

Minutes
Stage Machinery Working Group
Thursday, 25 January 2024
Wyndham Anaheim - Anaheim, CA

Chairpersons:

Dan Culhane; Wenger Corp.; P; MP (presiding)
Joseph Jeremy; Niscon (LFT); P; CP

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

Jesse Adams; Rose Brand Wipers, Inc; P; DR
Jane Harrington, ARM; The Hartford Group; A; G
Drew Becker; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; A; CP
Mike Brubaker; CM Buck Associates; P; DR
Paul Brunner; WJHW Consultants; P; DE
Ben Clark; Ben Clark; O; U
Bruce Darden; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; P; CP
Robert Dean; ZFX, Inc.; P; CP
Bruce Downer; SERAPID, Inc.; P; CP
Nathan Dye; Texas Scenic Company; P; MP
Joe Golden; Gallagher Staging & Productions; P; DR
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; G
Jeremy Hodgson; Jeremy Hodgson; I; G
Matt Jordan; Production Resource Group; A; CP
Christina Keryczynskij; Charcoalblue LLC; P; DE
John Marczeski; Texas Scenic Company; A; MP
Reid Neslage; Reid Neslage; I; G
Jim Niesel; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; P; DE
Craig Roberts; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; A; CP
Michael Shaw; Motion Laboratories, Inc.; P; MP
Peter V. Svitavsky; Wenger Corp.; A; MP
Michael Wade; Creative Connors, Inc.; O; MP
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE
Andrew Young; Andrew Young; O; U

Visitors:

Paul Beasley; Disney

1 Opening Remarks

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 14:08. He thanked people for attending, noting that we need their participation to move forward—and we have projects that are important to the industry.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

Dan Culhane read the following statement aloud to the assembly.

ESTA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws. Therefore, during this meeting and during all ESTA 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 or will not 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 an ESTA meeting, please bring your concern to ESTA management. An easy to

read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the ESTA staff.

Richard held up the pamphlet for all to see.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

Dan Culhane read the following statement aloud to the assembly.

ESTA intends not to publish any standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that information can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. ESTA uses a process of open patent and copyright disclosures to implement its intent. ESTA 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 this working group of the existence of a patent, patent application, copyright, or other protected intellectual property that might protect material in a standard being developed by this working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright to notify this working group of its existence.

Nothing was reported.

3 Attendance and Membership

3.1 Requirements for membership

Dan Culhane read the following statement aloud to the assembly.

Membership is open to all parties who are affected by the work of the group; membership in ESTA is not a requirement, but there is a \$100/person/year participation fee to help fund the costs of running the Technical Standards Program. New applications shall not be processed until the participation fee has been paid. Voting members are required to attend meetings and vote on letter ballots. Any principal member and alternate that both miss three consecutive meetings or that miss three consecutive letter ballots will have their membership status changed to observer. This action will be taken at the beginning of the first meeting after such inaction and will be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

Richard Nix said that people must pay their fee or they will be removed as a TSP participant.

3.2 Introduction of attendees

All attendees introduced themselves.

3.3 Determination of a quorum

There are presently 22 possible votes. A quorum is 8, a supermajority is 12.

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

As of today's meeting, the following applications and status change requests have been received:

Joe Jeremy; Niscon, a company held by LFT; P; CP (change of representation)
Paul Brunner; WJHW Consultants; P; DE (change of representation)
John Marczeski; Texas Scenic Company; A; MP (new application)
Nathan Dye; Texas Scenic Company; P; MP (interest category and status change request)
Leigh Witek; Wenger Corp. A; MP (new application)
Christina Keryczynskij; Charcoalblue LLC; P; DE

Jesse Adams moved to approve the applications and status change requests. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention.

3.5 Changes to observer status

3.5.1 Changes due to attendance

The following voters have missed two consecutive meetings. If they are not in attendance today, their voting status will be changed to Observer. For voting entities with multiple representatives, only one need be present.

There are none.

3.5.2 Changes due to missed letter ballots

The following voting entities have missed two consecutive letter ballots. Their voting status will be changed to Observer if the next letter ballot is missed.

*Dan Lisowski; University of Wisconsin – Madison (U)
Jeremy Hodgson; Jeremy Hodgson (G)
Robert Dean; ZFX, Inc (CP)
Troy Atkinson; Production Resource Group (CP)
Matt Jordan; Production Resource Group (CP)*

3.5.3 Automatic status changes

*Joe Jeremy, Show Distribution, Inc (see 3.4)
Marco Robles; I.A.T.S.E. Local 80 – missed letter ballots
Ben Clark; Ben Clark (U) – missed letter ballots
Sam Michael; Sam Michael (DE) – missed letter ballots
Paul Brunner; Thern, Inc (see 3.4)*

Ben Clark requested a status change back to voter. Steve Walker moved to approve the change. Seconded. Carried.

3.6 Consensus body

The table below shows the full consensus voting body after this meeting's actions.

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Peter A. Scheu	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck & Associates	P	DR
Christina Keryczynskyj	Charcoalblue LLC	P	DE
Charles McCafferty	Cirque du Soliel Entertainment Group	P	U
Ben Clark	Ben Clark	P	U
Cole Muth	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Joe Golden	Gallagher Staging & Productions	P	DR
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Jeremy Hodgson	Jeremy Hodgson	I	G
Michael Shaw	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
Joseph Jeremy	Niscon (LFT)	P	CP
Troy Atkinson	Production Resource Group	P	CP
Matt Jordan	Production Resource Group	A	CP
Reid Neslage	Reid Neslage	I	G
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR

Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig, LLC	P	DR
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
Julian Hoare	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Chris Peterson	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Craig Roberts	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	MP
John Marczeski	Texas Scenic Company	A	MP
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Jane Harrington	The Hartford Group	A	G
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	MP
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Leigh Witek	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Paul Brunner	WJHW Consultants	P	DE
Robert Dean	ZFX, Inc.	P	CP
Total possible votes:		26	
	Custom market producer (CP)	6	
	Designer (DE)	5	
	Dealer rental company (DR)	4	
	General interest (G)	5	
	Mass-market producer (MP)	4	
	User (U)	2	
Voting status key: P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter, I = Individual voter			

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

[See *SMmin10-2023r1_Draft.pdf*]

Bruce Darden moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstentions.

5 Approval of agenda

Someone moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstentions.

6 Old Business

6.1 ANSI E1.42-2023, Safety Standard for Entertainment Lifts (*reaffirm, revise, or withdraw by 10 December 2028*)

It's published!

6.2 ANSI E1.44 – 2014, Common Show File Exchange Format for Entertainment Industry Automation Control Systems -- Stage Machinery (Reaffirm, revise or withdraw by 07 May 2024)

The working group has two meetings, including this one, to decide which action to take.

Joe Jeremy moved to reaffirm, with the letter ballot following public review if no actionable comments are received. The motion was seconded. A BSR8 will be filed and a PR following. Letter ballot after the PR if no actionable comments.

6.3 BSR E1.64, Stage Machinery Motion Control

Task group members are: Joe Jeremy (Chair), Jem Hodgson, Bruce Darden, Duane Wilson, Nathan Dye, Julian Hoare, Robert Dean, John Ringelman.

[see BSR E1.64_PR2 CmmntResols_Draft.pdf and BSR E1.64-202x_SL2023-10002r2.pdf]

The task group has provided draft public review comments resolutions and a revised draft standard, for working group consideration.

Joe Jeremy noted that, in the comment resolution document, references to particular clause numbers needed correcting to account for renumbering in the draft standard. The corrections were made. Joe Jeremy moved to approve the PR comments as revised. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention.

Richard Nix noted that the three commenters were present and had voted to accept the resolutions, so it will be recorded that the resolutions were acceptable to them. There is an appeals process, and they were reminded of this.

Joe Jeremy said that we need to make a few changes in the document. They were discussed. There was long discussion of the risk level assessment criteria for the use of DMX512 noted in the annex. An acceptable sentence addressing unreliable data transport was developed. Richard Nix made the changes during the meeting (r4 is now the current revision). Joe Jeremy moved to send the revised draft out for another public review. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention.

Bruce Darden moved to approve as an ANS immediately following the PR, if no actionable comments come from the review. The motion was seconded. If there are no PR comments the letter ballot will commence.

Joe Jeremy reminded everyone that this working group needs to carefully review documents before public review, to minimize the number of comments. There are other documents that now depend upon the sequence of approvals, for efficiency's sake. Other standard will now rely on this document as a foundation for several other documents coming up.

6.4 ANSI E1.71 – 2023, Powered Curtain Machines (reaffirm, revise, or withdraw by 10 December 2028)

It's published!

6.5 ANSI E1.72 – 2023, Powered Floor Machines (reaffirm, revise, or withdraw by 18 September 2028)

7 New business

7.1 New Project Request – Unidirectional Control

[See Uni-Directional_Machine_Controls_ProjectRequest - signed.pdf]

Jesse Adams has submitted a new project request for WG consideration.

Jesse Adams made a short presentation about the project scope and intent. He met with CPWG before this meeting with good results and feedback. Four people from CPWG have volunteered to assist, one of them –

Paul Beasley - is present for this meeting.

Bruce Darden said he thought Jesse had written a strong proposal based on the control protocol. This will dovetail into powered curtain machines. He's not sure the machine can be in the same standard. He's concerned that the project is too big, and could be separated into two separate projects (one for controls only, the other for equipment using this specific control). If consensus agrees, We should consider breaking this into two projects now rather than later. There was more discussion about the potential ramifications.

Joe Jeremy moved to approve the project. Seconded. There was a small amount of discussion. The motion carried without objection or abstention. A PINS will be filed after the TSC approves.

Dan Culhane appointed Jesse Adams as the task group leader, along with Mike Brubaker. Jerry Gorrell. Joe Jeremy, Paul Zagajeski, and Matt Jordan. Four people from CPWG including Paul Beasley, were also appointed. Jem Hodgson asked to participate in the initial scope meetings.

8 Other business and announcements

8.1 Above & Beyond Awards

Information on the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html. The nomination site is open year round, and the award is designed for members to highlight the work of their peers. The deadline for nominations is 01 November.

8.2 Other other business

9 Schedule for future meetings

The meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The Spring meetings will be held in conjunction with the USITT Conference, in Seattle, WA. the week of 18 March 2024. The Summer meetings will co-locate with NATEAC in NYC, the week of 08 July 2024. The Fall 2024 meetings will likely return to Westlake, TX.

10 Adjournment

Having no further business to conduct, Dan Culhane declared the meeting adjourned at 15:56 PST.

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 25 January 2024

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR
Jane Harrington, ARM	The Hartford Group	A	G
Troy Atkinson	Production Resource Group	P	CP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Justin Bennett	University of the Incarnate Word	O	U
Daniel Brinker	USITT	O	G
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck Associates	P	DR
Paul Brunner	WJHW Consultants	P	DE
Joseph Champelli	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	O	CP
Ben Clark	Ben Clark	O	U
Gareth Conner	Creative Conners, Inc.	O	MP
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	MP
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Robert Dean	ZFX, Inc.	P	CP
Jim Digby	Event Safety Alliance	O	U
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	MP
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	exf	
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	P	DR
Joe Golden	Gallagher Staging & Productions	P	DR
Tiny Good	Showtech Australia	O	U
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Robert Haycock	Robert Haycock	O	U
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	O	DR
Julian Hoare	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP
Jeremy Hodgson	Jeremy Hodgson	I	G
Joseph Jeremy	Niscon (LFT)	P	CP
Matt Jordan	Production Resource Group	A	CP
Christina Keryczynskij	Charcoalblue LLC	P	DE
Edwin S. Kramer	1501	O	U
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
John Marczeski	Texas Scenic Company	A	MP
Charles McCafferty	Cirque du Soliel Entertainment Group	P	U
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	O	MP
Cole Muth	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Reid Neslage	Reid Neslage	I	G

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 25 January 2024

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Chris Peterson	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	O	G
Craig Roberts	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Eric Rouse	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	O	CP
Peter A. Scheu	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Michael Shaw	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Kevin Taylor	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	O	CP
Christopher B. Tilton	About the Stage, LLC	O	DE
Michael Wade	Creative Conners, Inc.	O	MP
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Leigh Witek	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP