Standardized Technical Specification

Bi-Level Passenger Rail Cars
for
Intercity Corridor Service

Chapter 1
Specification Summary

Revision H
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1.0 Specification Summary

1.1 Overview

The purpose of this specification is to define the performance and technical requirements for a fleet of new third-generation bi-level passenger rail cars for use in medium- to long-distance intercity corridor service in North America. All technical characteristics and performance parameters for these cars are contained herein, as well as the design review, inspection, testing and documentation requirements for producing and supporting these rail cars.

This specification has been developed as a part of the nationwide strategy initiated by the States for Passenger Rail Coalition (S4PRC) for the purpose of creating a bi-level intercity corridor car specification that may be used by any state or agency to procure bi-level rolling stock for intercity service. The result is a bi-level corridor car for the 221st century – the C21 car.

1.2 Regulations

The C21 cars shall be fully compliant with all applicable federal regulations for safety, operations, design, accessibility, testing and materials standards, as well as numerous industry standards as developed by the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), the American Welding Society (AWS) and others. A complete listing of all regulations, standards, recommended practices and specifications that are referenced in this document can be found in Chapter 2. This is not to be interpreted as a comprehensive and exhaustive list of all regulations and standards that the Contractor must adhere to in the design and manufacture of the rail cars. The Contractor shall retain sole responsibility for complying with all standards, recommended practices and regulations that apply to the design and production of these rail cars.

1.3 Concept

The C21 cars are intended to be a third-generation bi-level intercity car fleet for use in medium- to long-distance corridor service, based on the design concept pioneered in the 1990s by the California Car, built by Morrison Knudsen for the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans). Though Amtrak’s Superliner fleet established the design baseline for bi-level long-distance rail equipment, including the standard for car-to-car pass-through on the upper level (at 104.5 in. above top of rail), the California Cars were the first full bi-level cars designed specifically for corridor service, featuring:

- Two large entry vestibules for high-volume passenger loading and unloading
- Trainline-controlled side entry doors
- Two staircases for rapid access between levels
- Full compliance with all applicable ADA requirements
- Seat spacing for comfort as well as capacity
- Workstation tables
A lounge car with the galley on the upper level
A cab control car and locomotive control trainlines for push-pull service

The California Car design was advanced to a second generation with Amtrak's Surfliner cars, with numerous design changes that included:

- A toilet room on the upper level
- Convenience outlets at every seat
- Reconfigured cab control layout
- More space for trash and recyclables
- Exterior crew door control switches
- Accessible toilet room adjacent to the ADA-accessible vestibule
- Checked baggage compartment in the lower level of the cab car

The C21 specification creates a third-generation of the bi-level intercity car design. In order to accommodate the needs and requirements of all potential users of this specification, this document was developed with the following ideologies:

- These cars shall be designed and built for use anywhere in the United States and Canada where their use may be desired, consistent with Amtrak's bi-level clearance envelope (drawing B-066-00050, rev 1).
- All specifications shall reflect operational and environmental conditions that may be encountered anywhere the cars may operate, without requiring redesigning or modification. A nationwide perspective was used when specifying component performance.
- The specification is heavily dependant on accepted industry standards, which have been referenced herein.
- Functional compatibility with other bi-level car fleets is a high priority of this specification. Existing bi-level fleets referenced include Superliners, California Cars and Surfliners.
- The cars as specified will be able to operate as a discreet fleet, or intermingled with other bi-level intercity cars.
- The cars shall be designed and manufactured to perform satisfactorily for a minimum of 40 years. The carbody and all its structural elements, including trucks and running gear, shall have a minimum design life of 40 years of operation at full seated passenger load. The design and the selection of materials shall prevent corrosion damage, including the effects of extreme weather conditions, during the 40-year design life.
- Safety, reliability and maintainability are primary objectives of this specification. Because Amtrak is currently the operator for state-run passenger transportation in the United States, maintenance intervals and procedures are specified to match current Amtrak preventive maintenance programs. Use of specialized tools or equipment shall be limited. Ease of access for inspection, maintenance and repairs is a major design consideration.
- Design reviews and mockups will be employed to assess all proposed designs for compliance with specification requirements including safety, maintainability, ergonomics, functionality and passenger comfort. The areas to be created in full-scale mockups for Customer review include:
• Passenger seating area
• Café/lounge galley, elevator and lounge seating area
• Accessible toilet room
• Cab control compartment
• Side doors
• Enclosed overhead luggage bins

The mockups will allow the Customer, and those invited by the Customer, to review the configuration and layout of the proposed design, to get a feel for the workability, comfort, access and functionality and to fine-tune the design for maximum benefit.

Those characteristics that will most likely change from one customer to the next are contained in Chapter 23, so that the specification can be modified to meet the needs of multiple users with a minimum amount of revision.

1.4 Summary of C21 Car Specification

1.4.1 Car Types and Arrangements

This technical specification provides for three distinct types of cars – a coach car, a cab/baggage car and a café/lounge car. See Figure 1-1, Figure 1-2 and Figure 1-3 for conceptual interior layouts.

The three types of cars are summarized as follows:

The coach car is a bi-level car with revenue seating on the upper and lower levels (see Figure 1-1):

• Wheelchair access and an accessible toilet room are on the lower level.
• A smaller toilet room is on the upper level.
• Enclosed overhead luggage bins are above each seat.
• Revenue seating includes several facing pairs of seats with workstation tables, and other seats with tray tables and footrests.
• All seating areas include carpeting, curtains and convenience outlets.

The cab/baggage car is similar to a coach car with the following exceptions (see Figure 1-2):

• A full-width cab control compartment is located on the upper level at the F-end to provide locomotive control for push-pull operation.
• The lower level includes a separate room for secure checked baggage storage that is easily convertible to a bicycle storage room with a capacity of 16 bicycles.
• The forward end of the cab/baggage car conforms to all FRA structural and crashworthiness for cab car forward-facing ends.
• The forward end is fully equipped for push-pull operation, including a replaceable pilot (for protection from snow, ice, grade crossings and other debris).
• All seating is rearward-facing when the cab/baggage car is moving forward, except those seats located at workstation tables, to conform to the FRA’s crashworthiness and compartmentalization recommendations.

The café/lounge car provides the train with food service and non-revenue lounge space as passenger amenities, as well as including revenue seating (see Figure 1-3):

• The food service galley is located on the upper level in the center of the car.
• The galley is equipped with all required food preparation appliances, including microwave ovens, toaster, freezer, ice well, coffee makers, chilled and dry storage, display case, point-of-sale terminal, hand washing and food preparation sinks and menu holders. A condiment station is located in the lounge area.
• Recycling and trash receptacles are located throughout the car.
• Commissary provisioning is via pre-loaded carts.
• Carts are loaded onto the car at the lower level service vestibule, and transferred to the upper level via a cart elevator.
• Refrigerated foods are loaded in pre-chilled carts that are kept cold while on board by self-contained chillers.
• One end of the upper level is dedicated to non-revenue lounge seating, with tables for 1, 2 or 4 passengers.
• The other end of the upper level is configured for revenue seating, which includes facing pairs of seats with workstation tables. This area could easily be reconfigured for business class or for additional non-revenue seating.
• The lower level includes an ADA accessible seating area and toilet room, a workstation for the train crew, and a secure service vestibule/elevator lobby.
• The café/lounge car only has one staircase, to maximize the amount of lounge space.

Business class may easily be developed and implemented on these cars through the use of a modular business class service station that bolts into existing seat and wall tracks.

• The business class service station includes a small refrigerator, storage for two service carts (stocked and supplied by the café-lounge car attendant), a holder for a coffee urn (brewed in the café-lounge car and brought to business class by the café attendant) plus counter space for newspapers and breakfast foods, and trash and recycling receptacles.
• This modular design allows flexibility as to the location of the business class section - it may be located in a coach or cab/baggage car, or in the revenue end of the café-lounge car.
• Seat pitch may be adjusted due to the seat mounting in wall and floor tracks, and overhead reading lights are mounted in adjustable-pitch units on the underside of the overhead luggage bins.
• The business class section is easily redeployed to other cars if necessary, including addition to existing cars in bi-level fleets.


1.4.2 Capacity and Consist Performance

1.4.2.1 Capacity

As specified, the C21 cars are configured to have the following passenger capacities:

- **Coach:** 89 revenue seats
  - 1 wheelchair parking location

- **Cab/Baggage:** 75 revenue seats
  - 1 wheelchair parking location

- **Café/Lounge:** 35 revenue seats
  - 1 wheelchair parking location
  - 21 lounge area (non-revenue) seats
  - 4 crew workstation seats

This configuration may be changed at the discretion of each customer.

1.4.2.2 Consist Performance

- Trains typically consist of 4 to 10 cars.
- Maximum consist of 12 cars for all trainline functions to operate at specified levels.
- Maximum consist of 20 cars for brake system to operate properly.
- Cars are designed for continuous operation for up to 18 hours and 1200 miles per day.

1.4.3 Dimensions, Clearances and Track Geometry

1.4.3.1 Overall Carbody Dimensions

The cars shall be designed to meet the following overall carbody dimensions:

- **Overall Length:** 85 ft 0 in. (over pulling faces)
- **Overall Height:** 16 ft 2 in. above top of rail
- **Overall Width:** 10 ft 6 in.
- **Truck Centers:** 59 ft 6 in.
- **Lower Floor Height:** 18.5 in. above top of rail
- **Upper Floor Height:** 104.5 in. above top of rail
- **Side Door Openings:** 52 in. clear opening

The cars shall be designed and built to conform to the following weight limitations:

- **Coach:** 150,000 lbs
- **Cab/Baggage:** 154,000 lbs
- **Café/Lounge:** 153,000 lbs
All cars shall be weighed at the Contractor’s facility, and shall have weight distribution and balance as follows:

- End-to-end balance within 5% (both at full supplies and no supplies)
- Lateral balance (side to side) within 60,000 inch-pounds (both at full supplies and no supplies)
- All cars shall be within 300 lbs of the first production car of each type

1.4.3.2 Clearances

The cars shall fully conform to Amtrak’s Bi-level Clearance Drawing B-066-00050, rev 1. Conformance to this clearance diagram will permit the C21 car to operate anywhere that Superliners, Surfliners and California Cars are authorized to operate anywhere within the continental United States or Canada, outside the Northeast Corridor, on current Amtrak Superliner routes and elsewhere where clearance permits.

1.4.3.3 Track Geometry

- The cars shall be designed and tested for revenue operation at all speeds up to 125 mph, on all classes of track from FRA Class 1 to Class 7. Track quality shall be the minimally compliant for each class of track, per FRA regulations and AREMA standards. Ride quality standards and testing methods are specified.
- The cars shall operate on standard gauge track. Standard gauge is 56.5 in.
- The cars shall be capable of operation on track with a gradient of up to 5%. Pneumatic and mechanical braking systems shall be capable of stopping moving equipment, and retaining stationary equipment, on all ascending or descending grades up to 5% in either the forward or rearward direction.
- The cars shall be capable of negotiating a 250 ft radius (23 degree) horizontal curve, coupled to other equipment, without damage to any portion of the car, including trucks and suspension, coupler, draft gear, air and electrical connections, carbody, diaphragm or track.
- The cars shall be capable of negotiating a 1000 ft radius vertical curve (concave or convex), coupled to other equipment, without damage to any portion of the trucks and suspension, coupler, draft gear, air and electrical connections, carbody, diaphragm or track.
- The cars shall be stable at all design speeds, including while stationary, on superelevated curves up to 7 in. above level.
- The cars shall be stable while operating at maximum authorized track speed on curves with a cant deficiency of up to 5 in.
- The cars shall be capable of safely passing other trains that are operating at maximum authorized track speed in either direction on adjacent tracks with 13 ft centers.
- The cars shall be capable of negotiating a number 8 crossover between two tracks with centers 13 ft apart, coupled to other equipment, without damage.
1.4.4 Carbody (Chapter 4)

- Stainless steel carshell with Low-Alloy, High-Tensile (LAHT) end underframe and other primary structural components.
- Corrugated stainless steel roof for longitudinal structure and durability.
- Carshell shall be fully compliant with FRA’s requirements for structural strength, crashworthiness and testing per 49CFR Part 238:
  - Meets or exceeds 49CFR Part 238 Tier 1 structural requirements.
  - Meets or exceeds APTA Standard SS-C&S-034-99 for the Design and Construction of Passenger Rolling Stock
  - Carshell tested to 800,000 lb buff load
  - 300,000 lb collision post load test
  - All components attached to withstand longitudinal/lateral/vertical accelerations of 8/4/4g
- Each car has two side entry vestibules on the lower level (café/lounge has one public vestibule and one service vestibule).
- All cars feature large picture windows with glass panes. All cars will have emergency exit windows in full compliance with FRA regulations.
- The basic car design features a car-borne powered wheelchair lift.
- Each car has two staircases to provide access between the upper and lower levels (except the café/lounge, which has only one staircase, at the B-end of the car).

1.4.5 Trucks (Chapter 5)

- The specification provides for either cast or fabricated trucks.
- All trucks will use standard Amtrak wheelsets, with 36 in. nominal new wheels, type G outside bearings, and tread and disc brakes.
- Truck-mounted air brake components shall use Amtrak standard brake shoes and pads.
- Primary and secondary suspension is provided through the use of steel coil springs. Air suspension is not used.

1.4.6 Couplers (Chapter 6)

- All cars use standard type-H Tightlock couplers with conventional draft gear, yokes and radial connectors.
- Couplers, coupler carriers and uncoupling mechanisms shall be compliant with FRA requirements.
1.4.7 Brakes (Chapter 7)

- Pneumatic air brake system uses standard Wabco 26C schedule.
- Locomotive supplies air for brake pipe and main reservoir functions
  - 110 psi brake pipe operation (for train air brake control)
  - 140 psi main reservoir operation (for auxiliary functions such as water pressure, toilet flushing, etc)
- Braking rates:
  - Full service: minimum of 1.35 miles per hour per second (mphps) deceleration from 110 mph down to 70 mph, then increasing to not less than 2.00 mphps average below 70 mph.
  - Emergency: minimum of 2.50 mphps below 70 mph.
- Tread and disc brakes on all axles. Track brakes are not used.
- Wheelslide control provided on all axles.
- Electric and pneumatic brake applied/released indicators are provided on the side of each car.
- All cars are equipped with a handbrake, located on the upper level at the B-end.
- Cab/baggage cars are equipped with a pneumatic parking brake.

1.4.8 Door Systems (Chapter 8)

- All cars feature twin bi-parting side entry doors on the lower level, and sliding pocket doors on the upper level at the end passageways.
- Side doors throughout the train can be controlled from any door control station located on the same side of the car as the door control station, and can also be trainlined or opened individually.
- The door system complies with all FRA safety provisions, including obstruction detection, traction interlock, zero-speed protection, status lights and signage, emergency release, and crew control.
- Side doors feature enhanced access for maintenance of door operator hardware.
- All cars have exterior side door crew key switches for employee access.
- Upper level end doors are sliding pocket doors with upper and lower press plates (except the F-end door panel), obstruction detection, manual isolation, Type 1 glazing in the window and a removable panel in the lower half of the door, as required by the FRA.

1.4.9 Interiors (Chapter 9)

- All cars shall be equipped with reclining seats, energy-absorbing workstation tables, carpet, curtains and convenience outlets at every seat, and enclosed overhead luggage bins.
- Interior surfaces shall be made of fiberglass-reinforced plastic, decorative laminates and fabric-covered wainscot panels below the windows.
- Each car shall have two toilet rooms except the café/lounge, which will only have an accessible toilet room on the lower level.
• All cars will be fully equipped with emergency signage and low-location exit path markings, in conformance with APTA standards and FRA requirements.

• The interior and furnishing shall present a clean, pleasing appearance and require little maintenance and be easy to clean.

• Interior décor shall be developed by the Contractor, to provide a comprehensive look to the interior of the car through coordination of seat fabrics, curtains, carpet and other color palettes. The Contractor shall provide several storyboard options for the interior décor for the Customer to choose from.

• Seats shall be selected at the discretion of each Customer in order to accommodate differences in operations and passenger preferences. All seats and workstation tables shall be mounted in seat tracks for easy installation, and to allow different seat pitches at the direction of the Customer.

• Reading light units shall be installed on the underside of the overhead luggage bin, and shall be track-mounted to permit different spacing based on seat pitch.

1.4.10 Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (Chapter 10)

• The Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning (HVAC) system will use efficient scroll compressors, environmentally friendly R400-series refrigerants, microprocessor controls and multiple temperature sensors for system operation.

• Two identical HVAC units will provide cooling and overhead heat for each car.

• The HVAC system shall maintain the car interior, including the engineer’s cab, to the specified temperature of 72°F to 76°F, with the car operating anywhere in the continental United States.

• The HVAC system performance requirements specify system operations under a variety of climatic extremes, from the hot and dusty California desert to the snow-packed Midwest.

• Fresh air intake and distribution of conditioned air from one level to another is controlled by electrically powered dampers. This allows the system to control the temperature on the different levels to a more accurate degree.

• Maximum interior sound levels are specified to minimize blower and diffuser noise.

• Filters are easy to access and replace.

• Water system components are equipped with freeze protection.

• Side door thresholds are heated.

1.4.11 Lighting (Chapter 11)

• Interior lighting relies on Light Emitting Diodes (LEDs) and fluorescent bulbs for energy efficiency and reliability. Halogen lights are not used. Incandescent lights are not used anywhere on the car except for cab/baggage car headlights and crossing lights.

• The normal and emergency lighting system meets all new APTA standards and FRA requirements for charging and emergency light levels.

• Emergency lighting relies on high-efficiency capacitors for power source – more reliable than batteries.
1.4.12 Communications and Passenger Information (Chapter 12)

- All cars will feature a Public Address (PA) system, intercom and a passenger information system.
- PA and intercoms are compliant with FRA requirements for emergency communication.
- Specifications for passenger WiFi and on-train information systems will be consistent with Amtrak nationwide standards for these systems.
- Passenger information system provides an Ethernet-based data backbone for intra-car and car-to-car communication and data transfer. System capabilities include passenger wireless internet access, real-time ticketing and manifest generation, credit card transactions, component or system status monitoring and food inventory management.
- Passenger Information System (PIS) is compliant with ADA.

1.4.13 Electrical (Chapter 13)

- Primary power source is locomotive-provided 480 Volt Alternating Current (VAC) Head End Power (HEP).
- Power distribution system converts the HEP to 120VAC, 74VDC and 24VDC for use throughout the car.
- The batteries and battery charger system provide the low-voltage power supply for systems requiring power when HEP is lost (PA, door operators, lights, cab controls).
- All cars will be equipped with standard trainlines:
  - 480VAC HEP trainline (in compliance with APTA Recommended Practice RP-E-106-99)
  - 27-Point Multiple Unit (MU) Trainline (in compliance with APTA Recommended Practice RP-E-017-99)
  - 27-Point Communication (COMM) Trainline (in compliance with APTA Recommended Practice RP-E-017-99)
- Receptacles will be located on both sides of each car for maximum flexibility in building train consists (either end of any car can be connected to either end of any other car).
- 120VAC utility outlets will be located in all toilet rooms, equipment rooms, the electrical locker, operating cab and utility rooms, for ease of maintenance and cleaning.

1.4.14 Food Service (Chapter 14)

The café/lounge car includes the following features, in addition to those listed above:

- Chiller operation will include a constantly charging battery backup to keep chilled food cold in the event of an HEP disruption.
- Convenience outlets will be located in the revenue and lounge areas, for passenger use.
- PA and intercom located at the crew workstation, for convenience and passenger safety.
- The revenue seating area will include all elements of the seating area in a coach car, including overhead luggage bins, curtains and reading lights.
• The galley area of the café/lounge car will conform to all applicable requirements for a food preparation area, in accordance with Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations.

• A crew workstation will be located on the lower level of the café-lounge car, and will be equipped with extra electrical outlets, secure storage, PA and intercom station.

• A secure storage area will be provided for café/lounge employee belongings.

1.4.15 Water and Waste (Chapter 15)

• Fresh water (200-gallon storage capacity) will be used for toilet room functions such as toilet flush and hand washing.

• Particulate and antibacterial filtration will be used to provide potable water at drinking stations on both levels, as well as supply water for use in the galley of the café/lounge car (for coffee, hand washing and food preparation).

• All waste water will be captured and stored in a 250-gallon waste retention tank at the B-end of each car.

1.4.16 Cab and Controls (Chapter 16)

• Each cab/baggage car will be equipped with a locomotive control cab at the forward end of the upper level.

• The cab will be full width, and will provide seating for an engineer and an assistant.

• FRA Type 1 windshields will be provided on the end of the car for the engineer and the assistant. These windshields will be heated for defrosting and defogging. Drop-sash windows will be provided on each side of the cab for sideways visibility.

• The cab-end forward-facing door shall be a robust hinged door with projectile-resistant FRA Type 1 glazing and large wedge latches to keep the cab weatherproof and to prevent material, liquids or debris from entering the cab in the event of a grade crossing accident. This door can be latched open for use in pass-through configuration.

• The engineer will have access to all locomotive train controls and indicators to operate the train safely in push-pull service.

• Federally mandated safety systems such as an event recorder, alerter and Positive Train Control (PTC) shall be incorporated into the design of the cab.

• The cab will be designed to allow passengers and crew to pass through the cab area when the cab/baggage car is used as a coach in mid-train. The cab areas will be secured behind partition doors when the cab is configured for pass-through. The design of the partition doors will allow the engineer and assistant engineer to quickly exit the cab in the event of an emergency.

• Secure cabinets will be located behind the cab for emergency equipment, storage of crew belongings and a refrigerator. A secure locker will be provided for data storage from the event recorder and PTC systems.

• The cab end of the cab/baggage car will include streamlined styling for reduced wind resistance, which reduces fuel consumption and enhances locomotive performance at high speeds when in push mode.
1.4.17 Emergency Equipment (Chapter 17)

- All cars will be equipped with emergency equipment as required by the FRA, including fire extinguishers, pry bar, sledge hammer, first aid kit and light sticks.
- Signage for the emergency equipment shall meet all applicable FRA requirements.

1.4.18 Materials and Workmanship (Chapter 18)

All materials, parts and workmanship that go into the design and manufacture of the rail cars are subject to rigorous standards for quality, performance, method of assembly and compliance with applicable regulations and industry standards.

1.4.19 Testing Requirements (Chapter 19)

The cars will undergo extensive testing as prescribed in the specification, to ensure that the cars meet all requirements for design, performance and quality.

Four major categories of tests are specified:

- Material certifications:
  These tests are performed on the materials that are used to manufacture the cars, to ensure that they are manufactured in accordance with all specified requirements. These are usually performed at material testing laboratories or manufacturer facilities.
- Proof of design tests
  Proof of design tests are performed to validate the concept of a component or system, to ensure that the design of the component or system performs as intended or specified, with no adverse or unexpected consequences. Proof of design tests are normally conducted on the first components or assembled systems, and the first completed cars, so that subsequent cars or components may be redesigned to resolve design problems.
- Production tests
  Production tests are required for all cars and selected components (such as truck frames) where safety is critical. Production tests are conducted at the Contractor’s facility, and at the facility of the major component suppliers.
- Acceptance tests
  Acceptance tests are conducted on each car at the Customer’s facility to verify all car functionality, including train consist compatibility, prior to placement of the car into revenue service.

1.4.20 Documentation and Training (Chapter 22)

- Support documentation, such as maintenance and operating manuals, as-built drawings, parts lists and troubleshooting guides, are included in the technical specification.
- A training program is established for familiarizing operating, mechanical and supervisory staff on the proper maintenance, repair, troubleshooting and operation of the equipment.
1.4.21 Customer Variables (Chapter 23)

- This chapter describes those features of the car that change from one customer to another, such as exterior graphics, interior décor considerations, testing with existing fleets, and other aspects of the car design that may be exclusive or particular to a customer.
Figure 1-1: Conceptual Interior Layout of Coach Car
Figure 1-2: Conceptual Interior Layout of Cab/Baggage Car
CAFÉ/LOUNGE CAR LAYOUT

**Upper Level**
- 50 Seats, 10 Tables

**Revenue Seating End**
- 28 Seats, 6 Tables

**Lower Level**
- 11 Seats, 1 ADA Seat, 4 Table

**Figure 1-3: Conceptual Interior Layout of Café/Lounge Car**
* End of Chapter 1 *