



American Public  
Transportation Association

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## Meeting Minutes Heritage Trolley & Streetcar Subcommittee

**James Graebner, chair**

*APTA Rail Conference*

*Toronto, ONT*

*Canada*

*June 5, 2007*

The APTA Streetcar and Heritage Trolley Subcommittee met in Toronto, ONT Canada during APTA's 2007 Rail Conference June 5, 2007. An agenda for the meeting is attached.

Chairman Graebner called the meeting to order at precisely 8:01pm and he had attendees introduce themselves.

Meeting minutes from the San Francisco fall meeting were approved.

### Work Item Reports

#### Track Standards- Martin Schroeder, P.E.

Martin Schroeder provided a detailed review of the Joint AREMA/APTA streetcar track standards development effort. Martin discussed the various work groups that have been established as indicated below. Work on the embedded track standard, led by Bill Moorhead is progressing quickly, while others are taking longer to develop. Martin emphasized the importance of the Streetcar Subcommittee coordinating with the APTA Track group and AREMA in reviewing and developing these standards. Jim Graebner noted the excellent work performed by TRB committee on tight radius curves. A report on such a topic is available on the APTA web site.

Work Group Title	Description	Leader
Non-ballasted Track	Open track such as direct fixation, LVT and grass track.	TBD
Embedded Track	Track that is paved.	Bill Moorhead
Corrosion Control	Track to ground resistance and implications of track design.	Ed Wetzel
Wheel/Rail Interface	Contact geometry and dynamic behavior.	Bob Tuzik
Sharp Curves	Tight radius curve limitations and implications on restraining rail.	Jim Teeple
Clearances	Determination of needed	Mike Brown

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James Graebner, chair Tom Hickey, vice-chair Tim Borchers, secretary Martin Schroeder, APTA

	clearances from design and built perspectives.	
Special Track Work	Switches, diamonds, crossovers, etc.	TBD

*OCS Standards Development (Interface with IEEE) – Jim Schantz*

Jim Schantz reported on the effort to write standards for overhead contact systems (OCS) being directed by the IEEE OCS Work Group. Jim noted that the Streetcar and Heritage Trolley Subcommittee is interested in coordinating this work to ensure that systems specified for trolley wire/trolley poles are not overly designed for heritage systems. Jim prepared an introductory piece regarding this concern to help drive the effort, which he made available at the meeting.

Photography and Security

Martin noted that we may wish to tailor this introduction into a more formal position paper that highlights added detail and background information. The group seemed to agree with what Jim presented and looked forward to continued coordination with IEEE. Martin further noted that, depending on complexity of the standard, IEEE and APTA may wish to enter into a joint working agreement similar to the MOU established between AREMA and APTA to develop track standards. Martin noted that Jim Schantz, Chris Pagni (IEEE interface) and Cam Beach were leaders of this effort.

*Car Standard Update- John Smatlak*

John Smatlak, primary author of the current APTA Heritage Trolley Vehicle Standard, requested users provide input on the standard, its implementation and potential revisions. Tim Borchers of the Hillsborough Area Regional Transit Authority (HART) has implemented the standard on its new system, the first streetcar in Florida since 1940. The standard applied to Birney cars was found flexible and useful.

*Web Site – Jim Schantz*

Jim Schantz overviewed the revised look of the Streetcar and Heritage Trolley web site. Martin thanked Jim for his great work on such a useful site.

**Work Plan Discussion**

Jim Graebner discussed the work plan of the Subcommittee and suggested that track and OCS standards development would constitute a big part of the group’s effort. Martin asked the group to give considerable thought to the work plan and come to the Annual meeting with further ideas that support the group and contribute to the needs of our industry. Martin agreed that the standards efforts were very important.

**Rail Conference Planning**

Jim Graebner suggested that perhaps two sessions be provided for the 2008 Rail Conference to be held in San Francisco, CA. Certainly a session would focus on general project updates, but that another session focus on streetcar implementation and federal small starts programs. Martin noted that APTA has its conference planning meeting in DC this August.

The meeting was adjourned by Jim Graebner at precisely 9:04am – noting that we needed to allow more meeting time at subsequent meetings. Agreed!

**Actions**

- 1) Jim Schantz to update introduction regarding OCS trolley pole/line standards
- 2) All – provide ideas for work plan
- 3) All – provide ideas for 2008 Rail Conference. Members asked to provide input for Rail Conference Planning meeting at APTA August 7-8 in Washington, DC.

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Respectfully submitted:

*Martin P. Schroeder, M.S.M.E., P.E.*

*APTA Sr. Program Manager and Staff Advisor*



**American Public Transportation Association  
 Streetcar & Heritage Trolley Subcommittee**

James Graebner, chair

**Subcommittee Rail Conference Meeting**

**AGENDA**

**Tuesday June 5, 2007**

**8:00am – 9:00am**

**Kenora Room**

Sheraton Centre Toronto

Toronto, Ontario

Canada

8:00 am	<b>1. Call to Order / Welcome / Introductions / Announcements</b>	Jim Graebner, Chair
8:10 am	<b>2. Meeting Minutes / APTA Business .....</b>	Martin Schroeder
8:15 am	<b>3. Work Item Reports/Discussion</b>	
	<b>a. Track Standards Working Group – Report Out .....</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Track standards development (partnered effort with APTA's Streetcar Subcommittee, APTA's Track Technical Forum, AREMA Committee 12, and the TRB Streetcar Circulator Committee)</li> </ul>	Martin Schroeder / AREMA
	<b>b. Overhead Collector System Standard – Interface with IEEE .....</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Role of Subcommittee in Process</li> <li>• Documentation of Subcommittee Position in Position White Paper</li> </ul>	Jim Schantz / Cam Beach / Martin Schroeder
	<b>c. Car Standard Update .....</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Latest in this first Heritage Trolley Vehicle Standard</li> </ul>	John Smatlak
	<b>d. Car Size Standards – Discussion .....</b>	James Graebner
	<b>4. Work Plan Discussion .....</b>	James Graebner
8:50 am	<b>5. Rail Conference Future Topics .....</b>	James Graebner
8:55 am	<b>6. Next Meetings – Preview and Agreement - Actions.....</b>	James Graebner