

APTA Power, Signals and Communications Technical Forum

Meeting Minutes

DATE: June 1, 2008

TIME: 10 AM

LOCATION: Hyatt Regency, San Francisco, CA

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 10 a.m. by Ed Rowe

I. Attendees

The General session was conducted with members of transit agencies, suppliers and consultants. Refer to the attached attendance list and agenda.

II. Nominations & Elections

The current Technical Forum Chair and Vice Chairs were nominated and reelected for another two year term as follows:

Edward Rowe - Forum Chair
Steve Bezner – Vice Chair – Power
Robert MacDonald – Vice Chair Signals
Jon McDonald – Vice Chair – Communications

III. Website

Jon McDonald announced the Forum's website is currently being updated. Bob MacDonald was appointed to organize it once updated.

IV. Standards

Communications Standards

The standard for Control & Communications Security will go to ballot in July. The approval process involves reporting up through the R&T committee and then APTA for final approval. This will then become an APTA Standard.

Unlike other P, S&C Forum groups, communications spans the entire spectrum of transit operations.

Jon McDonald welcomed attendees to contact him regarding any other areas of interest.

Signal Standards

Harvey Glickenstein reported some signal standards have been approved by IEEE and are in the process of being published. Signal engineers are covered under Working Group 2 and will meet at SEPTA on July 23, 2008. The following are new and proposed signal standards:

- 1474.1 CTTC Functional Requirements
- 1474.2 CBTC Interface requirements
- 1474.3 CTTC Allocations

Allen Rumsey reported that then signals group has not decided on further standards.

Power Standards

Paul Forquer reported that progress has been made with traction power and OCS standards with several currently under review by IEEE. The next meetings for both will be held at Tri Met in Portland from June 17 to 20, 2008. Anyone not registered to attend should E-Mail Paul Forquer or Paul White.

Standards General

Alan Rumsey reported IEC standards are approved by each country. Lou Sanders is the U.S. representative. Most of the IEC standards originate in Europe. Allen suggested the P, S&C Technical Forum might be a good arena for review of IEC standards.

There will be a discussion at our October meeting on recommended practices for obsolescence with a discussion regarding the processes by various transit properties for handling obsolescence.

V. Research Projects and Training

P, S&C Research Projects

An extensive discussion was conducted on how we obtain approval for our research projects. After several years of trying we have received no approvals or feedback from TRB. We were made aware of the approval process and stumbling blocks associated therewith.

Harvey Glickenstein agreed to seek possible funding through IEEE. Steve Bezner will forward the problem statements to Harvey.

Training

Pat Nowakowski, Chair of the Rail transit Committee, informed us that the pilot program for training signal maintainers is complete for dc track circuits. It can be obtained through jniegski@apta.com. See attached. Next move is an ac track circuit training program.

VI. Next Meeting

We will be holding the Forum's mid year conference in conjunction with APTA's Annual Meeting and the IEEE OCS & Traction Power Standards meeting in San Diego in October. It will also afford members the opportunity of attending the APTA Expo while allowing interested suppliers in making technical presentations of their latest technologies.

Ed Rowe will formulate the October program within the next two weeks in conjunction with APTA and IEEE standards chairs

6/1/08
Rail Conference

Power Signal & Communication Technical Forum
Attendance

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Steve Sims	ssims@bart.gov	206 370 5509 510 464-6417

2008 Rail Conference

Signal Maintenance Training

Cameron Beach
Principal, Beach Consulting
San Francisco, CA

Public Transportation: Wherever Life Takes You . . .
Today and Tomorrow

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Where We Started In the Beginning...

- Rail CEO's Expressed Concern About Recruiting & Training
- Rail Standards Committee Created Signal Standards Based on FRA Rules

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Next Steps

- Survey Conducted of North American Rail Operators in 2006
- Results:
 - Very Little Formal Training
 - Average Age 49
 - RR's / Transit Not Employer of Choice

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Next Steps (Cont.)

- Working Group Formed to Determine Training Needs
- Close Collaboration with Organized Labor
- Work with Community Transportation Center

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Creating the First Course

- Working Group Determined **DC Track Circuits** Were Primary Building Block
- Outline Created
- E-Learning Contractor (XPan) Retained by APTA

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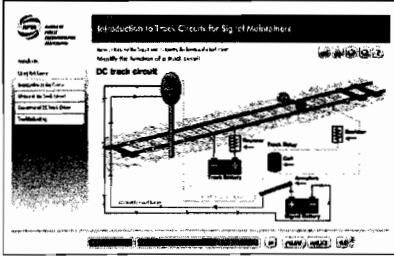
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Roll Out!

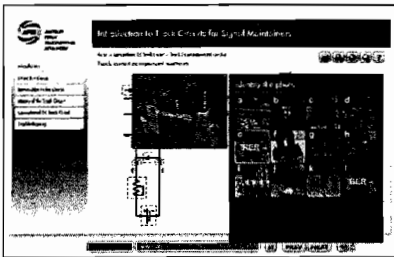
- First Course Unveiled At Toronto Rail Conference 2007
- Course Released to APTA Members Earlier This Year

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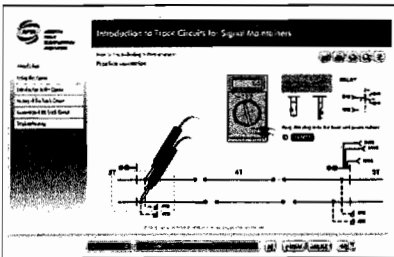
Highlights – new online training for signal maintainers



Highlights – new online training for signal maintainers



Highlights – new online training for signal maintainers



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Where We're Going...

- DC Track Circuit Course Well Received by APTA Members
- AC Track Circuit Course Being Developed
- Roll Out Next Course in Early 2009

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Today and Tomorrow
