AirTrain Project:
Planning, Design, Construction and
Operation of The AirTrain at JFK

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John Pascu, Senior Professional Associate, Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade and Douglas, Inc.

Abstract

AirTrain is an 8.4-mile-long (13.5 km), ten station light rail line that will provide intermodal connections between Kennedy Airport and existing Long Island Rail Road and New York City Transit stations under an innovative $1.8 billion design-build-operate-maintain (DBOM) contract. This project implements a state-of-the-art linear induction motor propulsion technology. The 32 Linear Induction Motor (LIM) powered vehicles employ Bombardier’s technology ideally suited to the JFK system’s tight curves, steep grades and requirements for precise stopping accuracy.

Speakers Biographies

Steven Plate is the Engineering Program Manager of the Airport Access Program, responsible for managing and supporting the project by supervising in-house and consultant staff in both design and construction, and coordinating program elements within the Agency, as well as with outside governmental agencies, airlines and major consultants. His typical responsibilities of managing design and construction are expanded for the AirTrain project in response to the size and scope, environmental considerations, and community interface.

Steve has over twenty-four years of experience in program management, particularly major capital programs in both private and public sectors. He joined The Port Authority of NY & NJ in 1974, beginning his career with the PA as a Program Manager for PATH Rail Maintenance Facilities and Infrastructure and Facilities Rehabilitation. During his career, his program management responsibilities have included Airport Facilities Redevelopment at the region’s three major airports; Airport Access Programs for NY and NJ; Rail Transportation Facility Development and Construction; Bridge Redevelopment; Petrochemical Process Plants Worldwide; and Power Plants.

Steve received a B.S. degree in civil engineering from the Manhattan College in 1976. He has published several papers on rapid transit system technologies. He was awarded numerous awards for his contribution and leadership in various complex projects undertaken by the Port Authority of NY and NJ.

John Pascu has 35 years of experience in electrical engineering, specializing in power generation, distribution, and traction power for mass transit. As a senior professional associate at Parsons Brinckerhoff Quade and Douglas, Mr. Pascu is currently working on the AirTrain JFK project which is an airport rail system being built by the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey that will connect John F. Kennedy International Airport to the regions rail transportation network. He is a registered professional engineer in Massachusetts, New Hampshire, and Pennsylvania; a member of the National Society of Professional Engineers; and a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers.

Mr. Pascu’s past projects include directing the engineering and design of traction power supply stations and power distribution for the Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority, Amtrak’s Northeast Corridor Improvement Project, and SEPTA’s Frankford Elevated Reconstruction Project. His early professional career concentrated on the design and analysis of various electrical power systems, power plants, substations, and system relaying and protection; and on the modernization of large industrial power systems. Mr. Pascu received his engineering degree from the Polytechnic Institute in Cluj, Romania. His presentation is a basic primer on power supply and distribution systems to the Linear Induction Motor (LIM) powered vehicles.

Date, Time and Location

DATE: September 26, 2002 (Thursday).
TIME: 5.30 PM: Refreshments are provided
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