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Office of Proceedings
January 5, 2024
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January 5, 2024

Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street SW
Washington, DC 20423-0001

Re: Docket Number: EP 774 (Sub-No 1)

To whom it may concern:

For your consideration, I am submitting my nomination as a member of the Passenger Rail Advisory Committee (PRAC). With advanced engineering degrees from Manhattan College, Professional Engineering licensure in multiple states and over forty years of relevant experience in engineering and passenger rail equipment, I am suitably qualified and well-rounded to be a contributing member of the PRAC in the role as an at-large Representative.

The start of my professional career comprised over 13 years within the aerospace sector, which introduced and guided me to the concepts of technological innovation and integration of next generation designs through detailed testing and validation; a credo similarly followed within the transportation industry that is tantamount in all system development.

With over 23 years of progressively responsible experience with New York City Transit (NYCT), I accumulated technical and operational proficiency within the public transportation industry as a service and support provider. As Chief Mechanical Officer (CMO) of NYCT, I have direct involvement with the Signaling, Infrastructure and Production Planning departments of NYCT. The responsibilities while in this role also included presenting departmental status reports to the FTA and MTA Board. During my four years as the Assistant Chief Mechanical Officer of Engineering for NYCT Car Equipment, I was responsible for the oversight and overall development of the technical specifications for various subway car designs, including both passenger and work vehicles. I spent over fourteen years dedicated to the development of electronics design and testing practices for the NYCT Central Electronics Shop. During that time, I gained deep familiarity with vehicle Propulsion, Communications, Braking and HVAC systems for the NYCT subway fleet as well as the Long Island Railroad C3 and M7 commuter fleet.

My current position as the SVP of Rail for Clever Devices, Ltd., a leading north American Intelligent Transportation System supplier has further enhanced my experience by providing a view of the industry from the vendor's perspective. Working with multiple rail car suppliers and transportation agencies across North America over the past three years, I have gained knowledge in the application and integration of both on-board communication and back office analytical reporting systems such as Automatic Passenger Counting, Train Arrival Prediction Systems, Vehicle Monitoring, Condition Base Maintenance, Infotainment, as well as Station and On-Board Messaging.

I possess and maintain Professional Engineering licenses in three states (NY, NY, PA) and formed a consulting firm in 2020 (JSantamaria Consulting LLC), providing independent services to public transportation and avionic test system professionals, including Matrix Railway Corporation, H&K Engineering, Astronics Test Systems and Fordyno.

I currently hold the position of Chair for the American Public Transportation Association (APTA) Rolling Stock Technical Committee and am an active Panel Member for the Transit Cooperative Research Program's (TCRP) Project on Planning and Operations Initiatives to Support Nighttime Off-Peak Transit Ridership (Project J-07/Topic SA-62). These respective positions keep me up to date on all current and future rail projects within the US, focusing on reviewing modern technologies and innovation, assessing potential safety improvements, and enhancing the overall passenger experience.

During my time at NYCT, I spent eight years as a member of the UITP (International Association of Public Transport) Rolling Stock Sub Committee, exposing me to the latest projects undertaken by leading transportation agencies across the world. Additionally, as a member of the DeVry College Electronics Industry Advisory Committee, I provided input and assessment of present and future curriculum for technical courses to meet industry trends.

In conclusion, my credentials and span of experience within the private and public transportation sectors, as detailed in the attached biography and curriculum vitae have granted me opportunities to new technologies, gain insight to review and assess innovations in both public transportation and the commercial arena.

My potential role as an at-large representative adds a needed ingredient when assembling the right mix of transportation professionals for this newly formed Passenger Rail Advisory Committee.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Santamaria". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J" and a long, sweeping underline.

John Santamaria, P.E.

Bio - John Santamaria, P.E.



John Santamaria is currently the Senior Vice President of Rail for Clever Devices, Ltd., a leading Intelligent Transportation System provider in North America, responsible for developing and executing short-term and long-term business plans to increase market share in the Rail industry.

John also leads and manages rail industry activities and personnel engaged in Business Development, interfacing with Project Management & System Deployment, Product Development & Management, Quality Management sectors within the company.

John's professional career began at Grumman Aerospace (Northrop-Grumman), where he spent over fourteen years (1983-1997) as a design and test engineer, specializing in the integration of avionic electronic systems utilizing custom designed aircraft carrier-based automatic test equipment. John's experience at Northrop-Grumman culminated with developing the design and integration approach of second-generation aircraft electronic test systems approved for sale by the U.S. Department of Defense's Foreign Military Sales program, in cooperation with the Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

From 1997-2021, John was employed by New York City Transit, retiring as the Vice-President and Chief Mechanical Officer (CMO) of the Division Car Equipment - Department of Subways, a position held for over three years. John also spent four years as the Assistant Chief Mechanical Officer (ACMO) of NYCT's Car Equipment Engineering Department and held the position of ACMO of NYCT's Central Electronics Shop for over ten years, managing the engineering and maintenance activities of electronic repair and technical integration projects in support of NYCT's Department of Car Equipment, Automatic Fare Collection, Subway Electronics Maintenance and Bus Electronics Maintenance divisions.

In 2020, John formed "JSantamaria Consulting, L.L.C.", a NY State based consulting firm to provide varied services to public transportation and avionic test system professionals, benefiting from his years of experience in these sectors.

John has an undergraduate degree in Electrical Engineering and a master's degree in Computer Engineering from Manhattan College in Riverdale, NY. John is also a licensed Professional Electrical Engineer in three states (NY, NJ, PA) and holds the position of Chair for the APTA Rolling Stock Technical Committee. He is also a member of the APTA International Rail Rodeo Committee and the Commuter Rail Coalition. He also spent over eight years as a contributing member of the UITP (International Association of Public Transport) Rolling Stock Sub Committee.

An avid sportsman, John volunteers as a certified Hunter Safety Instructor for the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation. He is also actively involved with Habitat for Humanity and the Alzheimer's Association. John lives on Long Island, NY with his wife, Anne.

John Santamaria, P.E.

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SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:

Seasoned executive with proven ability in the planning and management of multiple high-scale projects within the transportation industry, having success-driven leadership skills with a strong technical background. Demonstrated ability to manage a wide range of initiatives from concept to delivery, achieving organizational goals within budgetary and scheduling constraints, while developing a supporting team within a performance-based culture.

Specialties: Program Management, Transportation Operations Planning and Design, Maintenance Support, Business Process Management, Engineering Design, Automatic Test Equipment, Systems Integration, Contract Negotiations, Departmental Liaison/Arbitrator, Communications/Public Speaker.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE:

CLEVER DEVICES, LTD.	Woodbury, NY
Senior Vice President, Rail	2021 - Present

Head of Rail Industry activities for leading Intelligent Transportation System (ITS) solutions provider in North America. Responsible for developing and executing short-term and long-term business plans for present and future rail industry technologies.

JSANTAMARIA CONSULTING LLC	Farmingdale, NY
President	2020 - Present

Independent consulting service provider with expertise in rolling stock operations/maintenance, engineering project management, electronic system support and automatic test equipment development and integration in public transportation and military applications.

MTA – NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT	Brooklyn, NY
Vice-President & Chief Mechanical Officer	2017 - 2021

Responsible for the oversight of the Division of Car Equipment (DCE), including the planning and development of the overall direction for the Division; managing the 24/7 operation of thirteen maintenance facilities, two overhaul shops and one locomotive shop in support of over 6,500 revenue cars and 650 work non-revenue vehicles. Providing executive oversight during emergency response situations and responsible for the direction of all supporting Car Equipment sub-divisions.

MTA – NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT	Woodside, NY
Assistant Chief Officer, Car Equipment Engineering	2014 - 2017

Responsible for the technical oversight of engineering activities for the procurement of all NYCT revenue and non-revenue vehicles, providing direction of continuing design improvements on the existing NYC Transit fleet as well as the overall supervision of the Division of Car Equipment's Overhaul Program. Duties include the administration of capital contract procurement for all vehicle and sub-systems; overseeing the development of technical specifications for vehicle designs, providing technical support as required for direct investigations of all safety related rail car and shop equipment incidents; serving as an active participant in the decision-making process of external transportation associations and agencies on transit related issues.

MTA – NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT	Woodside, NY
Assistant Chief Officer, Central Electronics Shop	2004 - 2014

Responsible for managing the post-warranty repair of electronic equipment within NYCT's Central Electronics Shop. Equipment supported includes NYCT's entire carborne and wayside subway system electronics, surface, and subway automatic fare collection (AFC) electronics, public address and customer information systems and various radio communication systems.

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PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (continued):

MTA – NEW YORK CITY TRANSIT	Brooklyn, NY
Senior Director, Operations Support	1997 - 2004

Managed the engineering and technical support activities of electronic design and integration projects within the various departments comprising the Electronics Maintenance Division. Responsibilities include the establishment of maintenance and testing guidelines, development of new business initiatives and the enforcement of ISO9002 quality standards and establishing post-warranty electronic support programs.

NORTHROP GRUMMAN CORP.	Bethpage, NY
Senior Engineer, Electronic Warfare Systems	1996 –1997

Managed the development of integrating aircraft electronic test systems approved for sale by the U.S. Department of Defense's Foreign Military Sales (FMS) program to foreign governments. Responsible for the generation of long-term system maintenance plans, requiring direct involvement with the Defense Security Cooperation Agency.

Electronic Specialist, Electronic Warfare Systems	1991 –1996
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Lead staff member of engineers and technical support personnel in the design, development and production of interface devices used for the testing and maintenance of electronic avionic assemblies. Provided technical leadership, generating system maintenance procedures, serving as company liaison to subcontractors.

GRUMMAN AEROSPACE CORP.	Bethpage, NY
Electrical Engineer, Integrated Logistics Support	1983 – 1991

Design, development and integration of hardware and software interface devices hosted on in-house designed automatic test equipment platforms for the support and testing of avionic assemblies from various aircraft programs. Provided technical support, coordinated the project management efforts, established the guidelines for quality assurance, reviewed the hardware/software end-product.

PROFESSIONAL ENGINEERING (PE) LICENSES

NY:	New York State Education Department (License No. 081112)
NJ:	State of New Jersey (License No. 24GE05616700)
PA:	Commonwealth of Pennsylvania (License No. PE091464)

EDUCATION

MANHATTAN COLLEGE	Riverdale, NY
Master of Science – Computer Engineering (MSCE)	1986
Bachelor of Engineering – Electrical Engineering (BEEE)	1983

PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATIONS

American Public Transportation Association (APTA)	2019-Present
Chair, Rolling Stock Equipment Technical Forum	

Commuter Rail Coalition	2021-Present
Member	

International Association of Public Transport (UITP)	2012-2020
Member, Rolling Stock Subcommittee	