

**Minutes**  
**Technical Standards Council**

Sunday, 27 July 2014  
D/FW Marriott Solana  
Westlake, TX

**Presiding chairperson:** Mike Garl; Mike Garl Consulting LLC; P

**Recording secretaries:** Karl G. Ruling; PLASA NA; exf and Erin Grabe; PLASA NA; exf

**Members attending:**

Matthew Antonucci; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P  
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; USITT; P  
Mitch Hefter; P  
A. Scott Hoyt; PLASA NA Treasurer; Heartland Scenic Studio; exf  
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P  
Jules Lauve ; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P  
Eddie Raymond; IATSE Local 16; IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman); P  
Alan M. Rowe; IATSE Local 728; IATSE Crafts Advancement Program ; P  
Lori Rubinstein; PLASA NA; PLASA NA; exf  
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P  
Larry Schoeneman; DesignLab Chicago, Inc.; P  
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P  
Ken Vannice; Ken Vannice LLC; P  
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P

**Visitors attending:**

Dena Hanson; Walt Disney Co.  
Roger L. Lattin; I.A.T.S.E Local 728  
Michael Lay; Philips  
Peter Willis; Howard Eaton Lighting LTD.  
Frances Thompson; PLASA NA; exf

**1 Opening remarks**

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m. He thanked all in attendance for taking time out of their schedules to help move the Technical Standards Program forward.

**2 Attendance and membership**

**2.1 Taking attendance**

A bright pink sign-in sheet was passed counter-clockwise

**2.2 Welcome to visitors**

Mike Garl welcomed the visitors in the room who may not know the rest of the group: Dena Hanson and Peter Willis.

**2.3 Introductions**

**2.4 Call for quorum**

Mike Garl noted that a quorum was present.

## 2.5 Consensus body

The full consensus body of this group at the time of this meeting, including those not present, was:

Name	Representing	Voting status
Jules Lauve	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Kimberly Corbett Oates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Eugene Leitermann	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman)	P
Ken Vannice	Ken Vannice LLC	P
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A
		14 votes
Key to Voting Status: P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter		

## 3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See *TSCmin03-2014.pdf*

Mitch Hefter moved to approve the minutes of the March meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

## 4 Call for patents, to be read aloud to the assembly

*The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Mike Garl:*

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

In keeping with the open disclosures policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify the Technical Standards Council of the existence of a patent or copyright or other intellectual property that might protect material in a standard being developed by a working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright to notify the Technical Standards Council of its existence.

Nothing was revealed.

## **5 Anti-trust statement, to be read aloud to the assembly**

*The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Mike Garl:*

PLASA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws. Therefore, during this meeting and during all PLASA events, all discussions will be limited to those subjects that are permitted by the antitrust laws. All members should refrain from any discussion or mention of competitively sensitive subjects such as the current or future prices charged for any member product or services, current or future marketing plans or strategies, and current or future costs, including employee salaries. There also must be no agreement on the suppliers or customers that members will do business with or the markets in which members will conduct business.

Violations of the antitrust laws can have serious consequences. If you have any questions or concerns about anything that is discussed at a PLASA meeting, please bring your concern to PLASA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the PLASA staff.

No questions or concerns were raised.

## **6 Approval of agenda**

Ken Vannice asked for time to make a request at the end of the meeting.

Eddie Kramer moved to approve the amended agenda. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

## **7 Old business and standing reports**

### **7.1 Financial reports**

#### **7.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges**

Scott Hoytt reported that the association as a whole is having financial problems. The Board voted to not have the January meetings this coming year, 2015.

Lori Rubinstein spoke on the need to look at long-term solutions for funding the program. She noted that everything is being looked at to combat the \$110,000 deficit projected for this program. She then noted several possible ideas to add income to the TSP, including:

- Pay-to-play
- Fee for observers and voters who don't actively participate by attending meetings
- Fee for participating remotely
- Application fee for applying, either as an observer or voter

Steve Terry asked for a more formalized contribution system, where sponsorship could be asked of some companies. He spoke against pay-to-play, and added, as an example of a simple solution, the fact that twenty companies with contributions of \$5,000 each would solve the problem.

Bill Sapsis spoke against the pay-to-play idea, too. He argued that the revenue would likely amount to little.

Eddie Kramer said that pay-to-play is a bad idea, too.

Larry Schoeneman spoke against pay-to-play, too, as it would give the appearance that access to the program was being sold.

The Council then agreed to put together a task group that will consider how money is spent, and where there might be savings. The task group members appointed are: Steve Terry, Jules Lauve, Larry Schoeneman, and Eddie Kramer. It was agreed to begin these efforts the week of August 4.

Karl Ruling added that there are 315 observer members and 178 voting members. He noted that, with some quick math, a yearly application fee of \$75 could take in between \$18,000-\$35,000. This range hinges on possibility of losing members due to the fee incurred. No further discussion took place.

Lori Rubinstein reported that ProSight has signed for \$80,000 a year for the next two years (2014 and 2015). They are also continuing to offer an additional \$100 contribution for each new quote requested of ProSight. She asked members to spread the word, and consider ProSight Insurance for their businesses.

Lori Rubinstein concluded with a report on the ProSight Focus groups held on Friday morning. They were well received, and ProSight seemed very excited at some of the initial results.

### **7.1.2 Accounting of TSP documents sold**

Mike Garl read from the report, *Sales Report for TSC\_07-2014.pdf*. He noted that only 38 documents had been sold through ANSI, and that over 24,000 standards had been downloaded for free since 15 April 2013.

### **7.2 CEN committee update**

Bill Sapsis reported that at the ITEAC conference there are two factions, those arguing and those with no sense that the US figures into their standards-setting at all. Steve Terry added that there is a sense among the non-Germanic companies that the standard will be too Germanic. However, he noted that the voting will be by country, with weighted votes.

### **7.3 Old Business**

#### **7.3.1 TSM's report**

Karl Ruling noted that the document was distributed, it's there to be read.

##### **7.3.1.1 Report on status of documents: ones in process, ones stable, ones needing action or of concern**

##### **7.3.1.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC**

###### **7.3.1.2.1 Public reviews**

###### **7.3.1.2.1.1 Motions from the EPWG might be advanced to approve the public reviews of**

*BSR E1.19, Recommended Practice for the Use of Class A Ground-Fault Circuit Interrupters (GFCIs) Intended for Personnel Protection in the Entertainment Industry. See E1-19\_2ndRevwCmmntResols.pdf and E1-19R18.pdf.*

It was noted that a public review with a concurrent letter ballot to accept the draft as an ANS was being requested. Eddie Kramer moved to approve the public review of the draft standard. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

*BSR E1.51, The Selection, Installation, and Use of Single-Conductor Portable Power Feeder Cable Systems for Use at 600 Volts Nominal or Less for The Distribution of Electrical Energy in the Television, Film, Live Performance and Event Industries in Canada. (No resolution document available as of 8 July.)*

Mitch Hefter noted the revisions to the document which will result in a letter ballot to WG for acceptance of the revisions. Karl Ruling will be making the necessary revisions per the comment resolutions. There is nothing for this group to consider at this time. Steve Terry noted that this is a narrowly focused document for the Canadian market. He spoke against the standard, adding that it costs the program no less than an American standard.

### 7.3.1.2.1.2 Motion from the RWG was advanced to approve the public review of

*BSR E1.47, Entertainment Technology - Recommended Guidelines for Entertainment Rigging System Inspections. See E1-47\_08July2014.pdf.*

Bill Sapsis reported that the Working Group had voted to approve a public review. Steve Terry moved to approve the public review. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

It was noted that there will be letter ballots for BSR E1.39 and BSR E1.22, after the Working Group approves revised documents.

### 7.3.1.2.2 New projects

*Project request forms have been received for*

*BSR E1.37-4, File Transfer Control to provide Firmware Upload Capabilities. See E1-37-4\_ProjectRequest.pdf.*

Mitch Hefter moved to approve this project. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

*BSR E1.53, Recommendations to prevent falls on or off movable parade floats and similar vehicles or trailers. See TSP\_ProjectRequest-floats.pdf.*

Karl Ruling reported that the working group did not approve this project. It will be considered at the next meeting. There is no action for the TSC at this time.

*BSR E1.54, Recommended color specification*

Mike Wood explained this project as a standard for unequivocal definition of color between manufacturers of lighting desks and luminaires. Steve Terry moved to approve this project. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

*BSR E1.55, Standard for theatrical makeup mirror lighting. See TSP\_ProjectRequest\_MakeupLighting.pdf.*

Karl Ruling briefly explained the projected scope of the project. Mike Wood noted that it was Actors' Equity who requested the project, and that the project would be supportive of them. Bill Sapsis moved to approve the project. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

*BSR E1.56, Standard for rigging points. See RiggingPoints\_ProjectRequest.pdf.*

Bill Sapsis moved to approve this project. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

### 7.3.2 TSP Marketing

Erin Grabe reported that "Standards on the Stage" would be held again at LDI in November—this time with a stage. The 10-minute sessions this year will focus more on historical standards, using a document that Jay Glerum had prepared, pointing out the parts of each standard most useful to electricians and riggers.

Lori Rubinstein said that it would be nice to do an open mic for Jay Glerum. It was decided that before the EPWG meeting, in the EPWG meeting room, would be the best possible venue. Tentatively, 5pm was decided as the start time. Bill Sapsis agreed to be the MC of the event. Publicity needed.

Lori Rubinstein then reminded people that nominations for the Stewart Award are still needed.

### **7.3.3 Outreach to AHJs**

Lori reported that she and Karl had had a good meeting in the PLASA office with a representative of Chubb Insurance, who will be joining some of the working groups. Continuing education with brokers was mentioned as an action item from that meeting, and that PLASA would provide some of the material, though the program will take about a year to get that off the ground.

### **7.3.4 Making the TSP be more international**

Erin Grabe reported on the AV system tests with the Photometrics, Floors, and Control Protocols Working Groups. There are some audio kinks, and troubleshooting the system is of high priority. The roadcase is still not ready, although plans have been put into place to acquire a new, smaller one. The subscription to Join.me was noted as being successful by those who've already been taking advantage of it, including Lori Rubinstein.

### **7.3.5 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above**

## **8 New business**

### **8.1 Stage Scenery**

See *StageSceneryAgendaTopic.pdf*

Mike Garl explained a series of emails dealing with the issue of temporary stage collapses. Jules Lauves explained further that within the ASTC there is a double-edged sword view between safety issue, documentation thereof. Eddie Raymond explained his potential for getting an article in Dramatics Magazine that will have a reasonable chance of exposure to the right people (i.e., Dads) building stages in middle and high schools.

### **8.2 Other new business**

## **9 Optional Reports**

### **9.1 Optional reports by working and task group leaders on active projects**

#### **9.1.1 Control Protocols**

Michael Lay noted the impressive contribution of the working group's Korean colleagues, with an 85-page draft standard dealing with VLC (Visible Light Communication).

#### **9.1.2 Electrical Power**

Mitch Hefter added that, in addition to the above items, there is 19 pin standard that isn't gaining traction. He will talk to Colin Waters, the initiator of the project, but added that a withdrawal of the project is likely. Mitch Hefter went on to report that the task group meeting on Thursday regarding Class C GFCIs and draft proposals for the NEC resulted in a consensus not to submit on this topic at this time.

Ken Vannice added a report from CSA on stage and studio luminaire standard that is currently in editorial review, soon expected to be in public review.

#### **9.1.3 Floors**

Jerry Gorrell reported that 128 comments were received on the stage edges draft standard. Many comments are similar in nature, and resolutions will be drafted.

#### **9.1.4 Fog and Smoke**

Nothing to report at this time.

#### **9.1.5 Followspot Position**

Nothing to report at this time.

### **9.1.6 Photometrics**

Nothing additional to report than has already been mentioned above in this agenda.

### **9.1.7 Rigging**

Nothing further to add from items covered above in this agenda.

### **9.1.8 Stage Lifts**

The group should meet next month to craft resolutions to comments received in the second public review.

## **9.2 Reports of affiliated organizations and PLASA EU**

### **9.2.1 ASTC**

Jules Lauve reported that the group has largely been quiet recently, but is planning a new technologies meeting, mostly covering LEDs and how to design for tomorrow's technology. He noted that ASTC's mentoring project with students was fulfilling and successful; they are planning to formalize the program.

### **9.2.2 NFPA**

Eddie Kramer noted that he and Alan Rowe attended the conference, and that a comprehensive document was forwarded to the TSC.

#### **9.2.2.1 FDW-AAA committee**

Jerry Gorrell argued against requiring designers of fire curtain systems to be certified riggers. He noted his agreement that Installers should be certified riggers, however. He mentioned the riskiness of having a "third-party" certification requirement, but added that it is standard language within the NFPA.

#### **9.2.2.2 SPE-AAA**

Jerry Gorrell talked about pulling the standards for fireworks storage and the fire sprinklers.

#### **9.2.2.3 SAF-AXM**

No news about assembly occupancies.

### **9.2.3 PLASA EU**

Steve Terry said he wanted to go back to discussing the CEN stage machinery standard project. He asked about the PLASA directive in light of the EU voting system. Lori Rubinstein added that subject matter experts are still needed, with proactive outreach to aid our input. She noted the need to compile a list of voters, and evaluate mutually beneficial relationships.

Lori Rubinstein then spoke on the CDM regulations that are being revised in the EU by the HSC. She noted that, while the regulations have always applied to entertainment technology, they've not been enforced. A reconsideration of enforcement will have an enormous impact on our industry, and shows will suffer. The regulation are too stringent, labeling load-ins and outs as construction sites. It was noted that the HSC has acknowledged that the entertainment technology industry was left out of the impact assessment. A reasonable fix is to lighten the enforcement to apply only to our larger builds and keep most of our industry work under the threshold.

Lori Rubinstein then reported that a program was being launched in the UK within the next few months to fill a certification gap. An entry level apprenticeship is to be implemented, called the Trainee Rigger Program, which allows entry level applicants to complete a series of checklists during their work to provide a direct pathway into second tier certification. ETCP in the US has also expressed interest in a similar tier.

### **9.2.4 USITT**

Jerry Gorrell reported that their education program was considering an entry level tier, but that it was still being organized.

## **10 Other business**

### **10.1 Rigging International Code of Practice**

Lori Rubinstein reported the slow project start, but that a content outline has been agreed upon. National groups are filling it in, with the U.S. working exceptionally quickly.

### **10.2 UL**

Ken Vannice asked for permission to apply to STP 916. Steve Terry moved that Ken Vannice be appointed an official representative to STP 916. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

### **10.3 UL 1088**

Karl Ruling mentioned a request by UL for him to join this task group dealing with temporary lighting strings. The consensus was that there is enough crossover into our industry that it would be beneficial. Karl Ruling agreed to apply.

### **10.4 Board member attendance at CPWG**

Michael Lay asked for a board member to be present at the next CPWG meeting to answer questions about the changes being implemented due to budget constraints. Eddie Raymond agreed to attend.

### **10.5 Above & Beyond Award**

There was no discussion on whether the award would be given out at the March meetings, since they will not be given out in January.

## **11 Schedule for future meetings**

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 19 November, from 14:00-18:00 at the Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino, aka. the Las Vegas Hotel.

Frances Thompson asked that we consider having task group meetings as part of February Focus in Orlando. She did not think that trying to do one day of meetings at the Marriott Solana in January would work well. PLASA Focus Orlando is February 17 & 18, but the hotel could be available as early as the 15th. This proposal was well received.

## **12 Adjournment**

Bill Sapsis moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded. Hearing no objections, Mike Garl called the meeting adjourned at 12:10.

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA Technical Resources Office	PLASA EU	O
Harry Box	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	O
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	O
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Erin Grabe	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA EU	PLASA EU	exf
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
A. Scott Hoyt	PLASA NA Treasurer	Heartland Scenic Studio	exf
David Johnson	Live Design	Penton Media	O
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment	Walt Disney Company	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Jules Lauve	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eugene Leitermann	Nextstage Design	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Katie McCulloh	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment	Walt Disney Company	A
Kimberly Corbett Oates	Schuler Shook	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16	IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman)	P
JR Reid	JR Lighting, Inc.	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	O
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Local 728	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Lori Rubinstein	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf
Karl G. Ruling	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
Marian Sandberg	Live Design	Penton Media	O
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Ken Vannice	Ken Vannice LLC	Ken Vannice LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P

**Key to Voting status:**

P = Principal voter  
 A = Alternate voter  
 exf = ex officio