



**VEHICULAR TECHNOLOGY SOCIETY**  
RAIL TRANSIT VEHICLE INTERFACE STANDARDS COMMITTEE

**Overhead Contact Systems Sub-committee for Rail Transit**

**To:** OCS Committee Members  
**From:** Paul F. White, Chairperson  
**Date:** 11 February 2009  
**Re:** **Report and Minutes of 22 & 23 January 2009 OCS Committee Meeting, Tampa, Florida**

Attached are the minutes of this meeting. If you wish to contact me, please do so as follows:

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For those of you from transit systems who did not receive the IEEE reimbursement forms, it is attached or go on line at [www.ieee.org/portal/site/iportals/](http://www.ieee.org/portal/site/iportals/) enter in the search window: expense reports. This is in EXCEL, fill it out with all expenses and dates. Print out, sign and date it. You must put your IEEE membership number on it where it says member number, attach all original receipts and mail it to me at my home

Address or scan and send to me at [catenarydesign@aol.com](mailto:catenarydesign@aol.com). Remember, you must be a member of the IEEE and VTS to receive reimbursement. If you have not joined IEEE, I have attached an instructional that Bih-Yuan Ku put together for this.

We had a successful meeting with **39** attending on the 22nd and **23** on the 23rd and it was held at the TECO Lines Streetcar System maintenance facility. Mr. Eric Sitiko, Assistant Manager Streetcar Maintenance welcomed us and discussed the system. Eric also made the arrangements for the lunch. RTR Technologies of Stockbridge, Massachusetts sponsored lunch and our thanks to them and to Eric for making all of the arrangements for the meeting.

Paul White gave the IEEE PATCOM slide presentation and it was stated that there is no knowledge of any patents with the standards being developed.

The minutes of the last meeting were accepted by voice vote.

Paul White said that Steve Norton of Los Angeles Metro had volunteered to assume the position of Vice Chairperson and that Mike Bertoty of Port Authority of Allegany County (Pittsburgh) agreed to take on the responsibilities of the recording secretary. He also stated that as Pete Bartek has taken on a myriad of responsibilities with the National Transit Institute and Protran and could no longer fulfill the duties of recording secretary. As such, due to Pete's dedication to the committee and being instrumental in founding it that he should be the Honorary Secretary. Request for a motion of acceptance for Steve Norton to be vice chair, Mike Bertoty to be recording secretary and Pete Bartek to be honorary secretary was put forth and it moved and seconded and passed by voice vote.

Dinner logistics were discussed. There was to be a "cocktails and conversation" hour on a streetcar traversing the city and the arrangements were discussed.

The next meeting was announced and it will be in Philadelphia on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> hosted by SEPTA and will be in conjunction with Traction Power Substations Committee. The September meeting will be in Seattle on September 28<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with TPSS.

Paul White said that Bih-Yuan Ku sends his regrets on not being able to attend the meeting. Funding was discussed. IEEE made \$40,000.00 available for travel for 2009. Gary Touryan and PFW will contact APTA for there participation in funding assistance. PFW asked if anyone still was owed reimbursement from the last meeting. He further asked hat people get their reimbursement requests in ASAP.

PFW mentioned private sector presentation tables and donations to the travel fund. NMC Power switch had said during the meeting break that they will donate \$500.00 to the travel fund. Our thanks to them.

The web site was discussed briefly. PFW stated that he has the program to update the web site and will work with Steve Norton on it. The web site is [www.rtoisc.org](http://www.rtoisc.org).

A brief history and purpose of the committee was given.

The working groups were asked to report on the status of their standard and they did so.

OCS Dictionary. Chris Pagni reported that PAR authorization has been achieved but he needs various OCS drawings. Randy Anderson of Impulse will work with Chris and provide the drawings.

Live Line Maintenance-the working group chair was not present but PFW spoke to Gary Clarner prior to the meeting and progress is being made.

Catenary Design Standards-the working group chair was not present but PFW spoke to Andy Gillespie prior to the meeting and he sent the most updated version for the group to work on.

Heritage Trolley Car Standard. The working group has started on the standard. They have not received any information on a joint interagency agreement between IEEE and APTA. PFW stated that he has not the people from APTA and IEEE but will do so before the next meeting. Jeff Sisson and Chris Pagni have done some work since the last meeting on it.

Ian Hayes brought up the importance of insulating screens and a discussion ensued. PFW said he would send it out to the committee again for their comments and suggestions.

The issue of fiberglass strain insulators breaking which was discussed at previous meetings was presented. Randy Anderson stated that Impulse has developed information on maximum torque limits for 5/8" and 7/8" rods.

There was no new business and the meeting broke out into working groups and did so for the rest of the day.

Lunch was compliments of RTR Industries and after lunch, the review of Standard P1627 continued for the rest of the day.

The dinner and the 'cocktails and conversation' hour took place in a streetcar supplied by TECO Lines Streetcar System compliments of Eric Sitiko and it all thoroughly enjoyed it. The "ride to imbibe" was a reminder of the Electroliner days in Chicago and then on the Norristown Line of SEPTA.

Dinner was at the hotel, Hampton Inn & Suites-Ybor City and the after dinner was a presentation on balance weights. Pip Shepley of Mass Electric gave a very interesting and informative presentation which led to lively discussion. Pip's talk with photo slides discussed what works and doesn't work and how contractors would like to see them designed. Mass Electric also sponsored the sumptuous dinner and our thanks to them-it was greatly appreciated.

During the second day of the meeting, the committee broke out into working groups. After lunch, Eric Sitiko conducted a tour of the TECO Streetcar Lines car barn facilities and substations and we rode on one of their double truck cars. Eric very kindly allowed those interested to operate the car and it was true "Electric Therapy". It has been years since I last operated a streetcar and found it enjoyable. Our thanks to Eric Sitiko and to the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority.

Again, I wish to thank you for attending the meeting and participating in the committee and I look forward to seeing you at the next one which will be held on June 22nd and 23rd 2009 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at SEPTA. As soon as the particulars are firmed up, I will send out a notice of the meeting.

*Meeting Minutes*  
*Overhead Contact Systems Subcommittee for Rail Transit*  
*TECO Lines Streetcar System*  
*22 & 23 January 2009*

1-Meeting called to order at 8:15 am at the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority maintenance facility and offices. Opening remarks by Paul White, Chairperson.

- Discussed safety and emergency egress for the facility
- Introduction of persons attending, 39 attendees on the 11th and 23 on the 12th.
- Welcoming remarks by Eric Sitiko of TECO Lines Streetcar System.

2-Committee business

- PatCom slides were to be presented later in meeting.
- Officers of the committee were presented for approval. Steve Norton-Vice Chair, Mike Bertoty-Recording Secretary and Pete Bartek-Honorary Secretary
- Minutes of the previous meeting were accepted.
- Dinner logistics were discussed.
- The next meeting location was discussed. It will take place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania on June 3rd and 4th, 2009. It will be conjunction with Traction Power Substations who will meet on the 1st and 2nd.
- Discussed fall meeting. It will be in Seattle on September 28<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup> in conjunction with TPSS.

3-Report of the chairperson

- Paul White, Chairperson of the IEEE OCS Committee gave his report.
- Funding Status for travel reimbursement was presented. IEEE has put \$40,000 aside for transit agency personnel reimbursement for 2009.
- Reimbursement forms were made available. It was noted that for reimbursement, participants must be members of IEEE and VTS.
- One company made a donation to the travel fund-NMC Power Switch.
- Various information sheets were made available to those desiring them.
- The history of the IEEE OCS Committee was presented for those new to the committee. Everyone was encouraged to join the IEEE.
- It was pointed out why we meet three times a year and that our next meetings will coincide with Traction Power Substations.

6-Report of Working Groups

- Reports on status of standards and working groups was given.

WG 16 Standard P-1629 Current Collectors-Jeff Sisson Stated that he has addressed the comments from IEEE editorial board and will move the standard along for the next step in the balloting process.

- WG 17 Standard P-1627 Lightning Arrestors. The working group chairs were not present but Paul White reported that the standard is ready to be sent to IEEE. And Dev Paul will do this.
- WG 20 Standard P-1630 Supporting Structures. Steve Adkins was not able to attend but stated previously that the title change had been approved and the standard was going to be moved along and is ready for balloting.

- WG 19 Maintenance Practices. Jeff Wharton reported that the standard has been balloted and there were questions that need to be answered and this will take place during the working group session. Then balloting will be done again.
- OCS Dictionary. A PAR has been issued and OCS drawings are needed. Randy Anderson will provide them.
- Catenary Standards-This has been moving forward as Andy Gillespie has submitted an updated draft.
- WG 18 Standard P-1626 Insulation Requirements. Additional work needs to be done and will take place at the working group session.
- Ian Hayes brought up the subject of insulation screens and discussion ensued. Public safety and worker safety stressed. It will be sent out with the minutes.
- Heritage trolley standards. No agreement has been put forth between APTA and IEEE. Situation will be looked into by PFW. Work has progressed on the draft.

#### 7-Fiberglass Insulator Followup

- Randy Anderson reported Impulse has developed information on maximum torque limits for 5/8" and 7/8" rods.

#### 8-PatCom Slides

- PatCom slides were presented by Paul White

#### 9- Working Group Breakout

- Each working group had a mini meeting to discuss their standard.

#### 10- Lunch compliments of RTR Technologies-Craig and Rosalie Berger

#### 11-Day one wrap-up

- Meeting was adjourned at 4:15 pm and people invited to 'cocktails and conversation' on a TECO System Lines streetcar and dinner at the hotel .

#### 12-Dinner and presentations

- Dinner was sponsored by Mass Electric Construction Company.
- Donation of \$500.00 to the transit agency travel fund by NMC Power Switch

#### 13-Meeting re-convened on 23 January at 8:15am.

- Working groups had mini meetings to work on their standard

#### 14-Lunch break and Meeting wrap-up

- Announced invitation for those staying over to dine together.

#### 15-Adjournment

- Meeting adjourned at 2:00 noon and TECO Lines provided a tour of their facilities and a ride on one of their streetcars.

#### 16-Next meeting

- Next meeting will take place in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania at the offices of SEPTA, June 2nd & 3rd, 2009. Traction Power Substations will meet at the same location on June 1st<sup>h</sup> and 2nd.

DINNER  
Y/N

IEEE OCS Web Site  
http://www.rtvsc.org

Password:  
transitrailway

Sign-in Sheet  
IEEE OCS Subcommittee for Rail Transit  
Tampa Meeting 22 January 2009

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Sign-in Sheet  
IEEE OCS Subcommittee for Rail Transit  
Tampa Meeting 22 January 2009

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