



Our Vision: The NGEC will provide national leadership in standardization, acquisition, and management of passenger rail equipment.

NGEC Technical Subcommittee

MINUTES

SEPT. 26, 2024

3:00PM EASTERN

TEAMS MEETING

FACILITATOR	<i>Dan Ruppert, Chair, NGEC Technical Subcommittee</i>
ATTENDEES	<p>Core Team Members: Dan Ruppert, Joe Paul, Melissa Shurland, Curtis McDowell, Art Peterson, Ray Hessinger, Michael Cameron, Ryan Sharpe, Troy Hughes, Curt Massie, Mike Jenkins, Patricia Liana, Kevin Myles, Blair Slaughter, Tarek Omar, Karina Jacobsen, Larry Salci, Steve Hewitt</p> <p>Industry Members: Rich Stegner, Paul Jamieson, Ed Golitko, Fank Pazcazio, Rich Bowie, Bill Luebke, Ron Lammerts, Josh Coran, Scott Meyers, Chad Breslin, Dave Warner, Joe Kenas</p>
ABSENTEES	<i>Matthew Simmons, Marci Petterson, Jennifer Bastian, Sarah Hernandez, Tammy Krause, Barley Fields</i>

DISCUSSION/DECISIONS MADE

1.

Technical subcommittee Chair Dan Ruppert, 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 insufficient state representation.

2.

Review Action Items – Steve Hewitt, NGEC Program Manager:

2024 NGEC Backgrounder educational document:

The 2024 NGEC two-pager is now available in hard copy by request of Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

To date 488 copies have been distributed.

Maintaining Industry Participation List:

There are currently around 200 industry participants.

Any updates or changes should be sent to Steve Hewitt at shewitt109@aol.com.

2025 NGEC Annual Meeting – new location:

The NGEC 2025 Annual Meeting will be held on 1-30-25 in the afternoon in **Crystal City, VA. at the [Renaissance Arlington Capital View](#).**

Our meeting is scheduled for Noon to 5:00PM on 1-30-25.

NGEC Future Funding – Status: CRISI Grant Application:

The CRISI Grant Application for funding the NGEC was submitted on time to the portal. It included many letters of support. **It is**

not too late to send in support letters. They should be sent to Tim Ziethen and Meghan Histan, Amtrak Grants.

Award announcements will take place in the October/November time period.

Funding for FY 25:

Stop gap funding discussions are ongoing between Amtrak and FRA and the NGEN Executive Board.

Multi-State Venture Car procurement:

Caltrans provided the following update:

Ryan Sharpe, Caltrans provided the following update on 9-26-24:

All coach type FDR and FAI stages are complete, including Cab Car and Café Car.

The Cab Car FAI and FRA sample car inspections are complete, and the first cab cars are being prepared for Amtrak acceptance and revenue service. The Cab Car 238.111(b) testing is complete, and the test report is in final review. The first café cars have been shipped to Chicago and are entering revenue service.

All 137 cars are in production or have been produced at Siemens Sacramento Facility. IDOT coaches and Caltrans trainsets are being added to revenue service as they are commissioned and accepted.

Next Update: 10-10-24

Amtrak Vehicle Procurements as of 9-12-24:

On the new Acela:

Qualification testing continues. All parties are working well together (Amtrak, the OEM and FRA). There have been no significant issues during testing -the trainset is performing well. Within the next month or so the final report should be submitted to FRA.

All in all, the project continues to progress well.

On Airo:

This procurement is progressing well and is on schedule. There are 63 cars in production - 59 coach cars and 4 locomotives. A variety of FAIs are wrapping up. They are working with the car builder on several subcomponents such as HVAC, seating etc. The intent is to have the first trainset on the corridor for testing in the spring of 2025.

On the ALC 42:

Dan reported that they are progressing in a steady state. There are 58 locomotives in service 4 are in for commissioning. FMI testing is taking place "as we speak" mitigating a few issues.

On the Long-Distance Trainsets:

Continues as an active RFP. It is moving along well with Amtrak working with carbuilders – with questions going back and forth.

Next Update: 10-10-24

Document Control Update – as of 9-12-24

The Mechanical Working Group (WG) met on September 10 and will meet again on the 24th. They have not decided yet on those DCRs but hope to finish working through them next month. The working group is also forming a smaller task force for working on the door section in the single-level spec. Door experts are encouraged to volunteer for the task force.

Communications WG is continuing to work on the DTL specs to be included in the various equipment specifications. They are currently working on a version of the DTL specification for inclusion in the bi-level specification. This was just recently started and won't be complete for at least a few months.

The Materials WG will be restarting their meetings this month. The draft of the structural section for aluminum is nearly complete and the materials section will be mostly derivative from the requirements in the structural section so a draft will be easily assembled with a goal to finish the single car spec drafts by the end of November.

I have continued to meet weekly with the Technical Writer to work on the de-Amtraking the PRIIA specs.

Next Update: 10-10-24

3. Approval of the Minutes from 8-15-24 and 9-12-24:

On a motion offered by Art Peterson, for IDOT and a second by Curtis McDowell, NCDOT, the minutes from 8-15-24 and 9-12-24 were approved as submitted.

4. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive –Ray Hessinger, NYSDOT:

Ray Hessinger reported that he had not received an update this month from Metro-North. This item was tabled.

5. Update: CtDOT Rail Car Procurement –Steve Hewitt for Marci Petterson, CtDOT:

Marci Petterson was not available today, so Steve Hewitt read the following brief update into the record:

No major updates, still working system PDRs, progress being made

6. Presentation: Locomotive Crashworthiness Research Program - Presenter: Patricia Llana, Mechanical Engineer, Structures & Dynamics Division

Patricia Llana gave an excellent and comprehensive overview of FRA’s Crashworthiness Research.

The presentation can be found on the NGEC website and was distributed prior to today’s meeting by Steve Hewitt to all NGEC Technical Subcommittee members and industry participants.

This was the third presentation in the series to be given on a monthly basis by FRA.

7. Other/Adjourn – Dan Ruppert, Amtrak:

With no other business forthcoming, Dan Ruppert adjourned today’s meeting at approximately 3:50pm Eastern.

Next Tech Subcommittee meeting – 10-10-24

Decisions and Ongoing Action Items

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The 2025 version is in process within the Finance and Administrative Subcommittee (FASC).

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Next Update: 10-10-24

Document Control Activities as of 9-12-24:

Tammy Krause provided the following update for inclusion in the minutes of today's minutes:

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Next Update: 10-10-24

Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement as of 8-6-24 in a report to the NGEC Executive Board:

Locomotives 301 and 302 are at Pueblo for type testing which is progressing well.

Locomotive 303 is in final assembly at the Siemens plant.

Next Update: 10-10-24

Connecticut DOT Rail Car Procurement:

CtDOT Rail car Procurement as of 9-26-24 – provided by CtDOT:

Still working system PDRs, progress being made

Next Update: 10-10-24

Update: Amtrak Vehicle Procurements as of 9-12-24:

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Next Update: 10-10-24

FRA Rolling Stock Research Topics for monthly presentations:

Melissa Shurland, FRA, provided an overview on FRA Rolling Stock Research potential topics for discussion on future NGEC Technical subcommittee calls. This list followed a discussion that Melissa Shurland and others from FRA R&D had with Steve Hewitt and Dan Ruppert.

1. *FRA Safety Approach for Review and Issuance of Letter of Concurrence for Use of Advanced On-Board Energy Storage Systems*
2. *Review of RDI-22 Rail Decarbonization Technology R&D*
3. *Glazing Research*
4. *Passenger Rail Equipment Crashworthiness (side Impact)*
5. *US-ISO Standards Group*
6. *WhMD (wheeled mobility device) Sled Test*

The September FRA R&D presentation was held on 9-26-24. The presentation info is below. The power point was distributed to all NGEC Technical subcommittee members prior to the meeting. It will also be posted to the NGEC website.

Presenter: Patricia Llana, Mechanical Engineer, Structures & Dynamics Division

Title: Locomotive Crashworthiness Research Program

The presentation will feature an overview of the Train Occupant Protection Research Program on crashworthiness. A series of tests were completed that successfully developed and verified a crash energy management system (CEM) that can be retrofit onto existing locomotives. Through extensive computer simulations validated by multiple full-scale dynamic impact tests, the program has demonstrated that employing CEM on locomotives greatly reduces the propensity for derailment and override, while absorbing collision energy in a controlled, predictable manner.

Next presentation – TBD

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Next Technical Subcommittee Meeting – 10-10-24

ATTACHMENTS



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PRIIA Section 305 Tech Sub Committee Meeting
3:00PM Eastern

Microsoft Teams meeting

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Agenda

9-26-24

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| 1. Roll Call | Steve Hewitt |
| 2. Review Action Items | Steve Hewitt |
| 3. Approve Minutes from 8-15-24 and 9-12-24 meetings | Dan Ruppert |
| 4. Update: Metro-North Dual Mode Locomotive Procurement | Ray Hessinger |
| 5. Update: CtDOT Rail Car Procurement | Steve Hewitt for Marci Petterson |
| 6. Presentation: Locomotive Crashworthiness Research Program | Patricia Llana |
| 7. Other | All |
| 8. Adjourn | Dan Ruppert |

Next Tech Subcommittee Meeting
10-10-24