

# SECTION 305 TECH SUB COMM

MINUTES

MAY 5, 2011

3:00PM

CONFERENCE CALL

<b>FACILITATOR</b>	<i>Dale Engelhardt, 305 Technical Subcommittee Vice Chair</i>
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	<i>Dale Engelhardt, Ken Uznanski, Rob Edgcumbe, Dave Warner, Michael Burstin, Kevin Kesler, Jeff Gordon, Stan Hunter, Steve Fretwell, Jack Madden, Andrew Wood, Steve Hewitt, <b>Industry Participants:</b> Rick Debella, Chuck Wochele, Al Bieber, George Mekosh, Ken Takeda, Tak Ishigami, Kim Gilbert, Fran Nelson, Kevin Dow, Eric Wilde, Joe Moore</i>
<b>ABSENTEES</b>	<i>Mario Bergeron, Tammy Krause, Greg Gagarin, Mike Trosino, Anand Prabhakaran, Charles Bielitz, Michael Coltman, Allan Paul, Curtis McDowell, Charlie Poltenson, George Weber, Art Peterson, Tammy Nicholson, Kevin Lawson, John Oimoen, Michael Treazise, Don Damron, Shayne Gill, Leo Penne</i>

## DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

In the absence of Chairman Bergeron, Vice Chair Dale Engelhardt opened the meeting and reviewed 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](mailto:shewitt109@aol.com).

On a motion by Dale Engelhardt, Amtrak, and a second by Andrew Wood, Washington State DOT, the minutes of the April 21, 2011 conference call of the Technical Subcommittee were approved without objection.

Steve Hewitt reviewed the open action items and provided a brief update on those items that were not on the agenda.

**Standardization:** The next full update of the Standardization Working Group is scheduled for May 19, 2011. Rob Edgcumbe reported that he had reached out to the Finance subcommittee for the name of someone from finance to assist the Standardization Working Group in that aspect of its work. DJ Stadler will provide Rob with a name and contact info.

**Improving website organization and navigability:** Steve Hewitt reported that he had met with AASHTO to discuss ways in which the website could be improved. The goal is to make it more user friendly and efficient. Steve will report as progress is made. Anyone who has comments/suggestions to offer is asked to provide them to Steve by COB Friday, May 13, 2011.

### Agenda Items:

**Status update on the Trainset Specification:** Each team leader was asked to provide a brief summary of progress being made in the trainset specification development

**Mechanical:** Jeff Gordon reported that the Mechanical team submitted its Chapters (7, 8, 15) on time and will provide changes to Chapters 18 and 19 by next week.

**Structural:** Steve Hewitt reported on behalf of Anand Prabhakaran. The Structural subgroup has completed its Chapters, but has not submitted the work to Amtrak (Michael Burshtin) yet. FRA has requested an opportunity to review CN – once their review is complete, Anand will incorporate any changes they submit and it will take a one day turnaround to send to Michael.

Note: Kevin Kesler clarified the reason for the FRA review request. Kevin noted that the FRA's Office of Safety had requested an opportunity to review the material. Kevin anticipates getting their comments submitted "by sometime tomorrow".

Kevin further elaborated that the Office of Safety has asked to be in the loop (through Kevin) on any safety related aspects of specifications being developed by the subcommittee.

Kevin further explained that there had been "questions raised based on feedback from a member(s) of a

subgroup(s)". It is apparent that some feel that their voice is not being heard in the process, even though all efforts have been made to provide ample opportunity for feedback and input within the subgroups and/or the subcommittee as a whole. Kevin asked that all members of subgroups try to work through the process before going outside to Congress or other avenues to express their concerns. He also emphasized that, by all means, if after going through the process, an individual is still not satisfied that his or her voice has been heard he or she should feel free to use other avenues.

Kevin also noted that the subcommittee process has been very open, and commented that thorough records have been kept at the subcommittee and Board level, through the AASHTO support efforts, and specifically, Steve Hewitt's efforts as Support Services Manager. He suggested that the subgroup leaders "be sure that all comments are documented and entered into the record" of the subgroup. He stated that concern has been expressed that there is "unevenness within the subgroups". He suggested that the subgroups keep minutes and submit them to Steve Hewitt for the record.

Dale Engelhardt also reminded all members that there is an opportunity at the final review meeting (June 22) to be sure concerns/comments are heard and a chance to offer changes for consideration.

**Electrical:** Steve Hewitt reported on behalf of Tammy Krause for the Electrical subgroup. The subgroup submitted its Chapters to Michael Burshtin last week and is currently not meeting as their work is in.

**Interiors:** Andrew Wood reported that the Interiors team had submitted everything except 934 (ADA). He had been awaiting a call with FRA (which took place earlier in the day). He will now submit 934 to his subgroup members later today with the input provided by FRA.

Andrew asked whether changes are to be submitted in writing prior to the June 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting, or would there be an opportunity to present changes at the meeting. Dale Engelhardt stated that changes are requested to be submitted in advance, in writing, but at the meeting, as time permits, additional comments/changes will be heard. "We will do our best to answer everything, as time allows."

**VTI:** Steve Hewitt reported on behalf of Brian Marquis for the VTI subgroup. The subgroup has completed its review of Chapter 5 and submitted its recommended changes. They also have provided some recommended changes to Chapters 1 and 19.

Rob Edgcumbe asked for a time line review for finalizing the trainset specifications leading up to June 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Michael Burshtin provided the timeline:

Amtrak team to compile the changes submitted by the subgroups – by May 31, 2011

A draft trainset specification will be submitted to Steve Hewitt for posting on AASHTO website on Jun1, 2011  
Industry and subcommittee members will have the opportunity to review the draft spec from June 2-9, 2011  
Comments should be submitted to Amtrak (Michael Burshtin) during the period from June 3-16, 2011.  
The trainset review meeting will take place in Chicago, Illinois on June 22, 2011.

**Review of Draft Letter on Reliability Goals:** Dale Engelhardt provided a brief overview of the draft letter on reliability goals that he had prepared. (Steve Hewitt had distributed on May 4, 2011) Due to an email "glitch" some participants had not received the letter and Steve was asked to resend it. It was resent as the discussion proceeded. Some members on the call reported that they had now gotten the letter. Dale asked that all recipients review the letter and provide comments to Steve Hewitt, with a cc to Dale by May 19, 2011 – in time for the next subcommittee conference call. At that time, the letter will be finalized with any comments received and, once approved by the Technical subcommittee, it will be sent to the Executive Board for its consideration.

**Document Control Pilot Update:** Dave Warner reported that the document control pilot effort is underway. The final DCR form had been sent out by Steve Hewitt earlier in the day. (Again there was an email "glitch" – so Steve resent the form to all members)

Technical subcommittee members are now free to begin using the form to submit changes to the Bi-level specifications.

In about 2 weeks the Document Control Pilot process will be "rolled out" for posting to the AASHTO website.

**Locomotive Technology Task Force:** Dave Warner reported the request for volunteers notification had been sent out by Steve Hewitt, and as a result, the Locomotive Technology Task Force now has 15 volunteers. The volunteers include 2 car builders, 3 countries, and 8 time zones. Dave is working with the volunteers to establish a conference call schedule.

Rob Edgcumbe raised the issue of looking at long term environmental benefits technology. He noted that an email sent out by former S305 NGEC Executive Board Member, Caitlin Hughes Rayman of Maryland DOT, to the Board, made some good points that should be considered. There may be issues that are beyond those currently being considered by the Locomotive Technology Task Force and contained in the specifications. He believes there are long term issues that are beyond the realm of the existing specs. He anticipated that this will be a discussion topic for the Board and wondered if a separate work program should be established to look further at issues such as energy use, energy consumption and recyclability.

After some discussion, Dale Engelhardt noted that he will discuss these thoughts with Chairman Bergeron and get a sense of how or if he would like to proceed.

**Trainset acceptance meeting details update:** Steve Hewitt reported that plans are finalized for the June 22, 2011 meeting. It will take place at the Holiday Inn Market Place in Chicago, Illinois beginning at 8:00am. (Chicago time) A block of rooms has been reserved for meeting participants. All subcommittee members have been sent information on the room rates and reserving a room under the NGEC block and have also received instructions for getting to the meeting hotel via CTA from either of the two Chicago area airports. Steve reported that, to date, there are 61 registrants for the meeting. Anyone who has not notified Steve of their intent to attend the meeting should do so asap.

**Other Items:** Jack Madden, NYSDOT, reported on the status of Action item # 25 – Dual Mode locomotive requirements document. Jack said that he had received only one comment on the document since the last subcommittee call (from Dave Warner). Jack has revised the document into the format used for the single level and trainset requirements document, as requested. He will be sending the revised document to Dave Warner and Steve Fretwell for their review. Once Steve, as head of the Locomotive subgroup, is ok with it, it will be sent to subcommittee members for their review. Once the subcommittee has approved the document, it will need to be approved and accepted by the Executive Board.

**Next Conference Call: May 19, 2011**

### Action Items Update (New)

Comments on the draft reliability letter are to be sent to Steve Hewitt with a cc to Dale Engelhardt by the time of the next subcommittee call – May 19, 2011. Once approved by the subcommittee, it will be sent to the Executive Board for its consideration.

May 6, 2011 is the deadline for volunteering for the Locomotive Technology Task Force. Volunteers should notify Dave Warner of their interest.

Comments/recommendations for website improvements should be sent to Steve Hewitt by COB May 13, 2011.

Jack Madden will provide a revised version of the Dual Mode locomotive requirements document to Steve Fretwell and Dave Warner. Once Steve Fretwell is ok with it – it will be sent to subcommittee members for their review.

Dale Engelhardt to discuss the concept of a long term Environmental initiative with Chairman Bergeron.


**ATTACHMENTS**



**PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting**

**May 5, 2011**

The agenda for the meeting is below:

- |                                                 |                          |
|-------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Roll Call                                    | Steve Hewitt             |
| 2. Review meeting agenda                        | Mario Bergeron           |
| 3. Review Action Items                          | Steve Hewitt             |
| 4. Approve Minutes previous meeting             | Mario Bergeron           |
| 5. Status update on Trainset specification      | Dale / Team Leaders:     |
| a) Integration discussions                      | Greg Gagarin             |
| b) Mechanical                                   | Jeff Gordon              |
| c) Structural                                   | Anand Prabhakaran        |
| d) Electrical                                   | Tammy Krause             |
| e) Interiors                                    | Andrew Wood              |
| f) VTI                                          | Brian Marquis            |
| 6. Review of draft letter on reliability goals  | Dale Engelhardt          |
| 7. Document control pilot review of change form | David Warner/Stan Hunter |
| 8. Locomotive Technology Taskforce              | David Warner             |
| 9. Trainset acceptance meeting details update   | Steve Hewitt             |
| 10. Review this meeting:                        | Steve Hewitt             |
| a) Decisions                                    |                          |
| b) New Action Items                             |                          |

***Technical Sub Committee Conference Call Meeting:  
Thursday May 5<sup>th</sup> 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***