



**DRAFT**

**BSR E1.50-1 – 202x**  
Entertainment Technology—Requirements for Temporary Display System  
Structures

Approved by the ANSI Board of Standards Review on \_\_\_\_\_

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Entertainment Services and Technology Association (ESTA)  
271 Cadman Plaza PO Box 23200  
Brooklyn, NY 11202-3200  
USA  
Phone: +1-212-244-1505  
Email: [standards@esta.org](mailto:standards@esta.org)

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**Contact Information****Technical Standards Manager**

Richard J. Nix  
ESTA  
271 Cadman Plaza PO Box 23200  
New York, NY 11202-3200  
USA  
+1-212-244-1505  
[richard.nix@esta.org](mailto:richard.nix@esta.org)

**Senior Technical Standards Manager**

Karl G. Ruling  
ESTA  
271 Cadman Plaza PO Box 23200  
New York, NY 11202-3200  
USA  
+1-212-244-1505  
[karl.ruling@esta.org](mailto:karl.ruling@esta.org)

**Technical Standards Council Chairperson**

Mike Garl  
Mike Garl Consulting LLC  
+1-865-389-4371  
[mike@mikegarlconsulting.com](mailto:mike@mikegarlconsulting.com)

Alan Rowe  
I.A.T.S.E Local 728  
Phone: 1 310-702-2909  
[amrowe@iatse728.org](mailto:amrowe@iatse728.org)

**Rigging Working Group Co-chairpersons**

Bill Sapsis  
Sapsis Rigging, Inc.  
Phone: 1-215-228-0888  
[bill@sapsis-rigging.com](mailto:bill@sapsis-rigging.com)

Chris Kaiser  
Syracuse Scenery & Stage Lighting, Inc.  
Phone: 1-315-453-8096  
[ckaiser@syracusescenery.com](mailto:ckaiser@syracusescenery.com)

**Acknowledgments**

The Rigging Working Group members, when this document was approved by the working group on DD/MM/YYYY, are shown below.

**Voting Members:****Observer Members:****Key to codes:**

CP	Custom-market producer
DE	Designer
DR	Dealer
G	General interest
MP	Mass-market producer
U	User

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## 1 Introduction

### 1.1 Scope

This standard applies to temporary installations of modular display system structures, including LED, video, and other self-illuminating displays not covered by existing standards. It encompasses assembly, erection, suspension, component safety, special access requirements, use, and dismantling of these systems. Specifically, the standard covers display systems relying on rigid structural frames, overhead suspensions, ground-supported stands, or wall-mounting techniques. It is applicable in any situation where failure of support or anchorage could result in personal injury, loss of life, or property damage. Projection screens are not included.

### 1.2 Intent

This standard intends to increase safety awareness and understanding of risks associated with the use of these systems. This standard does not intend to address aesthetics, image quality or visual intensity, content delivery or other factors not associated with risk or safety. It does not intend to provide a final, thorough or exhaustive list of potential hazards, nor does it intend to restrict development of new technology or techniques.

### 1.3 Annex Notes

This standard uses annex notes to supplement normative requirements with explanatory information. Additional Annex note information is indicated by the use of an asterisk (\*) after the term or subject matter within the referring section, and refers to an Annex note having a corresponding section number preceded by the letter "A" - e.g. the annex note for a reference in section 4.5\* will be labeled A4.5.

## 2 Definitions

**2.1 Competent person:** a person who is capable of identifying existing and predictable hazards in the workplace, and who is authorized to take prompt corrective measures to eliminate them.

**2.2 Display frame:** a load bearing component that supports one or more display modules; a component integral to the display module(s), intended specifically for its load bearing support.

**2.3 Display module:** any non-load-bearing display element intended to be used individually or as part of a larger display system.

**2.4 Display support structure:** the structural support to which one or more display frames are directly attached for primary structural strength and rigidity, but not otherwise classified as building structure.

**2.5 Display system:** the complete assembly of display modules, display frame(s) and display support structure together, as intended for its specific use or application, including personnel access and safety equipment where such are required for use of the display system.

**2.6 Operations Management Plan (OMP):** Documentation governing the installation throughout its entire use period, and equivalent to the intent of those requirements as described in ANSI E1.21.

**2.7 Qualified person:** a person who by possession of a recognized degree or certificate of professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated the ability to solve or resolve problems relating to the subject matter and work.

**2.8 Risk assessment:** a process that identifies all plausible risks associated with a system or task, and eliminates or reduces the risk to the extent that no injury or death occurs as a result of the identified risks.

**2.9 Shall:** denotes a mandatory requirement or restriction.

**2.10 Should:** denotes a non-mandatory recommendation.

## 3 General requirements

Structural support components and systems shall be designed and selected by a qualified person, regardless if the component or connection is a module, frame or structural support thereof. Structural connections shall be designed by a qualified person.



### 3.1 Reference Standards

Display systems and installation methods shall comply with the following reference standards, as applicable. All referenced standards refer to the most current published version

**ANSI E1.1**, *Entertainment Technology - Construction and Use of Wire Rope Ladders*

**ANSI E1.2**, *Entertainment Technology - Design, Manufacture and Use of Aluminum Trusses and Towers*

**ANSI E1.4-1**, *Entertainment Technology - Manual Counterweight Rigging Systems*

**ANSI E1.4-2**, *Statically Suspended Rigging Systems*

**ANSI E1.6-1**, *Entertainment Technology - Powered Hoist Systems*,

**ANSI E1.6-2**, *Entertainment Technology - Design, Inspection and Maintenance of Electric Chain Hoists for the Entertainment Industry*.

**ANSI E1.6-3** *Entertainment Technology - Selection and Use of Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry*.

**ANSI E1.8**, *Entertainment Technology - Loudspeaker Enclosures Intended for Overhead Suspension -- Classification, Manufacture and Structural Testing*

**ANSI E1.15**, *Entertainment Technology - Recommended Practices and Guidelines for the Assembly and Use of Theatrical Boom & Base Assemblies*.

**ANSI E1.21**, *Entertainment Technology - Temporary Structures Used for Technical Production of Outdoor Entertainment Events*

**ANSI E1.39**, *Entertainment Technology – Selection and Use of Personal Fall Arrest Systems on Portable Structures Used in the Entertainment Industry*

**NFPA 70** - *National Electric Code*

**ANSI/ASSE Z359**, *Fall Protection Code*

**NFPA 70 – National Electric Code**

**Society of Professional Rope Access Technicians (SPRAT)**, *Safe Practices for Rope Access Work*

**International Rope Access Trade Association (IRATA)**, *International Code of Practice*

**ANSI/ASSP Z459.1**, *Safety Requirements for Rope Access Systems*

**Aluminum Association**, *Aluminum Design Manual*

**D1.1/D1.1M**:, *Structural Welding Code – Steel*

**D1.2/D1.2M**:, *Structural Welding Code - Aluminum*

**AISC 360**, *Manual of Steel Construction*

#### 3.1.1 Electrical safety.

Electrical, signaling, and communications equipment and its installation shall conform to NFPA 70 National Electric Code or other relevant prevailing codes.

### 3.2 Documentation

Indoor and outdoor display system designs shall be documented in accordance with the following sections of

**ANSI E1.21**:

- 3.4 *Engineering Documentation*
- 4.6 [Manufacturer] *Documentation*
- 5 *Use and Care*

#### 3.2.1 General and site-specific documentation.\*

System designs and documentation shall identify intended configurations, their associated design loads and site-specific OMP requirements. System designs and documentation shall consider erection or dismantling loads, dynamic loads from motion and shall distinguish them if more stringent than those considered under normal use and operation.

#### 3.2.2 Identification

Display frames and display support structures shall be labeled in accordance with ANSI E1.2.

#### 3.2.3 Engineering considerations

**3.2.3.1 Mechanical and structural components.** Display systems shall be constructed in accordance with recognized standards pertaining to the components, materials, connections and construction methods used. When used as a basis for design, existing standards shall be cited on the print and/or control documentation.

**3.2.3.1.1 Component Marking.** Components shall have a permanent mark or indication of material strength, grade or rating.

**3.2.3.1.2 Marking exceptions.** Where permanent labeling or marking of individual components is impractical, such information shall be indicated in the design documentation.

**3.2.3.2 Design documentation.** When the entire system is fabricated by a single manufacturer, structural and mechanical strength aspects of display system designs shall be documented by the manufacturer. When display systems are assembled from new or existing display module and/or support structure components sourced from multiple manufacturers, a qualified person shall certify the entire display system design. Documentation shall include configuration details specific to maximum number of panels in height and width, presented for both vertical load and for effective wind surface area.

**3.2.3.3 Lateral loads.** The lateral design loads used for engineering analysis shall be included in the design documentation. Indoor systems shall be designed to resist a minimum lateral load of 2 pounds per square feet of the system's largest vertically projected area, without loss of stability or failure of any system component. Display systems shall be stable under seismic conditions.

**3.2.3.4 Components included or excluded.** Documentation shall include materials, components, processes and methods used to construct the display system. Aesthetic aspects, electronic circuitry or electrically powered components are not required in the documentation unless such elements are integral to the strength or safety of the display system.

**3.2.3.5 Working Load Limit (WLL).** The designer of the display system shall publish a WLL for components covered by this standard. The working load shall be determined by the original equipment manufacturer and explained in the documentation.

**3.2.4 Documentation Accessibility.** Documentation shall be available to on-site personnel.

### **3.3 Component part security**

**Component parts shall have a locking mechanism or method to prevent loosening or dislodging during use.**

#### **3.3.1 Attachment and suspension components\***

Attachment and suspension components shall be constructed of materials that are appropriate for the intended use, as determined by a qualified person.

**3.3.1.1 Design quality.** Display Frames, lifting media, attachment and suspension hardware shall be designed by a qualified person in accordance with acceptable engineering practice for specific display system conditions, or shall be tested in accordance with Section 3.3.2 Testing.

**3.3.1.2 Design calculations or testing results.** Design calculations or testing results shall validate the lifting media, attachment and suspension hardware strength, and shall show that the suspension hardware meets design factor requirements and shall show that it is fit for the intended purpose.

**3.3.1.3 Repeatability.** The testing results shall be repeatable for all material batches of individual components, where their respective material properties may vary for any reason due to component manufacturing processes.

**3.3.1.4 Tolerances.** The testing results shall be repeatable within an acceptable tolerance as determined by a qualified person.

**3.3.1.5 Hardware connections.** All manufacturer-designated mechanical connections shall be used. There shall be no less than two suspension points provided for any overhead suspension application unless approved by a qualified person, or deemed acceptable by a written risk assessment process. The hardware shall be affixed to the display system with the aid of a reinforcement device so as to prevent all reasonable and foreseeable failure of the display system's structural material. The forces imposed on the entire display system shall not exceed its design capacity. All orientations allowed by the manufacturer shall be considered.

**3.3.1.6 Corrosion resistance.** Attachment and suspension hardware shall be corrosion resistant when the foreseeable intended use criteria includes exposure to moisture or other similarly corrosive environments.

**3.3.1.7 Strength.\*** All suspension attachment hardware, methods and associated connections in the suspension load path shall be designed using a working load limit design factor of not less than 5 based on ultimate strength or design factor of 2 based on yield strength, unless otherwise approved by a qualified person.

### **3.3.2 Testing\***

Where designs cannot be analytically proven, structural load path elements shall be tested. Test methods and sample size shall be approved and supervised by a qualified person.

### **3.4 Installation conditions\***

Aspects of the installation environment affecting Risk Assessment OMP or engineering requirements shall be considered, and shall be incorporated into the design process accordingly.

In addition to the general requirements of section 3, indoor and outdoor ground supported systems shall comply with ANSI E1.21 as applicable to the type of support structure used and the environment in which the system is installed.

### **3.5 System Stability**

#### **3.5.1 Stabilizing and positioning**

Where systems require the use of positioning, breasting or stabilizing points, the resulting connections and forces shall be accounted for in the design.

#### **3.5.2 Connection points**

All load-bearing connections, whether for lateral, vertical or combined forces, shall be designed by a qualified person.

### **3.6 Planning**

Assembly, erection, use and disassembly procedures shall be planned and documented for each installation, with consideration given to the installation environment.

#### **3.6.1 Risk assessment required**

A risk assessment process shall be performed and documented for all installation sites, preferably by a group of 2 or more competent persons. When the risk assessment is completed by a single individual, that individual shall be a qualified person.

Assembly, erection, use and disassembly instructions shall be documented from the risk assessment results.

**3.6.1.1 Residual risks.** Risks that cannot be mitigated during planning, but which remain present at an acceptable level, shall be identified as residual risks.

**3.6.1.2 Applicability of instructions.** Instructions shall be construed as applicable and appropriate for all installations, unless site-specific criteria require modification to the OMP.

#### **3.6.2 OMP requirements**

Instructions and on-site risk mitigation procedures shall be included in the OMP documentation and available on site at time of installation.

**3.6.2.1 Applicability of OMP.** OMP documentation shall be specific to the installation environment.

**3.6.2.2 OMP modifications required for indoor use.** Modification of OMP documents for suitability to the installation environment shall be required for indoor installations. OMP documentation for indoor systems shall include the design load criteria used for lateral stability.

### **3.7 Component selection**

Components shall be selected for strength and suitability for the application by a qualified person.

**3.7.1\*** Qualified persons shall design display frames and display support structures to provide flexural stiffness, bracing and lateral stability necessary to meet the installation and use requirements of the system.

**3.7.2** Components for structural strength, stability, mounting or suspension shall only be used in accordance with the component manufacturer's recommendations, unless otherwise approved by a registered design professional, or unless use of the system does not cause risk of any kind to persons, property or equipment.

### **3.8 Assembly, erection\*, disassembly**

**3.8.1** Assembly, erection and disassembly shall comply with the system instructions and the OMP.

**3.8.2** Assembly, erection and disassembly shall be performed by trained and competent persons.

### **3.9 Personnel access\***

Personnel access onto display systems shall comply with applicable OSHA requirements for fall protection systems. Compliance with ANSI E1.39 shall be permitted. Rope access techniques shall be permitted when implemented by trained and certified rope technicians.

**3.9.1** No part of a display system shall be used for personnel access unless it has been specifically designed for use as an access method.

**3.9.2** Display systems designed for personnel access shall be used with an approved fall protection or rope access system.

**3.9.3** No part of the display system frame, module, header, or support shall be used as a fall protection anchorage, unless the manufacturer has designed the system to meet ANSI Z359.

### **3.10 Use**

Systems shall be used in accordance with the system instructions and an OMP.

**3.10.1** OMP requirements shall clearly indicate if they apply to indoor or to outdoor systems. Modifications to the OMP requirements based on indoor use shall be permitted.

**3.10.2** For display systems that may be adversely affected by weather conditions, the OMP shall specify environmental monitoring procedures and define the actions to be taken for different parts of the structures during and in anticipation of specified weather conditions. A qualified person shall verify that such actions can be achieved as documented.

**3.10.3** An OMP shall be prepared by the user and his engineer.

**3.10.3.1** The OMP shall govern the operations of the assembly throughout its use period, including load-in and load-out of all supported and nearby elements.

**3.10.3.2** The user's designated person shall have authority to implement the actions required by the OMP to ensure the safety of people in relation to the structure.

**3.10.3.3** The OMP shall include all manufacturers' operational guidelines.

### **3.11 Training**

Persons participating in assembly, erection, installation, operation, and dismantling shall be trained and competent, or shall be under the direct and continuous supervision of one or more trained and competent persons.

### **3.12 Inspections and maintenance**

Systems shall be inspected prior to first use, and prior to every subsequent use.

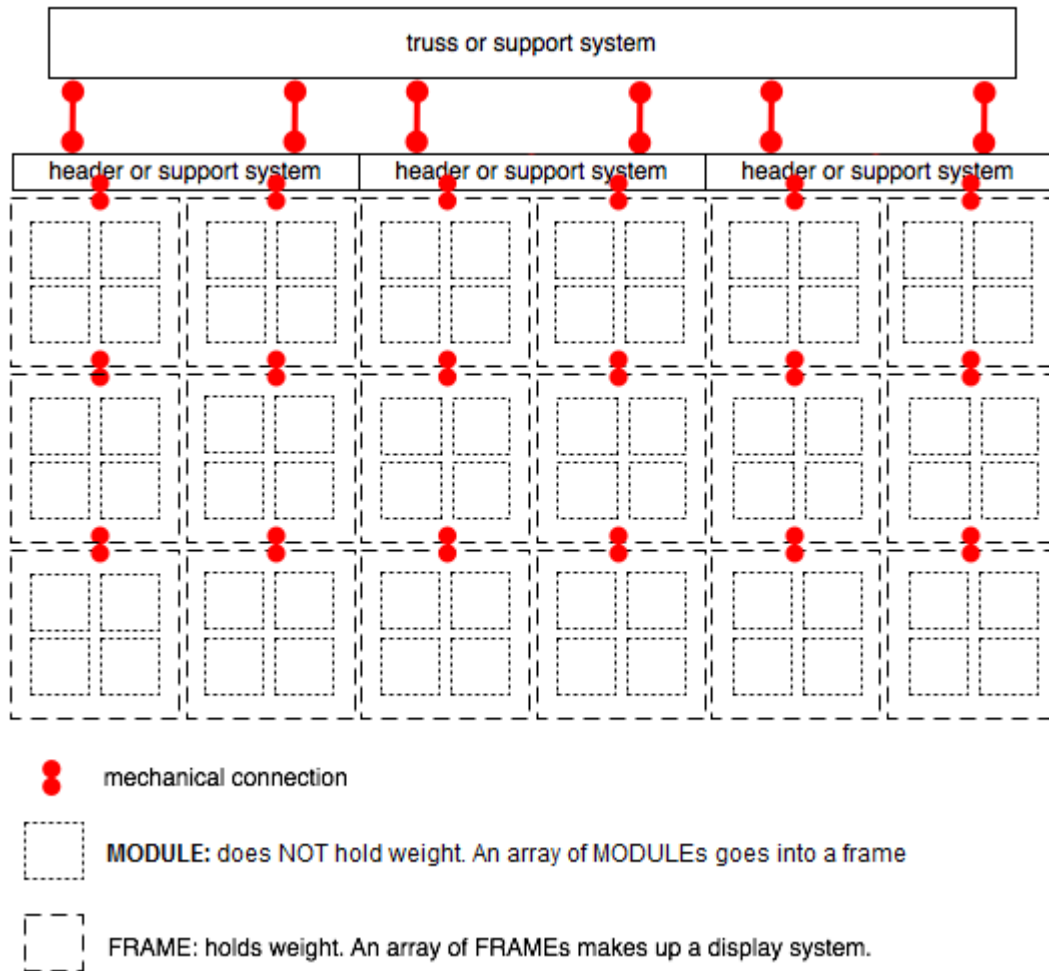
**3.12.1** Systems shall be inspected in accordance with manufacturer's inspection criteria, and as directed by operational documents required by section 3.1.

**3.12.2\*** Systems shall be inspected after any environmental event that could adversely affect the system integrity.



### 4 Example diagram

The following diagram describes system elements and key terms used in this document.



**Diagram notes:**

1. *truss or support system* indicates any temporary element used for primary structural support of the display system.
2. *header or support system* indicates any element used for direct support of module arrays. They can be purpose-built and provided by the display system manufacturer, or can be repurposed elements provided by the display system designer or installer.
3. A *frame* element might have an integral *module*, such that the *module* may appear as though it is not load-bearing, when in fact the integral frame makes it so.

## 5 Annex

**A.3.2.1** Design loads may differ based on site- or installation-specific criteria. For example, wind loading is not considered for indoor installations in the same manner as it is for outdoor installations, however indoor pressure differentials can have results similar to outdoor wind loads. General system configurations may also require certain modification to accommodate site-specific requirements. Where this information is known or anticipated in the design process, the system documentation should contain this information.

### **A.3.3.1 Attachment and suspension components**

Some jurisdictions may have additional requirements regarding flame resistance or flame retardancy of suspension components. This should be verified and accommodated in the design and installation documents, if necessary.

**A.3.3.1.7 Strength.** Suspension components in this section are used to directly suspend or support the entire display system, and require a higher design factor than components that have redundancy or are not in the direct load path.

**A.3.3.2 Testing.** Sample size should not be less than 1% or 3 pieces, whichever is greater. Examples of an existing test, which might be applicable to the testing of video display systems, are:

- ASTM E330 / E330M – 14 *Standard Test Method for Structural Performance of Exterior Windows, Doors, Skylights and Curtain Walls by Uniform Static Air Pressure Difference*
- International Building Code, latest edition, Section 1714
- The Aluminum Association “Specifications & Guidelines for Aluminum Structures” – Section 9 Testing
- ASTM E73 “Standard Practice for Static Load Testing of Truss Assemblies”

**A.3.4 Installation conditions.** Conditions of the installation environment may affect the Risk Assessment process, the OMP requirements and the overall design process. Temporary systems may be installed indoors or outdoors, so each type of environment represents different design and use criteria. Outdoor systems are subjected to wind loads, but it is not readily apparent that indoor systems may be subjected to air pressure differentials, too. Pressure differentials from HVAC and open doors can have momentary effects on displays. The display must remain structurally sound when subjected to self-weight plus lateral forces. Theoretically, the suspended display will swing, equalizing weight versus lateral load. However, the potentially flexible display may move less predictably. A qualified person should evaluate the structural integrity and inherent resilience to motion that may occur under normal conditions in an event space. It is important for the designer to give appropriate consideration to these conditions. The intent of this standard should apply to any application, regardless of duration or location of installation.

**A.3.7.1** As described in annex note A.3.4, the installation environment will dictate which design cases are appropriate. Suspended display systems may or may not use lateral bracing depending on the system type.

**A.3.8** It is important for the installer to know the individual component weights for all components. These systems contain many small components that can aggregate to large combined weights and are often overlooked in the total system self-weight calculations.

**A.3.9 Personnel access.** If it is known that climbing on the structure is required for access to components, the design and use guidelines must appropriately account for personnel access.

Rope Access methods have become widely accepted as an alternative to Personal Fall Arrest Systems (PFAS), by worldwide organizations and by local Authorities Having Jurisdiction.

In addition to the cited organizational codes of practice, at least three North American governmental agencies formally recognize rope access techniques.

- The US Department of Interior Bureau of Reclamation's Safety and Health Office has published its Guidelines for Rope Access Work. According to the Bureau of Reclamation's website, "These guidelines were developed in 2002–2004 for updating and standardizing the techniques, safety practices, and to some extent, the equipment used by Bureau of Reclamation personnel when performing tasks that require the use of rope to access the work site."

- New York OSHA has formed an alliance and cooperative agreement with Hi-Rope Corp of NY., to cooperate and promulgate the codes of practice for both SPRAT and IRATA.
- WorkSafeBC, the OSHA enforcement agency in British Columbia, has recently introduced pending amendments to its fall protection regulations. These proposed amendments recognize and permit rope access techniques, without exception, as an alternative to traditional personal fall arrest systems.

Because of the extensive prior research and ongoing development of standardized practices, this standard fully supports and promulgates those referenced documents, codes of practice and regulations.

**A.3.12.2 Environmental events.** Environmental events such as high wind, earthquake, icing, heavy snow or lightning strikes can cause damage to the system.