DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Aviation Administration

Sixth Meeting: RTCA Special Committee 225, Rechargeable Lithium Batteries and Battery Systems, Small and Medium Size

AGENCY: Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT).

ACTION: Notice of RTCA Special Committee 225, Rechargeable Lithium Batteries and Battery Systems, Small and Medium Size.

SUMMARY: The FAA is issuing this notice to advise the public of the sixth meeting of RTCA Special Committee 225, Rechargeable Lithium Batteries and Battery Systems, Small and Medium Size.

DATES: The meeting will be held February 28–29, 2012, from 9 a.m.–5 p.m.

ADDRESS: The meeting will be held at RTCA, Inc., 1150 18th Street NW., Suite 910, Washington, DC, 20036.


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. No. 92–463, 5 U.S.C., App.), notice is hereby given for a meeting of Special Committee 225. The agenda will include the following:

February 28, 2012
- Welcome, Introductions, and Administrative Remarks
- Review of the meeting agenda.
- Review and approval of summary from the 5th plenary meeting.
- Review action items.
- Review of current events with Li-Ion Batteries (15 min).
- Results of EFB thermal runway on flightdeck (smoke and toxic gases).
- RTCA Workspace Demo.
- Discuss title of DO–3xx.
- Working Group Meeting—Review draft document.
- Battery Size Table (1.3.1) updates:
  - Add row for large size.
  - Add Wh equation.
- Review new action items.
- Review agenda for Wednesday.

February 29, 2012
- Review of meeting agenda, other actions.
- Verify dates of next plenary and upcoming meeting working group meetings.
- Establish Agenda for 7th plenary meeting.
- Working Group Meeting—Review draft document
- Working Group report, review progress and actions.
- Review all action items.
- Adjourn.

Attendance is open to the interested public but limited to space availability. With the approval of the chairman, members of the public may present oral statements at the meeting. Persons wishing to present statements or obtain information should contact the person listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section. Members of the public may present a written statement to the committee at any time.

Issued in Washington, DC, on February 7, 2012.

Kathy Hitt,
Program Analyst, Business Operations Branch, Federal Aviation Administration.

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DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Federal Railroad Administration

[DOcket Number FRA–2011–0107]

Petition for Waiver of Compliance

In accordance with part 213 of title 49 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), notice is hereby given that the Federal Railroad Administration (FRA) has received a request for a waiver of compliance from certain requirements of its safety standards. By a document dated December 28, 2011, CSX Transportation (CSX) petitions FRA for a waiver from certain rail testing requirements contained in 49 CFR part 213. FRA assigned the petition Docket Number FRA–2011–0107.

Pursuant to 49 CFR Section 213.113(a), CSX requests a waiver from the accepted practice of stop/start rail testing for phase III of its nonstop continuous rail test pilot project beginning April 1, 2012, for a period of up to 1 year on the main tracks between Richmond, VA, and Charleston, SC. The subdivisions that would be traversed are the North End, South End, and Charleston.

Based on the results of the previous phases of nonstop continuous rail test, CSX will not perform parallel or redundant start/stop rail testing on track segments being nonstop continuous rail tested under this waiver. Instead, CSX proposes to produce nonstop continuous rail test reports every 2 weeks for review by FRA’s Rail and Infrastructure Integrity Division. As CSX develops confidence in the performance of the system, and as agreed by CSX and FRA, it proposes to expand the test area to include the tracks between Richmond, VA, and Jacksonville, FL, and test on a monthly basis.

The nonstop continuous high-speed rail test vehicle will be a self-propelled ultrasonic/induction flaw detection vehicle operating at speeds up to 30 mph. This vehicle will be making runs every 2 weeks over the assigned territory. Upon completion of each run, data will be analyzed offline by a group of experts with experience in this process. The analysis will categorize and prioritize suspect defective locations for post-test verification. Verifiers will then be sent out with field instruments to check these suspect locations based upon Global Positioning System (GPS) coordinates. All suspect locations will be checked 60 feet on either side of the suspect GPS location. Remedial actions will be applied, as per 49 CFR Section 213.113, for confirmed rail defects. CSX believes that nonstop continuous rail testing will provide the capability to test track more quickly and frequently, and minimize the risk of rail service failures.

Interested parties are invited to participate in these proceedings by submitting written views, data, or comments. FRA does not anticipate scheduling a public hearing in connection with these proceedings since the facts do not appear to warrant a hearing. If any interested party desires an opportunity for oral comment, they should notify FRA, in writing, before the end of the comment period and specify the basis for their request.

All communications concerning these proceedings should identify the appropriate docket number (e.g., Waiver Petition Docket Number FRA–2011–0107) and may be submitted by any of the following methods:
- Web site: http://www.regulations.gov. Follow the online instructions for submitting comments.
- Fax: 202 493–2251.
- Hand Delivery: 1200 New Jersey Avenue SE., Room W12–140, Washington, DC 20590, between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m., Monday through Friday, except Federal Holidays.

Communications received within 45 days of the date of this notice will be considered by FRA before final action is