review deadline has been extended by two weeks, since no comments had been received up to this point. There is a conference call scheduled for January 8th and then it will be sent to all of the technical groups for review.

Dale Engelhardt asked if the effort was still on track to meet the timelines established. Tammy responded that it was.

Kevin Kesler mentioned that he had a meeting with AAR "two weeks back" and "they are working on digital trainline communications." Kevin gave them a copy of the draft specification, and noted "they want to join the effort at some point...it could be helpful."

Tammy Krause acknowledged that she had received an email communication from AAR on this.

9.

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

Steve Hewitt reminded the 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. Registration information was sent out a few weeks ago, if you are looking to get the group rate, you should register as soon as possible.

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. There will be a new chair, since Bill Bronte, Caltrans, has retired effective 12-31-13. Officially-effective on January 1, 2014, Mario Bergeron will ascend to the chair for the remainder of the term which concludes with the Annual Meeting on February 21, 2014.

Steve also pointed out that the NGEC is moving forward and is in the process of requesting an extension of the current grant agreement through June 30, 2015. Steve mentioned that this is an important time for the NGEC – it has accomplished a lot and continues to advance the effort to develop standards and to ultimately help to rebuild the rail manufacturing and supply industry in the U.S. He noted the fact that the second multi-state procurement has advanced, as announced today, is a positive example of the fact that the effort is working.

Kevin Kesler expressed "FRA's continued strong support for the NGEC".

**10.
Other:**

It was agreed that the January 2, 2014 Technical subcommittee call would be canceled and that the next meeting would take place on January 16, 2014.

**11.
Adjourn:**

With no other business to come before the subcommittee today, acting chairman Engelhardt wished everyone a happy holiday and adjourned today's call.

Next conference call – January 16, 2014 – 3:00pm Eastern

Decisions and Action Items

Steve Hewitt will send a cancellation notice out for the January 2, 2014 Technical subcommittee call.

Updating ECP Standards: remains as a standing action item and as activities occur; Paul Jamieson will provide status updates to the subcommittee. (Ongoing)

Maintaining Industry Participation List: This remains an ongoing action item. There are currently **228** registered industry participants. (ongoing)

Jack Madden, NYSDOT, will continue to 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, not an official NGEC effort.) (ongoing)

Requesting Backgrounder educational document: The original Backgrounders are no longer available. A new, condensed version –a one pager – double sided – is available now. Contact Steve Hewitt if you would like hard copies of the new document. (ongoing)

Steve Hewitt will send out the IDOT link and the information on the locomotive contract award recommendation to all subcommittee members following today's call.

ATTACHMENTS

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PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

December 19, 2013

The agenda for the meeting is below:

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|---|------------------|
| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review meeting agenda | Dale Engelhardt |
| 3. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Approve Minutes of December 5 2013 call | Dale Engelhardt |
| 5. Accessibility Working Group Status Update | Melissa Shurland |
| 6. Document Control update | Dave Warner |
| 7. Status: DTL Specification Development | Tammy Krause |
| 8. Update: Diesel-electric Locomotive Procurement | Art Peterson |
| 9. NGEC 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 December 19, 2013 3:00 EDT: 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 - 1-16-14 at 3:00pm Eastern