

Commuter Rail Positive Train Control (PTC) Project

FMCB Briefing

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Summary of Positive Train Control (“PTC”) Regulation:

Origin

- In October 2008, the Rail Safety Improvement Act (RSIA) was signed into law which requiring all Class I railroads and commuter railroads that meet certain criteria install Positive Train Control (PTC) on their networks by December 31, 2015. Failure to have an FRA Certified PTC System in operation by December 31, 2015 will result in Civil Penalties enforced by the FRA.

Summary of PTC Functional Requirements:

- Prevent train-to-train collisions.
- Prevent over-speed derailments.
- Prevent trains from incursion into work zones without proper authority.
- Prevent trains from being routed through misaligned switches.
- Protect the movement of trains through failed or inoperative grade crossing systems.
- PTC system shall be interoperable to accommodate tenant and host railroads sharing tracks

❑ Legislative Issues

- ❑ September 30, 2015, the U.S. House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee's leadership introduced a bipartisan bill **Positive Train Control Enforcement and Implementation Act of 2015 (H.R. 3651)** proposing to extend the deadline for PTC implementation to the end of 2018 and allow an additional 2 years at the discretion of the U.S. DOT for railroads facing circumstances beyond their control.
- ❑ March 4, 2015, bill was introduced in the U.S. Senate, the **Railroad Safety and Positive Train Control Extension Act** which proposed to extend the PTC deadline from December 31, 2015, to December 31, 2020. Bill authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to extend the implementation deadline, upon application, in one-year increments, if specified circumstances exist. Bill has stalled due partly to the Amtrak accident on May 12, 2015.

Impact & Impasse

- Majority of railroads have said they will not have PTC fully operational on their systems by Dec. 31, 2015.
- The following commuter agencies plan to shut down if an extension is not granted:
 - ❖ Amtrak,
 - ❖ New Jersey Transit,
 - ❖ Metro North,
 - ❖ Long Island Railroad,
 - ❖ Metra,
 - ❖ VRE (Virginia Railway Express),
 - ❖ MARC,
 - ❖ Metrolink – no freight service will be allowed.
- FRA has a duty to enforce Civil Penalties and Enforcement Actions if PTC is not in place by December 31, 2015.
- Potential personal fines imposed on workers who certify equipment for daily service if operation continues absent PTC.

Commuter Rail PTC



MBTA Procurement Update:

Procurement Process:

- MBTA Issued RFP 42 – 14 for PTC System Design, Build and Integration – March 16, 2014.
- Followed MBTA established procurement process.
- Received two viable Bidder proposals and met with both Bidders.
- MBTA gathering additional information and performing final due diligence with intent of presenting final recommendation to FMCB on November 2, 2015.

FMCB Agenda – November 2, 2015:

FMCB Briefing will include the following:

- PTC Technology Discussion.
- Project Management Complexity.
- PTC Integration Impact with Current Commuter Rail Operator (“Keolis”).
- Contract Award Request.

