

Minutes
Technical Standards Committee
Friday 17 January 2003
Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott South
Ft. Worth, TX

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
Robin Crews; Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc., representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; alternate
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls; principal
Mitch Hefter; Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Thomas Group LLC); principal
Mike Wood; High End Systems Inc.; principal
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; 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
Matthew Griffiths; PLASA; principal
Frank Stewart; Specialty Tech Services; principal
Colin Waters; TMB; principal
Rodney F. Kaiser; J.R. Clancy Inc., representing USITT ; principal
Bill Maiman; ESTA; ex officio
Lori Rubinstein; ESTA; ex officio

Visitors: Arnold Tang
Roger L. Lattin; IATSE 728
Michael Gonzales; Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.
Louis Bradfield; Bally's Las Vegas
Kent H. Jorgensen; IATSE Local 80
William Krokauger; Mole-Richardson
Bob Luther; Lex Products

1 Opening remarks

Paul Vincent called the meeting to order at 13:06. He thanked all the attendees for donating their time.

Paul Vincent recognized Matthew Griffiths, the CEO of PLASA, as the representative attending for PLASA. Tim Cox is no longer with PLASA, since he resigned to pursue new opportunities in Northern Ireland.

The voting body during this meeting, including those not present, was thus:

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Thomas)		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)		P
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A
Frank Stewart	Specialty Tech Services		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
		Total	15

Tera Johnson was no longer a member of the voting body, having resigned from the TSC on 8 December 2002 to devote more time to her business.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

A red, pink, and yellow attendance sign-in sheet packet was circulated. Paul Vincent noted that we have a quorum, and asked those present to introduce themselves to the assembly.

2.2 Welcome to visitors

Vincent welcomed all the visitors to the meeting. He also took time to remind people to turn off pagers and cell phones.

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Ted Paget moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved with a unanimous voice vote.

4 Call for patents

The following statement 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."

No protected intellectual property issues were raised.

5 Anti-trust statement

The following statement 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."

Bill Maiman held up some of the easy to read pamphlets.

No anti-trust issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

6 Approval of agenda

Larry Schoeneman asked for an 8.2.3.4 "Procedures for handling telephone attendance at meetings" Paul Vincent asked for the addition of a discussion of Standards Watch and also a discussion of the work of the TSC/PLASA ad hoc committee. Vincent asked if there was approval for the agenda with these additions. There was unanimous consent by acclamation.

7 Distribution of ESTA committee contact information

Lori Rubinstein distributed the committee contact information and corrections were offered. "Associates" also has to be removed from "TMB" on the donations sheet, said Colin Waters.

8 Old business

8.1 Financial reports

8.1.1 Treasurer's report

Frank Stewart distributed his report and entertained questions. There were none.

Stewart noted that legal costs have continued to go up. The costs of meetings and travel have also risen, but we have managed to deal with them. He noted that the costs of the meetings to ESTA are low, largely because of the donations by the companies participating in the TSP.

8.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

Lori Rubinstein reported that the TSP donation check-off on the ESTA dues invoices has been getting a good response. There are a few outstanding pledges promised from 2002, but we expect to collect them soon.

Rubinstein reported that the PLASA VAT refund drive did not go well. In the past most companies had donated their expected refund to the TSP, but this year only 50% of the money was donated

8.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and on-hand

Lori Rubinstein reported that the sales of standards were low in 2002.

Rubinstein also reported that USITT has indicated that they would like to revisit the sales arrangement they have with us, but they have not stated what about the sales arrangement they would want to change.

8.2 Working group reports

8.2.1 Camera Cranes

Kent Jorgensen reported and handed out paper copies of a draft of the crane operators handbook.

Karl Ruling proposed that if he can receive an electronic copy of the document, he could check the spelling, add the required copyright and "draft" notice, and the usual ESTA TSP statements and warnings and send it out to the working group and the TSC for simultaneous letter ballots for public review of the document. The consensus of the TSC was that this was a good plan.

Ruling expressed concern that the members of the Camera Cranes Working Group, who have never participated in a letter ballot before, would not respond in a timely manner, and that the motion for a public review might fail because of inattention to the voting deadline. Kent Jorgensen said that he would remind CC Working Group members to vote.

8.2.2 Control Protocols

8.2.2.1 E1.11 (DMX)

Mitch Hefter reported that the task group had written some draft comment resolutions and that these and a revised version of the draft standard will be submitted to the Control Protocols Working Group at its Friday meeting.

8.2.2.2 E1.17 (ACN)

Steve Terry reported that the ACN task group is making good progress. Martin Professional tried to create a short-cut version of ACN, called BCN, but abandoned it when they saw the progress made by the ACN task group. Martin had a meeting in Aarhus to bring other manufacturers up to speed on ACN. A demonstration of working hardware was shown. Many attended and built more interest. The first public review of the protocol suite is imminent!

8.2.2.3 E1.20 (Remote Device Management)

Steve Terry reported that the task group is continuing to work on this. A public demonstration of RDM was shown at LDI and generated a lot of interest.

Mitch Hefter reported that the task group has been generating many documents internal to the task group. Some technical problems with legacy equipment emerged that have slowed them down. The task group is hoping to have a document for public review by Summer.

8.2.3 Fog and Smoke

8.2.3.1 E1.5 - Glycol and glycerin fog standard

Larry Schoeneman reported that the draft standard has come back from a second public review. The working group has a set of proposed comment resolutions to consider. If they are accepted, the working group will have made no changes to the draft standard and can decide to accept the document as a new standard.

8.2.3.2 New general fog standard

Schoeneman reported that the working group has an outline for the draft standard and needs to flesh it out.

8.2.3.3 Guidance document for fire alarms and fire detection systems

Schoeneman reported that the working group is forming a task group to draft a guidance document to send to theatre consultants with the goal of avoiding fire detection systems that are susceptible to false alarms from the use of theatrical fog and smoke on stage.

8.2.3.4 Telephonic meeting attendance

Schoeneman said that he'd received a request from an observer member to phone in to a meeting. He asked for a common procedure to deal with such requests. There was a discussion of the advantages, disadvantages, and costs of having some working group members teleconference a meeting rather than physically attending.

At the end of the discussion, Ted Paget moved that if a member wishes to attend a meeting by calling in due to special circumstances, that it shall be requested two-weeks in advance, and shall be permitted at the discretion of the chair. In all cases, a \$50 fee plus the costs associated with the call shall be charged to the person calling in. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted with a unanimous show of hands.

8.2.4 Photometrics

Ruling reported that the working group has reviewed the IESNA's draft LM-73, and found that it does not quite meet our needs. Comments have been submitted. The group is also working on some examples of data sheets. Arri is using the isolux graphs required in the standard.

8.2.5 Rigging

8.2.5.1 E1.2 – Aluminum towers and trusses revision

Mike Garl moved that the proposed revisions to ANSI E1.2 be sent to public review. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted by a supermajority on a roll call ballot:

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	1	0	0
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	1	0	0
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Thomas)		P	1	0	0
Mike Wood	High End Systems Inc.		P	1	0	0
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E, Local 1		P	1	0	0
Larry Schoeneman	Interesting Products, Inc.		P	1	0	0
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	1	0	0
Edward Paget	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.		P	1	0	0
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton)		P	1	0	0
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P	1	0	0
Frank Stewart	Specialty Tech Services		P	1	0	0
Colin Waters	TMB		P	1	0	0
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	USITT	P	1	0	0
Paul Vincent	Vincent Lighting Systems		P	1	0	0
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	0	0	0
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A	0	0	0
		Totals		15 poss.	14	0

No representatives for VPLT were present to vote.

8.2.5.2 E1.4 – Manual Rigging Systems Standard

Mike Garl reported that a great number of public review comments had been received and distributed to the working group. Ruling said three more came in late from ABTT.

8.2.5.3 E1.6 – Powered Hoisting Systems

Mike Garl reported that it's in public review.

8.2.5.3.1 Garl reported that Hans van der Moolen has objected to E1.6 in writing, and the Rigging Working Group will address how to respond to his complaints at the Working Group's meeting tonight.

8.2.5.3.2 Wilkowski's appeal of comment resolutions to the TSC

Jeff Wilkowski's letter to the TSP appealing the resolutions to two of his public review comments was discussed. The following response was offered:

"We find no evidence that the ANSI approved procedure was not followed in drafting the comment resolutions. The responses that have been approved by the working group shows that due diligence has been followed. Three Professional Engineers and other industry experts were in attendance at the meeting and voted to accept the responses, which suggests that qualified individuals support the resolutions. Those in attendance at the working group meeting voted unanimously to accept the resolutions, which we take as a strong endorsement for the comment resolutions."

"BSR E1.6 is in public review now, and Mr. Wilkowski is invited to submit his comments again. The Technical Standards Committee suggests that Mr. Wilkowski offer technical substantiation for his comments."

Ken Vannice moved that the above be the TSC's response to Wilkowski's appeal. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved with a unanimous show of hands. Karl Ruling was directed to write a letter to Jeff Wilkowski to report the TSC's response.

8.2.5.4 E1.7 – Recommended Practice for Flying Performers

Garl reported that some proposed public review comment resolutions were discussed at the last meeting, but that the motion to accept them was tabled until this meeting. A set of revised comment

resolutions has been submitted to the working group and will be discussed at this evening's Rigging Working Group meeting.

8.2.5.5 E1.8 – Speaker Enclosures Rigging Standard

Garl reported that it went to public review and eleven comments came back. This is remarkable because, in addition to the normal press releases and announcements sent out by the Technical Standards Manager, Andrew Martin sent 3,200 invitations for comment to various speaker manufacturers. Draft comment resolutions are in the process of being developed, reported Garl.

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

It's in public review until January 28, reported Garl

8.2.5.7 E1.21 – Portable roof systems

The task group is working on a first draft, reported Garl.

8.2.5.8 E1.22 – Fire curtain systems

Bill Conner reported that the task group has created a draft document that he will move to send to public review at this evening's Rigging Working Group meeting. This unusually speedy document development much impressed the TSC.

8.2.6 Electrical Power

8.2.6.1 E1.18 - Task group on a recommended practice for selection, installation, and use of portable feeder cable.

Ken Vannice reported that good progress is being made. There is a draft document being circulated within the working group, and Eddie Kramer has asked for more comments. Vannice has reminded EPWG members that the two-week rule means that documents for the next meeting need to be in Ruling's hands by February 28, which means that comments to the task group should be offered by February 14. Kramer and the task group agreed to a goal of having a version of BSR E1.18 to be considered for public review at the Summer meeting.

8.2.6.2 E1.19 - Task group for a recommended practice for use of residual current devices in entertainment applications.

Vannice also reported good progress on this project. Vannice has urged the task group to include more information on how to plan a system so that it is likely to be reliable. There were also questions in the Electrical Power Working Group about what recertification means and what devices would have to be recertified yearly, and the task group will work to clarify these issues.

8.2.6.3 EMC task group

Ken Vannice reported that there is a project to study harmonics on European power systems. We have data for US systems. When the European study is finished, the LFEIC will be abandoned, probably, reported Vannice.

Vannice reported that the phase-out of the LFEIC will not mean the end of its members' involvement — including ESTA's involvement — in IEC emissions issues. We still have representation to the IEC through ANSI, and Vannice has contact with the advisory group to the US National Committee representative.

Vannice reviewed our concern, which is with IEC 6100 and its subparts. This standard would outlaw SCR dimmers if it were applied to them. Fortunately, through the work of PLASA's representative John Woodgate, the standard has an exemption that covers almost all our dimmers. It appears that the standard won't be revised anytime soon, since the utilities won't allow any reduction in the requirements and everyone else won't allow any increases.

The IEC standard applies only to 220V and up devices, but there is concern that it might be applied to lower voltages. Vannice noted that there is now an ANSI standard in place for 120V equipment which

is a fairly effective block against the imposition of this IEC standard. There is some concern that Canada might adopt the IEC document, and thus have it imposed in North America that way. There is work being done to lobby Canadian standards organizations to use the ANSI standard rather than the IEC one.

8.2.6.4 Pin connector intermatibility standard

Vannice reported that USITT has voted to transfer maintenance of the standard to us and that the EPWG is planning to write an American National Standard based on it. The consensus of the TSC was that this was an appropriate project for the working group if the working group wishes to take it on.

8.2.7 Floors

Tim Hansen reported that work is continuing, but they weren't going to have a quorum for this meeting, so the meeting scheduled for this weekend was cancelled. They have broken the project into three documents. Will shortly develop scope statements for one or more standards projects, at which point the Technical Standards Manager will be able to file a Project Initiation Notification System form with ANSI.

8.3 Report on liaisons to other industry groups

8.3.1 NFPA

Larry Schoeneman reported no action with the special effects technical committee.

Steve Terry reported that New York City has dropped maintaining its own electrical code and has adopted the 1999 NFPA 70 with some New York City amendments.

8.3.2 UL

No news.

8.4 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

There was a discussion of the Discussion Forums. Rubinstein reported that Pathway and Wybron have been having problems getting them running, but they should be running soon.

9 New Business

9.1 Consideration of a replacement for Tera Johnson

Paul Vincent officially thanked Tera Johnson for her work on the TSC and said that she had been very valuable. He noted that she has resigned, so we can consider now if we should bring in another marketing person. Lori Rubinstein urged the group to bring on another strong marketing person because we need marketing help. No immediate candidates were suggested. Steve Terry suggested that we keep our eyes open for a likely candidate

9.2 Standards Watch

Paul Vincent asked for comments on the new version. The consensus was generally favorable with a particular comment that the new design is easier to read.

10 Other business

Vincent reported that we created an ad hoc committee to work on ESTA/PLASA coordination. That committee will meet after this meeting is over.

11 Schedule for future meetings

Vincent announced that the next meeting is scheduled for 13:00 to 17:00, Wednesday, 19 March 2003 at the Hilton Minneapolis. This is in conjunction with the USITT Conference and Stage Expo.

12 Adjournment

Ted Paget moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation. Paul Vincent declared the meeting adjourned at 15:27.

Technical Standards Committee Membership as of 2003-02-20

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	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
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P
Frank Stewart	Specialty Tech Services		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

Voting status: P = principal; A = alternate