

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

AUGUST 4, 2022 3:00PM EASTERN

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>George Hull, Chair, NGENC Technical Subcommittee</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<b>Core Team Members:</b> <i>George Hull, Jeffrey Gordon, Jennifer Bastian, Gurleen Boparai, Ed Engle, Curtis McDowell for Matthew Simmons, Marci Petterson, Troy Hughes, Joe Paul, Ken Martin, Tammy Krause, Larry Salci, Blair Slaughter, Art Peterson, Tarek Omar, Steve Hewitt</i> <b>Industry Members:</b> <i>Brian Ley, Ed Golitko, Marco Weber, Joe Kenas, Kevin Myles, Rich Bowie, Josh Coran, Bill Saddler, Paul Jamieson, Rich Stegner, Jack Madden, Richard Curtis, Leo Sanchez, Tom LaMano, Steve Ojalvo, James Michel, Frank Pascazio</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Ray Hessinger, Mathew Simmons, Jason Biggs, Mike Jenkins, Mike Kraft, Melissa Shurland, Mike Murray, Rebecca Anger</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

### 1.

Technical subcommittee Chair George Hull, Amtrak, called the meeting to order and 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 Action Items – Steve Hewitt, NGENC Program Manager:**

#### **2022 NGENC Backgrounder educational document:**

The 2022 NGENC two-pager is available in hard copy by request of Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).

To date 125 hard copies and 455 electronic copies have been distributed (580 – total).

#### **Maintaining Industry Participation List:**

There are just over 200 industry participants.

We added 3 more members this week – welcome.

Any updates or changes to this list should be sent to Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).

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

Marci Petterson reported to the Technical subcommittee on 6-9-22 that a Pre-proposal meeting was scheduled for 6-10-22. Marci had previously announced (on 5-12-22) that Connecticut's Initial Coach Procurement RFP was rescinded, and a new RFP was released on 5-11-22.

On 7-7-22, Marci Petterson reported that the Pre-proposal meeting was held on 6-10-22 as scheduled and that the first round of questions are due next week. (week of 7-11-22)

**Update:** On 8-4-22, Marci Petterson reported that CTDOT has received 137 questions which they are in the process of going through.

**Next Update: As Appropriate**

**NGENC 2023 Annual Meeting – date and location:**

The 2023 NGEN Annual Meeting will be held a bit earlier than in past years. This year it will be held on **February 3<sup>rd</sup>**. **The location is, once again, the Hyatt Regency Capitol Hill, Washington, DC Capitol Room B.** The time for the meeting will likely be the same as last year (**8:00am Registration – Meeting 8:30am – Noon Eastern**).

Steve will provide more information as the meeting date draws closer. He will send a "save the date" notice soon or a calendar appointment via Outlook to all NGEN members.

**Working Group on Weight Issues as of 7-21-22:**

The scheduled Working Group meeting for 6-9-22 was canceled due to a schedule conflict. Jeff Gordon is looking at dates for the next meeting.

**Update:** On 8-4-22, Jeff Gordon reported the next meeting of the working group is planned for August 18<sup>th</sup>. It is expected to be scheduled for August 18th.

If interested in participating on this working group, contact Jeff Gordon at [Jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov) or Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com)

**Next Update – 9-15-22**

**University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 7-21-22:**

*For this project, we have been studying less utilized RF spectrum to ease the scarce RF resources issue. We selected 160 MHz since this band has been mainly used for voice applications. We designed and implemented computer models to explore the properties and capabilities of the 160 MHz RF band, and its suitability for a variety of applications.*

*We designed both a single-carrier transceiver architecture and an OFDM-based transceiver architecture for 160 MHz, and conducted evaluations of both designs. We also implemented and evaluated different channel models for this band.*

*This quarter, we designed the network layers for working with the 160MHz channel to evaluate end-to-end applications. We are in the process of collecting computer simulation results for end-to-end applications. The plan for the next phase is to perform field tests to verify our 160 MHz model and its performance.*

*Please contact Hamid Sharif @ University of Nebraska-Lincoln for any additional information.*

**Next Update: - 9-15-22**

**3. Approval of the Minutes from 7-21-22 – George Hull, Amtrak:**

On a motion by Jennifer Bastian, IDOT and a second by Ed Engle, Iowa DOT, the minutes from 7-21-22 were approved as submitted.

**4. Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement- Art Peterson for Gurleen Boparai, Caltrans:**

On 8-4-22, Gurleen Boparai provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes:

*The Cab Car shell final design has been approved and the cab cars are in production. Remaining Cab Car FDRs are in the final submittal and review stage. Cab Car Safety Appliance documents have been sent to the FRA for review, and the Cab Car Clearance information has been approved by Amtrak. IDOT Café Car system level FDR reviews are nearly complete.*

*The Cab Car Collision and Corner Post Appendix F testing is complete, and the Rev B test report has been submitted for review. The second revision of the Cab Car FMECA is in review and FAIs are planned through the end of 2022.*

*116 cars are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. Revenue Service relevant FMIs are in progress and open items related to Conditional Acceptance are being addressed. IDOT coaches are currently in revenue service and Caltrans is planning revenue start once necessary agreements are in place.*

**5. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement – Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT:**

Ray Hessinger was unavailable, so this item was tabled until the next call (8-18-22).

**6.**

**Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements as of 8-4-22 – George Hull, Amtrak:**

On the Acela:

They are continuing to work through qualification issues with Alstom.

On the Charger Locomotives:

Progress continues with 10 units in service.

On the Intercity Trainset (ICT):

They continue through the Design Review proves. They have received a lot of good feedback from the mockup that took place in Philadelphia in July.

**Update: Document Control – Tammy Krause:**

On 8-4-22, Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

*I have received 173 document change requests for the Bi-level specification. I am working through them.*

*The Electronics on Trains WG will meet on 8/9 at 3:00pm. The meeting will evaluate what to focus on going forward.*

*The Materials Working Group met earlier today and are meeting every two weeks.*

*I continue to meet regularly with the Technical Writer about document control. Our new focus is the bi-level and proposed changes.*

Larry Salci asked if Tammy had a timeline for completing the full DCR package for the Bi-Level specification update. Tammy responded that she did not have a target date set yet as one member is still writing DCRs.

**8.**

**Adjourn:**

With no other business forthcoming on today's call George Hull adjourned the meeting at about 3:15pm Eastern.

**Next Tech subcommittee Call: 9-1-22– 3:00pm Eastern**

**Decisions and Action Items**

**2022 NGECE Backgrounder educational document:**

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

There have been several updates/changes to the list that have been provided to Steve Hewitt and those changes were made.

Three new members came on board during the week of 8-1-22.

Any further updates or changes should be sent to Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).

**Update: Multi-State Railcar Procurement:**

On 8-4-22, Gurleen Boparai provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes presented for the record by Art Peterson:

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**Next Update – 9-1-22**

**Document Control Update:**

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**Next Document Control Update: 8-18-22**

**Working Group on Weight Issues as of 8-4-22:**

The scheduled Working Group meeting for 6-9-22 was canceled due to a schedule conflict. The next meeting of the group will take place on 8-18-22.

If interested in participating on this working group, contact Jeff Gordon at [Jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov](mailto:Jeffrey.gordon@dot.gov) or Steve Hewitt at [shewitt109@aol.com](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com)

**Next Update – 9-15-22**

**University of Nebraska High Speed wireless study as of 7-21-22:**

On 7-21-22, Hamid Sharif provided the following update for inclusion in the meeting minutes:

*For this project, we have been studying less utilized RF spectrum to ease the scarce RF resources issue. We selected 160 MHz since this band has been mainly used for voice applications. We designed and implemented computer models to explore the properties and capabilities of the 160 MHz RF band, and its suitability for a variety of applications.*

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*Please contact Hamid Sharif @ University of Nebraska-Lincoln for any additional information.*

**Next Update: 9-15-22**

**Metro North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement –8-4-22**

On 6-9-22, Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT, reported that Metro-North and Siemens concluded the Preliminary Design Review (PDR) and have moved to Final Design Review (FDR). Siemens has started the process of preparing FDR submittals to Metro-North.

On 8-4-22, Ray Hessinger was unavailable, and no update was provided.

**Next Update: 9-1-22**

**Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement as of 8-4-22:**

On 7-7-22, Marci Petterson reported that the Pre-proposal meeting was held on 6-10-22. The first round of questions were due the week of 7-11-22.

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**Next Update: As Appropriate**

**Amtrak Equipment Procurement as of 8-4-22:**

On the Acela:

They are continuing to work through qualification issues with Alstom.

On the Charger Locomotives:

Progress continues with 10 units in service

On the Intercity Trainset (ICT):

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**Next call 8-18-22**

**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://stephenhewittconsulting.my.webex.com/meet/shewitt109>

by phone: 1-415-655-0001

Access code: 126-073-1531

**Agenda**

**8-4-2022**

- |   |                 |
|---|-----------------|
| 1. Roll Call                                    | Steve Hewitt    |
| 2. Review Action Items                          | Steve Hewitt    |
| 3. Approve Minutes from 7-21-22                 | George Hull     |
| 4. Update: Multi-State Rail Car Procurement     | Gurleen Boparai |
| 5. Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement | Ray Hessinger   |
| 6. Amtrak Vehicle Procurements                  | George Hull     |
| 7. Update: Document Control                     | Tammy Krause    |
| 8. Other  | All             |
| 9. Adjourn                                      | George Hull     |

**Next Meeting 8-18-22**