

Minutes
Technical Standards Committee
Wednesday, 16 October 2002
Las Vegas Hilton

Chairman: Paul Vincent; Vincent Lighting Systems; principal

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling, ESTA

Members attending: William Conner; Schuler & Shook Inc., representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; principal
 Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls; principal
 Mitch Hefter; Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Thomas Group LLC); principal
 Mike Wood; High End Systems Inc.; principal
 Larry Schoeneman; Interesting Products, Inc.; principal
 Mike Garl; James Thomas Engineering, Inc.; principal
 Edward Paget; Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.; principal
 Ken Vannice; Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.); principal
 Tim Cox; PLASA; principal
 Frank Stewart; Specialty Tech Services; principal
 Colin Waters; TMB; principal
 Eckart Steffens; SOUNDLIGHT, representing VPLT; alternate
 Lori Rubinstein; ESTA (ex officio)

Visitors: Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks
 David Saltiel; Bell, Boyd & Lloyd LLC
 Roger L. Lattin; IATSE Local 728
 Steve Carlson; High Speed Design

1 Opening remarks

Paul Vincent asked those in attendance to turn off their mobil phones. He reminded people of the short meeting period and the need to cover the agenda expeditiously.

Paul Vincent also mentioned the ESTA Buck program, and said that Lori Rubinstein would give the details later. Vincent also pointed out that Monday, October 14 had been International Standards Day.

2 Attendance and membership

Vincent noted that a quorum was present.

2.1 Taking attendance

A chartreuse sign-in sheet was circulated. The voting body during this meeting was:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Present	Absent
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	X	
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A		X
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	X	
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Thomas Group)		P	X	
Mike Wood	High End Systems Inc.		P	X	
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E., Local 1		P		X
Larry Schoeneman	Interesting Products, Inc.		P	X	
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	X	
Edward Paget	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.		P	X	
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	X	
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	X	
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A		X

Frank Stewart	Specialty Tech Services		P	X	
Tera Johnson	The Starfish Group		P		X
Colin Waters	TMB		P	X	
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	USITT	P		X
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	USITT	A		X
Paul Vincent	Vincent Lighting Systems		P	X	
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P		X
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A	X	
		TOTALS	16	13 votes present	3 votes absent

2.2 Welcome to visitors

Vincent welcomed all and thanked them for donating their time and talents. Vincent stated that the meeting is open to guests, but that he, the chairman, reserves right to limit comments from guests in the interest of keeping on schedule. Vincent also noted that the concerns of guests can also be added to the agenda, but that it is better to do this in advance of the meeting. Vincent invited people who would like to add items to the agenda of a future meeting to contact him (Paul Vincent) or Karl G. Ruling in advance of that meeting.

Self-introductions were omitted at this meeting because all present knew each other.

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Paul Vincent noted that Kent Jorgensen's name had been misspelled and that Ed Clare had been present for at least part of the meeting, so these corrections needed to be made to the visitors list. Mitch Hefter moved that the minutes of the July meeting with these corrections be approved. The motion was seconded. The motion to approve the corrected minutes was approved unanimously with a show of hands.

4 Call for patents

The following was read aloud by Paul Vincent:

"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."

There were no comments from the assembly.

5 Anti-trust statement

The following was read aloud by Paul Vincent

"The ESTA Board of Directors and the leadership of this Technical Standards Committee will reject or nullify any actions that unlawfully restrain trade. Anyone who feels that such an action is being or has been taken is requested to bring that 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 ESTA president immediately.

"ESTA legal counsel has informed us that violations of the anti-trust laws can have serious consequences. Individuals engaged in certain unlawful conduct can be found criminally liable. An individual convicted of a criminal violation of the Sherman Act may be fined as much as \$100,000 and imprisoned for up to three years. An easy to read pamphlet describing restraint of trade issues is available from the Technical Standards Manager."

No issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

6 Approval of agenda

Steve Terry moved that the draft agenda be approved. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

7 Distribution of ESTA committee contact information

Lori Rubinstein distributed the ESTA committee contact information. Corrections were offered.

The ESTA LDI event schedule also was distributed for the information of TSC members.

8 Old business

8.1 Financial reports

8.1.1 Treasurer's report

Frank Stewart reported that the program is within budget projections to date. The budget for next year will go to the Board tonight. It will have slightly less money for TSP operations. The main changes were moving money out of the individual working group budgets, where it had not been spent, and moving it to main office administration.

Noting that the changes had cut the working group budgets to nil, Stewart asked for ample warning if any projects were being considered that would need funding.

8.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

Lori Rubinstein reported that the financial pledges are being honored. We expect to collect all the pledges by the end of the year, or slightly after. She reported that Colin Waters will spearhead the VAT refund donation effort again.

8.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and on-hand

Lori Rubinstein reported that there had been no sales during August and September.

8.2 Working group reports

8.2.1 Camera Cranes

Ruling reported that he'd been told that the camera crane operator's manual will be submitted to the TSC soon.

8.2.2 Control Protocols

8.2.2.1 E1.11 (DMX)

Mitch Hefter reported that the task group has been downsized to six principals and the chair, plus 6 observers. The group is in comment resolution on the second public review, with the intent of resolving the 116 comments for CPWG action in January 2003. Active participation in the Task Group meetings at LDI '02 will be limited to the Task Group only in order to facilitate processing of the comments.

He said he was disappointed in the large number of comments from task group and working group members that could have and should have been addressed prior to public review, as well as the number of comments that provide no suggested text.

8.2.2.2 E1.17 (ACN)

Steve Carlson praised the work that Dan Antonuk has been doing in modifying the document in response to task group comments, sometimes in just a matter of hours. Carlson reported that a version 1.0 suitable for public review in January is a goal.

8.2.2.3 E1.20 (Remote Device Management)

Steve Terry said that the draft document is making progress, and there is tremendous enthusiasm for RDM. There will be RDM prototype devices shown on the LDI tradeshow floor.

8.2.3 Fog and Smoke

8.2.3.1 E1.5 - Glycol and glycerin fog standard

Larry Schoeneman reported that the draft standard is in public review through December 10.

8.2.3.2 New general fog standard

Schoeneman reported that an initial outline had been drafted and submitted to the working group by Karl Ruling. The distribution didn't meet the two-week rule, but the group probably will discuss it.

Schoeneman also mentioned the Dr. Alan Kao from ENVIRON International had done some more fog machine/fluid calibration testing at Schoeneman's facility in Chicago.

Mike Wood asked Ruling for an update on ESTA's fog testing program. Ruling reported that there had been a fair amount of interest in receiving more information, but that only one company had rented the fog testing equipment so far.

8.2.4 Photometrics

Ruling stated that all there was to report is contained in the draft minutes of the July meeting. The group is mainly involved in vetting the draft IESNA standard for measuring the light output of stage and studio luminaires.

Paul Vincent praised Bill Klages' article in the recent issue of Protocol about ANSI E1.9.

8.2.5 Rigging

8.2.5.1 E1.2 – Aluminum towers and trusses revision

Mike Garl reported that a revised version of the standard will be discussed at the next working group meeting, which is this evening.

8.2.5.2 E1.4 – Manual Rigging Systems Standard

The document is in public review through November 19, Garl reported.

8.2.5.3 E1.6 – Powered Rigging Systems

Garl reported that the working group will consider a comment resolution document tonight. Hans van der Moolen has some concerns that have been distributed to the working group, and the group will consider them as part of the discussion to accept the resolutions.

8.2.5.4 E1.7 – Recommended Practice for Flying Performers

Garl reported that the working group will consider a comment resolution document tonight.

8.2.5.5 E1.8 – Speaker Enclosures Rigging Standard

Garl reported that the document is in public review through December 10.

8.2.5.6 E1.15 – Manufacture, Assembly, and Use of Theatrical Boom & Base Assemblies

Ruling reported that the working group had voted with a clear supermajority to send the draft document to public review. It was now up to the TSC to accept that motion, or not.

Mike Garl moved that BSR E1.15 (Rig/1998-2032r7) be sent to public review. The motion was seconded. The motion was passed with a roll call ballot.

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Accept	Accept in principle	Accept in part	Reject	Abstain
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	ASTC	P	1	0	0	0	0
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	ASTC	A	0	0	0	0	0
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	1	0	0	0	0
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Thomas Group)		P	1	0	0	0	0
Mike Wood	High End Systems Inc.		P	1	0	0	0	0
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E., Local 1		P	0	0	0	0	0
Larry Schoeneman	Interesting Products, Inc.		P	1	0	0	0	0
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	1	0	0	0	0
Edward Paget	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.		P	1	0	0	0	0
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	1	0	0	0	0
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	1	0	0	0	0
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A	0	0	0	0	0
Frank Stewart	Specialty Tech Services		P	1	0	0	0	0
Tera Johnson	The Starfish Group		P	0	0	0	0	0
Colin Waters	TMB		P	1	0	0	0	0
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	USITT	P	0	0	0	0	0
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	USITT	A	0	0	0	0	0
Paul Vincent	Vincent Lighting Systems		P	1	0	0	0	0
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	0	0	0	0	0
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A	1	0	0	0	0
		TOTALS		16	13	0	0	0

Three voters were absent. The motion was approved by a supermajority of 13 of a possible 16 voting in favor.

8.2.5.7 E1.21 – Portable roof systems

Garl reported that the task group has been meeting and working to create a first draft.

8.2.5.8 E1.22 – Fire curtain systems

Bill Conner, the head of the BSR E1.22 task group, reported that a big meeting to work on the draft document is scheduled for tomorrow (October 17).

8.2.6 Electrical Power

8.2.6.1 E1.17 – Task group on a recommended practice for selection, installation, and use of portable feeder cable.

Ken Vannice reported that work on the document is proceeding.

8.2.6.2 E1.18 – Task group for a recommended practice for use of residual current devices in entertainment applications.

Ken Vannice reported that work on the document is proceeding.

8.2.6.3 E1.16 – HMI ballast power cables

Vannice reported that this document is now an approved ANSI standard. It is available on our website and the ANSI Standards Store website for free download.

8.2.6.4 EMC task group (including EMC Workshops/LFEIC report)

Vannice reported that he had no new information from his source at General Electric.

8.2.6.5 Pin connector issue

Vannice reported that, after talking to UL, it is clear that the best thing for USITT and ESTA to do right now would be to make the USITT standard an ANSI standard. He'll also write to the Chief Engineer to urge resolution to the intermatability problem.

As a sidebar, Vannice reported that there are a lot of changes happening at UL. They now have their first non-technical president, and are finally using computers and cell phones. They will also have standards people that will be in charge of writing the standards, rather than the standards-writing be a job the testing engineers do when they have slack time between tests. There is also a move to harmonize the UL standards with the IEC standards.

8.2.6.6 Task lists

Vannice reported that the working group is using task lists at the end of the meeting to keep the working group on track.

8.2.7 Floors

Tim Hansen reported that they had a meeting this morning. They expect to have a scope statement and an outline for a standard by the January meeting. He reported that there is an ANSI committee that deals with pedestrian slip resistance. One of the guys on it has sent info about slip resistance testing equipment.

Hansen also reported that Mark Foley, a recognized expert on dance floors in the UK, is interested in the group now.

Hansen also reported that the first distribution of ESTA bucks was well received this morning.

8.3 Report on liaisons to other industry groups

8.3.1 NFPA

Larry Schoeneman reported no news regarding NFPA 1126 (pyrotechnics) and NFPA 160 (flame effects).

Bill Conner reported no news regarding NFPA 101, Life Safety Code.

Ruling reported no news regarding his 20 September letter to Steven E. Younis about the delay in appointments of committee members with experience in fire curtains to NFPA 80.

8.3.2 UL

There was no additional news about UL other than the sidebar notes in Ken Vannice's report in 8.2.6.5.

8.4 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

Ruling was directed to continue to pursue the NFPA committee appointment issue.

9 New Business – *Standards Watch* at a different frequency

There was a general discussion of the benefits of a more frequent publication schedule and the cessation of paper distribution. The consensus was that *Standards Watch* should go to an email distribution with a two-week frequency and the paper version should cease. There was a discussion of the possibility of distributing website links.

Steve Terry moved that *Standards Watch* shall go to a bi-weekly distribution as an emailed PDF of a Word document and that the paper version shall be abandoned. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous show of hands.

The consensus was that this will start at the beginning of next year. This will give time to publicize the change.

10 Other business

Lori Rubinstein explained the ESTA bucks program.

Eckart Steffens reported that VPLT is running the Event Academy with what is effectively the German chamber of commerce. Now it is required that people taking the course need to be able to prove a minimum level of electrical skills before the course can be taken. This has been adopted by legislation. This will ensure that everyone working in the field has basic electrical skills.

Paul Vincent asked how we are doing with the abbreviated agenda. Is there enough discussion? Steve Terry praised the speed of this meeting. He feels that this is expedient. We don't need the review of information that is printed in working group minutes.

There were no negative comments.

Frank Stewart asked that PDF documents be sent out with the security set so that notes can be added to the documents. Ruling agreed to change the default security settings on his copy of Acrobat Distiller.

11 Schedule for future meetings

Lori Rubinstein pointed out the schedules and asked committee chairs to review the AV requirements. She asked that the AV requests be cancelled if they are not needed. She also advised that additions and changes to USITT schedule must be made soon. Time and space is tight there.

12 Adjournment

Steve Terry moved we adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous show of hands. Paul Vincent declared the meeting adjourned at 14:55.

Post-Meeting Agenda

1 Session on the rules for discussion forum operation for working group and task group leaders

The informative meeting was held 15:30 to 16:11. During this meeting, David Saltiel, ESTA's legal counsel, reviewed the terms and conditions of use of ESTA forums. There was a long discussion of the types of comments that are appropriate or inappropriate on the ESTA forums.

2 Discussion of closer ESTA/PLASA collaboration in the Technical Standards Program

Starting at about 16:30, there was a discussion among TSC members and the ESTA staff of how there might be closer cooperation between ESTA and PLASA in the Technical Standards Program.

At the end of the discussion, Ted Paget moved that the Technical Standards Committee, in conjunction with the ESTA Board of Directors, enter into detailed discussions with PLASA with the view toward developing a partnership in the Technical Standards Program. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted by a show of hands, with one TSC member voting against the motion, one abstention, and a supermajority of 11 voting in favor.

This meeting adjourned at 17:28.

Technical Standards Committee Membership and Contact Information
2002-11-19

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	ASTC	P
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	ASTC	A
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Thomas Group LLC)		P
Mike Wood	High End Systems Inc.		P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E., Local 1		P
Larry Schoeneman	Interesting Products, Inc.		P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P
Edward Paget	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.		P
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P
Frank Stewart	Specialty Tech Services		P
Tera Johnson	The Starfish Group		P
Colin Waters	TMB		P
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	USITT	P
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	USITT	A
Paul Vincent	Vincent Lighting Systems		P
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A