

SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

MARCH 10, 2011

3:00PM

CONFERENCE CALL

FACILITATOR	<i>Mario Bergeron, 305 Technical Subcommittee Chair</i>
ATTENDEES	<i>Mario Bergeron, Dale Engelhardt, Ken Uznanski, Rob Edgcumbe, Tammy Krause, Greg Gagarin, Michael Burshtin, Kevin Kesler, Anand Prabhakaran, Jeff Gordon, Brian Marquis, Stan Hunter, Steve Fretwell, Camren Cordell, Allan Paul, Curtis McDowell, Charlie Poltenson, Jack Madden, Andrew Wood, Art Peterson, Ron Adams, Steve Hewitt, Industry Participants: Richard Curtis, George Mekosh, Jack Martinson, Rick De Bella, Eric Wilde, Glenn Rees, Eloy Martinez, Joe Moore, Scott Braverman, Bill Saddler, Tak Ishigami,</i>
ABSENTEES	<i>Dave Warner, Mike Trosino, John Tunna, Dharm Guruswamy, Charles Bielitz, Karina Jacobsen, David Tyrell, Michael Coltman, George Weber, Tammy Nicholson, Kevin Lawson, John Oimoen, Michael Treazise, Don Damron, Shayne Gill,</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

Mario Bergeron, Technical Subcommittee Chair, opened the meeting and provided an overview of the agenda.

Steve Hewitt took the roll of the "Core Team" members present. Industry participants were asked to email a notification of their attendance to Steve at shewitt109@aol.com.

On a motion by New York State DOT (Charlie Poltenson) and a second by North Carolina DOT (Allan Paul), the minutes of the February 24, 2011 conference call of the Technical Subcommittee were approved without objection.

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items – some were addressed as agenda items – some were not. On the items not covered by the agenda, the following describes the discussions/status of each item:

Maintaining Industry Participation List: Ongoing – updated list can be found on the website within the NGENC monthly Activities/Background Report.

ADA and Platform Heights Requirements: This is on the agenda – but Steve Hewitt also noted that he had distributed the FRA comments provided by Kevin Kesler on March 8, 2011, to all subcommittee members.

Determining volume of trainset orders: This task is now complete. Steve Hewitt has distributed to all subcommittee members the final summary of the survey of states, as provided by Andrew Wood.

Next Steps in Specification development: This item is part of the Technical subcommittee work plan for the coming year. Nothing new to report at this time.

Making Minor Corrections to the Single Level Standalone Car specification and getting final adopted version posted: This task is complete – the cleaned up final version of the Single level standalone cars spec, adopted by the Executive Board on February 15, 2011, has been posted to the AASHTO website at www.highspeed-rail.org

Transmittal of the Diesel-electric Locomotive specification to Bill Bronte and the Review panel: Task complete. The report and revised spec V2.7 as well as earlier versions were distributed to the Review Panel and Mr. Bronte. The Panel subsequently held a meeting and approved the report and recommendations as prepared by consultant Larry Salci.

Agenda Items:

Review of the Diesel-electric locomotive specification: Dale Engelhardt reported that the revised version of the Diesel-electric locomotive specification had been accepted by the Review panel and minor clean up corrections were close to completion. The clean version V2.8 will be sent to Steve Hewitt following this call for posting on the website and for distribution to Board members. The Board has already received the V2.7 and the

Review Panel report in preparation for the upcoming meeting of the Board during which the spec is to be voted on.

Dale noted that reliability requirements issues, as requested by the Review Panel, were being reviewed, but not as part of the approval of the spec. These items were seen as outside of the approval. As conclusions are completed – any changes resulting will be handled through the change control process that is about to be proposed to the Board.

Greg Gagarin reported that all final adjustments to the report have been completed. Steve Fretwell said “all tweaks are done”. The final cleaned up spec will be sent to Steve H (as noted above) for posting and Board member distribution by the end of the day (today).

Status update on the Trainset Specification: Each team leader provided a brief summary of progress being made in the trainset specification development:

Mechanical: Jeff Gordon reported that his team had met 3 or 4 times – progressing well. The team is focusing on the 1st Chapter – as is each team – and once it is complete they will coalesce the team versions into a single version. This will set the basis for the rest of the chapters and help to get things moving along while also maintaining a level of consistency. Jeff expects the team’s work on Chapter 1 to be complete by next week or possibly the following week.

Structural: Anand Prabhakaran reported that his team is meeting pretty much on a weekly basis. They are also focusing on Chapter 1 – cleaning it up to make it representative of a performance specification. He agrees with Jeff Gordon that this is the first step and hopes to have Chapter 1 complete and ready for comments from the other teams by next week. He sees Chapter 1 as a base for going forward and believes his team will proceed on schedule.

Electrical: Tammy Krause reported that her team is working in the same way that the Mechanical and Structural teams are. Her team comments on Chapter 1 are due by 3-11-2011.

Interiors: Andrew Wood reported that his team meets weekly and has been making good progress. They are now going through all sections that they had already approved to be absolutely sure they are performance based. He expects the team’s work to be complete within the next few weeks.

VTI: Brian Marquis reported that his team’s next meeting is scheduled for Monday March 14, 2011. They are also working in a manner consistent with the other teams. They are focusing on Chapter 1 first and will proceed from there. On Monday they will go over comments received on Chapter 1.

Dale Engelhardt commented on the issue of clearance requirements as it relates to the addition of antennas or similar technological devices with the addition of wifi etc. In particular, installing antennas on older cars means that you are adding 3-4 inches to the roof height. He was basically mentioning this, so that as new specs are being developed; issues such as this are addressed and recognized in the spec.

Update on Platform Heights and ADA – comments from FRA: Kevin Kesler reported that he had sent out a few comments received by FRA staff (Cogswell and Guruswany). Steve Hewitt concurred that he had gotten the comments from Kevin and sent them out to all subcommittee members.

The comments provided were:

1. *Car to car access; only the end coach door where the lifts and toilets are provided needs to be wheelchair accessible, because the aisle is not wide enough to handle a wheelchair. It may make sense from a structural viewpoint to have both ends designed the same, but access would be though one end only.*
2. *Food Service Car; an ADA restroom is required on all cars with revenue seating. In the spec, the ADA restroom is listed as being at the A-end of the car, yet the lifts are shown as being required at the B-end. Is this an error? Is the food service car a dining car or a food service car with revenue seating? In the 1990 time frame, when ADA was passed, Amtrak used a number of “food service cars”, which had a small food counter in the middle of a coach car with revenue passenger seats at both ends. In this case one end or the other needed to be accessible with an accessible restroom. I would suggest standardizing the accessible features on the B-end for all types of cars, where they are required.*

Additionally, Kevin reported that there were no exceptions noted by FRA in regards to the platform height requirements in the specs.

Systems Engineering Briefing/Change Control Process: Kevin Kesler reported that the Systems Engineering working group had developed a proposal for establishing a trial or "pilot" change control process. The draft proposal was provided to Steve Hewitt earlier this afternoon, and Steve sent it out to all subcommittee members for their review immediately upon receiving it.

Mr. Kesler is requesting that the subcommittee authorize the working group to present the proposal to the Executive Board for its consideration on March 16, 2011. The intent is, if approved, to use the trial or pilot process on changes to the bi-level and single level specifications for the next few months. The anticipated timeframe would be June, 2011 for a report and recommendation to the Board for adopting the process on a permanent basis.

As most subcommittee members were only just reviewing the proposal, questions and comments were minimal. It was, however, agreed that any comments could be provided to Kevin Kesler, Stan Hunter and Jeff Gordon prior to the Board meeting. Comments of substance would be incorporated in the proposal.

Hearing no objections, Subcommittee chair Mario Bergeron, pending his review of the proposal, authorized Kevin to present the proposal to the Executive Board for its consideration on March 16, 2011.

Briefing on the Administration's approach to standardization: Kevin Kesler reported that, following the last call of the subcommittee, he had raised the issue at FRA of the Administrator's remarks on February 15, 2011 in relation to standardization. Kevin has not gotten any feedback or clarification at this point. We will leave the action item open pending that clarification.

Standardization work plan update: Rob Edgcombe reported that the work plan will be developed in two phases – 1. Identify the processes in place and roles to fill and 2. Identify the people to fill the roles. By the next subcommittee conference call (March 24, 2011) Rob will present an outline for consideration by the subcommittee. Interested volunteers for being involved in the process are asked to submit their names to Rob; and assuming the work plan outline is agreed to, people to fill roles will be discussed and proposed at the following subcommittee conference call (April 7, 2011). The intent is to be prepared to present the work plan for Board consideration at its April 12, 2011 conference call meeting.

Update on the schedule for trainset acceptance meeting: Steve Hewitt reported that he is working with AASHTO (primarily Andrea Ryan) to propose a number of venue options for the final trainset spec review meeting. The intent is to hold the meeting on or around June 20, 2011. Andrea is researching a number of possible locations (California, Washington State, Wisconsin, Illinois, Louisiana and Washington, DC) and by the next subcommittee conference call; Steve hopes to have some locations and costs to present for subcommittee consideration.

Next Conference Call: March 24, 2011 at 3:00pm Eastern

Action Items Update (New)

BY COB today (March 10, 2011) Steve Fretwell/Camren Cordell to provide final "cleaned up" Diesel-electric locomotive specification document (V2.8) to Steve Hewitt for distribution to Board members and posting on the AASHTO website.

Kevin Kesler will continue to seek clarification in regards to the Administrator's remarks concerning standardization. He will provide the clarification to Steve Hewitt for distribution to all subcommittee members.

Kevin Kesler will present the Change control process pilot to the Executive Board on March 16, 2011 for its consideration. Any comments or suggestions of substance submitted in the mean time by subcommittee members will be made in advance of the presentation.

Rob Edgcombe to provide an outline of a proposed work plan for the implementation of the standardization process by the next subcommittee call – March 24, 2011 – with the intent to move to the process of selecting people to fill roles in the process by April 7, 2011 and present the plan to the Board on April 12, 2011.

Steve Hewitt to work with AASHTO on location and venue proposals for presentation to the subcommittee on March 24, 2011 conference call.

ATTACHMENTS



PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting

March 10, 2011

The agenda for the meeting is below:

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| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review meeting agenda | Mario Bergeron |
| 3. Approve Minutes
Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 4. Review of update of Diesel Specification | D. Engelhardt / D. Warner |
| 5. Status update on Trainset specification <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mechanical b) Structural c) Electrical d) Interiors e) VTI | Dale / Team Leaders:
Jeff Gordon
Anand Prabhakaran
Tammy Krause
Andrew Wood
Brian Marquise |
| 6. Update on platform heights and ADA | Kevin Kesler |
| 7. Systems Engineering Briefing/Change Control Process | K. Kesler / S. Hunter |
| 8. Briefing of the administration's approach to standardization | Kevin Kesler |
| 9. Standardization work plan update | Rob Edgcumbe |
| 10. Update on the schedule for trainset acceptance meeting | Steve Hewitt |

11. Review this meeting:
- a) Decisions
 - b) New Action Items

Steve Hewitt

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:
Thursday March 10th 3:00 EST: 1-866-209-1307 / passcode 6486648#***

Go to meeting invitation link: <https://www1.gotomeeting.com/join/608558625>

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