

Minutes
Technical Standards Committee
Wednesday, October 22, 1997
Rio Suite Hotel
Las Vegas, NV

Chairman: George Sabbi

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling

People in attendance: Frank Stewart, Associated Theatrical Contractors, Principal
Bill Groener, Barbizon Electric, Principal
George Sabbi, BASH Lighting Services (NJ), Principal
David Saltiel, Bell, Boyd & Lloyd, Visitor
Lori Rubinstein, ESTA (non-voting)
Mike Wood, High End Systems, Principal
Larry Schoeneman, Interesting Products, Visitor
Mike Garl, James Thomas Engineering, Inc., Principal
Edward Paget, Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc., Principal
Tony Douglas-Beveridge, PLASA, Principal
Steve Terry, Production Arts, Principal
Steve Carlson, Rosco/Entertainment Technology, Principal
Mitch Hefter, Rosco/Entertainment Technology, Principal
Colin Waters, TMB Associates, Principal
Jay O. Glerum, USITT, Principal
Rodney F. Kaiser, USITT, Alternate
Anne Valentino, Vari-Lite, Inc., Principal
Paul Vincent, Vincent Lighting Systems, Principal

1 Opening remarks

The meeting was called to order at 1:02 p.m. by George Sabbi

2 Attendance and membership (Five required for quorum.)

George Sabbi announced that we have a quorum.
George Sabbi introduced David Saltiel, ESTA's legal counsel.

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Steve Terry moved the minutes be accepted as written. Ted Paget seconded. Unanimous

4 Call for patents and anti-trust statement

The following passages were read:

ESTA intends to publish no standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that property can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. ESTA uses a process of open patent disclosures to implement this intent. ESTA does not conduct patent searches and does not warrant that its standards contain no protected intellectual property.

In keeping with the open disclosure policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify the Technical Standards Committee of the existence of a patent or copyright that might

protect material in a standard being developed by a working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright in order to notify the TSC of its existence.

The ESTA Board of Directors and the leadership of this Technical Standards Committee will reject or nullify any actions that restrain trade. Anyone who feels that an action restraining trade is being or has been taken is requested to bring the matter to the attention of the chair immediately. Anyone who feels that actions in restraint of trade have been taken and not properly annulled is requested to notify the TSC chair or ESTA president immediately.

ESTA legal counsel has informed us that any member of this committee may be found individually liable for any action that restrains trade taken by this committee. An individual convicted of a violation of the Sherman Act may be fined as much as \$100,000 and be imprisoned for up to three years. An easy to read pamphlet describing restraint of trade is available from the Technical Standards Committee.

5 Approval of agenda

Steve Terry asked that we add a discussion of Paul Mardon's DMX proposal under 6.2.3.4

Mike Garl moved that the agenda be accepted with this addition. Jay O. Glerum seconded the motion. Unanimous

6 Old business

6.1 Financial reports

6.1.1 Treasurer's report

6.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and on-hand

Frank Stewart gave his reports. (See the three appended sheets)

Bill Groener reported that the fundraising drive "is still over," but that two contributors have pledged and not paid. Altman and Wybron had each pledged \$2,500. Altman paid half; Wybron nothing. Colin agreed to remind Keny Whitright of his commitment. Steve Terry will remind Altman.

So far we have pledges of \$52,500 for next year, but we need \$60,000. Groener will coordinate the additional fundraising, with the intention of having this done in time for the meeting at the USITT Conference.

6.2 Working group reports

6.2.1 Safe Practices and Loss Control

The SP&LC voted at their last meeting to ask the TSC to disband the working group. Ted Paget moved that the TSC disband the SP&LC working group. Mitch Hefter seconded the motion. Unanimous.

6.2.2 Photometrics

6.2.2.1 E1.9, nutrition label

6.2.2.2 Revamp/renew IES procedures

6.2.2.3 Public information project

Ruling reported that a draft of an E1.9 standard (Nutrition Label) will be discussed at the photometrics meeting. Ruling had not seen any recent evidence of work on the part of the other two task groups. However, Ruling felt that if the E1.9 group was making progress, the working group could be said to be making progress. The public information project would have something concrete to work on when E1.9 is finished.

6.2.3 Control Protocols

6.2.3.1 E1.3, analog control

E1.3 will go to public review in two days.

6.2.3.2 Fast Ethernet cabling project

Carlson reported that half of task group has been lost. The group is waiting for IEEE 802.3 to deal with gigabit backbone so that can be added into the document.

6.2.3.3 Acme Control Network project

Carlson said this is not the name. It is the "Advanced Control Network." The task group will work on it tomorrow.

6.2.3.4 Pulsar proposal

Steve Terry recounted the events at the PLASA Control Protocols meeting in which Paul Mardon revealed that Pulsar was putting power supply voltages on pin 5 of the DMX connector, and reviewed our response to it on the web and elsewhere. Paul Mardon has requested time to make a presentation about changing the DMX512 standard to require over-voltage protection on the secondary data link, both for EMC compliance and to protect against power supply voltages. Steve Carlson and Steve Terry were proposing to allow him to speak, but not during the formal working group meeting.

David Saltiel advised that the proposal and discussion must be on the record.

Steve Terry and Steve Carlson noted that small task groups with esoteric projects could present a drain on resources of larger working group. Ruling agreed to remind WG's each time a new project is entertained that the level of commitment must be 100% to the project.

6.2.4 Fog and Smoke

Larry Schoeneman was present to speak for the working group.

6.2.4.1 E1.5, glycol/glycerin fog

We have a rough draft of a document, which will be discussed at the working group meeting.

6.2.4.2 Public information

The group is working on a second edition of the fog booklet, a project that should be finished at the next meeting.

At the LDI seminar the working group will tell people about the info on the ESTA web site and Tony will talk about the CIH reports.

Murray Gellatly is working on a fog docs project describing what information should be made available by manufacturers to buyers when they purchase a fog machine. The document would tell manufacturers what info should be made available regarding maintenance and safety. A timeline should be drafted Saturday and a preliminary doc should be available by USITT.

6.2.4.3 Misc. fog

Equity and Disney liaisons. Tishman is the working group's liaison with Disney. Equity has rejected us again, but this time in writing.

There was discussion of the exposure limits that will be in the fog book. Larry mentioned the idea of developing some sort of machine to test for concentrations..

By consensus the TSC request the WG fog manufacturers for some help on giving users a way of visually evaluating density.

Lori Rubinstein suggested coming up with a measure of the industry in dollars or in numbers of people exposed to fog.

Larry Schoeneman went to an NFPA meeting on special effects. He was asked to continue to attend those meetings. Schoeneman would like the TSC to help fund him to go, since the group meets twice a year.

There was a discussion regarding whether we should be represented on this NFPA committee. The consensus was that Schoeneman should attend the next meeting and find out more.

Steve Terry moved that the TSC appoint a rep to the NFPA committee and that the TSC fund their expenses. Colin seconded. Ted Paget abstained (out of the room on a telephone call) all the rest voted in favor. Larry was appointed. ESTA will draft a letter indicating this appointment.

Steve Terry suggested that Ruling should go and be the voter. David Saltiel added his affirmation.

Frank Stewart asked that we carefully document costs and reasons if we fund an individual from a company.

An item for the January TSC meeting will be resolving out-work liaisons and voting on other committees.

6.2.5 Rigging Mike Garl

Mentioned that the working group will have new attendance requirements. Anyone missing three meetings will have their status changed to observer.

6.2.5.1 Documents in public review: E1.1, wire rope ladder

6.2.5.2 Documents back from public reviews

6.2.5.2.1 E1.2, truss

This draft document received 61 comments. TSC voted unanimous to recommend the working group prepare for a second public review.

6.2.5.2.2 E1.4, manual counterweight

This draft document received 351 comments. TSC voted unanimous to recommend the working group prepare for a second public review.

Terry moved that the WG be instructed to remove as much as possible any construction-based requirements. Seconded by Ted Paget. Unanimous.

6.2.5.3. Documents still in committee

6.2.5.3.1 E1.8, speakers

6.2.5.3.2 E1.7, flying performers

6.2.5.3.3 E1.6, powered flying

The above three documents have been circulated to the WG for information and comments. Jay Glerum said they will be submitted at the working group to go to public review.

6.3 Public relations/advertising

At the June meeting the TSC asked Lori Rubinstein to contact TEA for an ad swap. Lori reported that the TEA says they are planning to develop a policy next year. Our proposal will be considered after they develop a policy.

Lori reported that our relationship with Intertec is going well, both financially and otherwise. Intertec is proving to be very supportive. The president of Intertec and two senior VPs will be at our dinner.

6.4 ANSI status report

No report. [This item will be removed from the agenda in the future, unless there is some specific issue to discuss regarding our relationship to ANSI.]

7 New business

7.1 Distribution of standards

Lori Rubinstein and Frank Stewart explained what Broadway Press does for us now: they handle all sales and take 40%.

Paul Vincent presented USITT proposal to distribute ESTA documents. USITT is a 501c-3 organization and can distribute educational materials as part of their mission. Jay gave kudos on Standards Watch, and suggested that USITT could sell Standards Watch in ones and twos.

Ted Paget moved that we request a formal proposal from USITT to distribute our TSP documents. Mike Garl seconded. Unanimous. Paul Vincent will report back to the TSC.

7.2 USITT/ESTA income split for sales of standards. Report from the task group.

Paget suggested that this issue be dealt with as part of the 7.1 job. Consensus that this is all part of 7.1. To be reported at January meeting.

7.3 ESTA metric policy

Steve Terry moved that we accept the policy statement Ruling drafted. Colin Waters seconded. Unanimous.

The policy statement is as follows:

ESTA Metric Policy

Units of the International System of Units (SI), the modernized metric system, shall be the primary units of measurement in standards developed by Accredited Standards Committee E1, Safety and Compatibility of Entertainment Technical Equipment and Practices. American National Standard IEEE/ASTM SI 10-1997 shall be the guiding document for the use of SI units in E1 standards and recommended practices. When customary units, such as units in the inch/pound system, must be used in a standard drafted by E1, the SI equivalent will also be given. The SI equivalent will be calculated using the tables of conversion factors and rules for conversion and rounding found in IEEE/ASTM SI 10-1997.

7.4 ESTA/PLASA DMX survey

Tony Douglas-Beveridge presented his proposal that we survey manufacturers as to how they are implementing "DMX."

Tony Douglas-Beveridge and Ruling were directed to create a questionnaire for the CPWG to review at the next meeting.

8 Other business

None.

9 Schedule for future meetings

January meetings in Irving, Texas:

TSC	Friday, January 23 at 1:00 p.m.
Rigging	Friday, January 23 at 7:00 p.m.
CP	Saturday, January 24 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00
F&S	Saturday, January 24 from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Photo	Saturday, January 24 from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.
Board	Sunday, January 25

USITT meetings in Long Beach, CA

TSC	Wednesday, March 18 from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Rigging	Wednesday, March 18 from 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.
CP	Thursday, March 19, 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
F&S	Thursday, March 19, 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.
Photo	Saturday, March 21, 1:00 to 6:00 p.m.

10 Adjournment

Steve Terry moved to adjourn. Anne Valentino seconded. No objections. Adjourned at 4:46:21 pm..