

Minutes
Technical Standards Committee
 Friday, 19 January 2007
 Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott South
 Ft. Worth, TX

Presiding chairmen: Bill Groener; PRG; P
 Mike Garl; James Thomas Engineering, Inc.; P (after 14:38 arrival)

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending: Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
 Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P
 Ken Vannice; Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.); P
 Larry Schoeneman; Designlab Chicago, Inc.; P
 Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P
 Mitch Hefter; Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC); P
 Rodney F. Kaiser; J.R. Clancy Inc., representing USITT ; P
 Ron Bonner; PLASA; A (arrived at 14:10)
 Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls; P
 William Conner; Bill Conner Associates LLC, representing the Amer. Society of
 Theatre Consultants; P
 Lori Rubinstein; ESTA; ex officio

Visitors: Louis Bradfield; Bally's Las Vegas
 Roger Lattin; IATSE Local 728
 Kent Jorgensen; IATSE Local 80
 Gene Leitermann; Theatre projects Consultants, representing the Amer. Society of Theatre
 Consultants
 Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks (arrived at 14:10)
 Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs (arrived at 14:10)

1 Opening remarks

Bill Groener called the meeting to order at 13:05. He explained that Mike Garl's plane is late. When Garl arrives, he will take over the meeting.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

A trillium sign-in sheet was circulated. Groener noted that a quorum was present and business could be conducted.

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

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC, representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc., representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls	P
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	P

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA	A
Bill Groener	PRG	P
David Johnson	Live Design (Prism Business Media)	P
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc., representing USITT	P
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc., representing USITT	A
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	P
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT, representing VPLT	A
	Total votes possible	15

2.2 Welcome to visitors

Louis Bradfield, Gene Leitermann, and Roger Lattin were welcomed.

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Mitch Hefter moved that the draft minutes of the 18 October 2006 meeting (document TSC/2006-0007) be accepted as written. The motion was seconded and then approved with a show of hands.

4 Call for patents

Bill Groener 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 the Technical Standards Committee 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 Committee of its existence."

No issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

5 Anti-trust statement

Bill Groener read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

"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 \$1,000,000 and imprisoned for up to ten years. An easy to read pamphlet describing restraint of trade issues is available from the Technical Standards Manager."

Karl Ruling, the Technical Standards Manager, held up three copies of the easy-to-read pamphlet to show that they were available. No restraint of trade issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

6 Approval of agenda

Eddie Kramer moved that the draft agenda be accepted. The motion was seconded and then approved with a show of hands.

7 Reminder about ESTA committee contact information on the website

Lori Rubinstein reminded people to check the ESTA website to make sure that their contact information was correct.

8 Old business and standing reports

8.1 Financial reports

8.1.1 Treasurer's report

Mike Wood reported that the statement before the assembly is the final accounts report for the year. The accounts closed very promptly this year. He said that the good news is that we did better than projected, but that this was a windfall, a one-off event because there are two VAT refund contributions this year. We had received two in one year is because Inland Revenue has changed its procedures, reduced the backlog of VAT refund claims, and returned two year's worth in one calendar year. This will not happen again. Wood also noted that expenses were kept under control and that standards sales are now a substantial part of the income, about 5%.

Wood explained that the TSP makes about an \$85,000 loss, but we count on a contribution of that amount from the general ESTA budget to cover the shortfall.

Bill Sapsis moved that the projected budget for 2007, which was the final column in the 2006 budget report, be accepted. The motion was seconded and then approved unanimously.

8.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

Lori Rubinstein reported that the contributions are okay, but that she was concerned about Strand Lighting's future contributions. Strand had given fairly generously in the past, but it is now owned by Genlyte, so making contributions may not be up to Strand management. That said, Strand Lighting is supposedly being operated as a stand-alone company, so perhaps Strand management may still be empowered to contribute to the TSP.

8.1.3 Report of TSP documents sold

The report of the TSP documents sold was distributed

8.2 Working group reports

8.2.1 Camera Cranes

8.2.1.1 BSR E1.12 camera crane standard 14:00

Kent Jorgensen reported that they had not been able to have any meetings for lack of a quorum, but that he was trying to generate interest in working on the draft standard.

Ruling reminded Jorgensen that the working group must meet at least once a year per the P&P; the Camera Cranes Working Group hadn't met in over a year, so it was in violation.

Steve Terry moved that we disband the Camera Cranes Working Group unless material progress in the form of a productive working group meeting occurs by the time of the TSC meeting at USITT. The motion was seconded and then approved by all present. (Mike Garl and Ron Bonner had not yet arrived.)

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC, representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	1		
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc., representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A			
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	P	1		
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls	P	1		
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)	P	1		
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	1		
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	P			
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)	P	1		
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	1		
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	P			
Ron Bonner	PLASA	A			
Bill Groener	PRG	P	1		
David Johnson	Live Design (Prism Business Media)	P			
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories	P			
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	1		
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc., representing USITT	P	1		
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc., representing USITT	A			
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	P			
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT, representing VPLT	A			
		15	10	0	0

8.2.1.2 Crane operator's handbook

There was no news about the handbook.

8.2.2 Control Protocols

8.2.2.1 ANSI E1.3-2001 (R2006), 0-10V analog control specification

It's published. No news.

8.2.2.2 ANSI E1.11-2004 (DMX512-A)—VPLT German/English update.

Karl Ruling reported that he was surprised that he hasn't seen the German document in published form yet. He reviewed the German translation at the PLASA trade show, looking for the typos he knew were in the first printed English edition and made sure that they were not there. His German is not good enough to be able to read the whole standard in any reasonable time, but the translation appeared to be in good shape. It only needed to be laid out with the graphics.

8.2.2.3 ANSI E1.11-2004 (DMX512-A) recommended practice

Steve Terry reported that no significant work had been done on this project yet.

Hefter reported that we'd have some questions from China, and the questions suggest there are some typos and other errors in the document. The CPWG needs to look at this and see if substantive revisions are needed to the standard.

8.2.2.4 ANSI E1.17-2006 (ACN)

Steve Terry reported that it's published, and that there is a lot of activity and interest in the marketplace. Shure will adopt ACN as their command and control protocol. Shure is starting its own open source software initiative.

Terry said that he thought we should issue a press release about the Shure adoption of the standard. We need to promote this because this will bring in a lot more companies.

8.2.2.5 ANSI E1.20-2006 (Remote Device Management)

It's published. Terry reported no news.

8.2.2.6 BSR E1.27-x (DMX512 cabling of various types)

8.2.2.6.1 ANSI E1.27-1-2006 (portable DMX512 cabling)

It's published. No news.

8.2.2.6.2 BSR E1.27-2 (permanent DMX512 cabling)

Terry reported that the task group is meeting now, at the same time as this TSC meeting, to resolve the comments from the last public review.

8.2.2.7 BSR E1.30, Application level equipment interoperability for control of commonly encountered entertainment technology devices using E1.17

Steve Terry reported that the project is not proceeding as fast as one would like. However, we can explain this by noting that a lot of work is being done on BSR E1.31 by the same people who are working on this project.

8.2.2.8 BSR E1.31, Lightweight streaming protocol for transport of DMX512 using ACN

Steve Terry reported that it is now in public review.

Terry reported that ETC will put its source software for E1.31 in the public domain.

Terry suggested that companies will start with using E1.31 and then will work up to full ACN implementations.

There was a discussion of what is needed to do to explain to the market the advantages of ACN-based protocols. People need to understand the advantages of these over some of the proprietary protocols that are not ACN-based that are now available.

8.2.2.9 BSR E1.33 project to support RDM over ACN

Terry reported that the task group will have a meeting this weekend. Other than that, there was nothing to report.

8.2.2.10 BSR E1.37—Additional Message Sets for ANSI E1.20, Remote Device Management

Steve Terry explained that most of the additional message sets planned at this time are for bulk data transfer and software updates. Scott Blair is leading the project forward.

8.2.3 Electrical Power 14:35

8.2.3.1 ANSI E1.16-2002, Configuration Standard for Metal Halide Ballast Power Cable

It's approaching its fifth birthday so action is needed. Ken Vannice reported that the action chosen by the working group is to reaffirm the existing standard. A letter ballot will be issued to start a first public review of the reaffirmation.

8.2.3.2 BSR E1.18, Recommended practice for selection, installation, and use of portable feeder cable

Ken Vannice reported that several hundred comments were received and that the document's task group has been working on drafting comment resolutions to propose to the working group.

8.2.3.3 BSR E1.19, Recommended practice for use of Class A GFCIs

Ken Vannice reported that the working group had modified a proposed second public review comment resolution document at the meeting and then voted to accept the document. The working group is now considering a motion to offer the revised version of BSR E1.19, which resulted from the resolutions to the public review comments, for another public review. The question will be decided by letter ballot because the changes to the comment resolution document made at the meeting changed the draft

standard; the document that is the subject of the public review motion therefore had not been distributed two weeks before the meeting.

8.2.3.4 ANSI E1.24-2006, pin connector intermatability standard

It's published. Ken Vannice reported that we now need to get UL to reference and to use the standard. There is a procedure for filing a proposal or proposals to include it in UL standards. Karl Ruling has been given the job of writing a letter to the chief engineer of UL urging its adoption.

8.2.3.5 BSR E1.32, luminaire maintenance guidance

Ken Vannice reported that a motion was made at the EPWG to offer the draft standard for public review. The motion will be decided by letter ballot.

8.2.4 Floors

8.2.4.1 ANSI E1.26-2006, floor energy absorption

It's published. No news, reported Tim Hansen

8.2.4.2 BSR E1.34-200x, Entertainment Technology-Measuring and Specifying the Slipperiness of Floors Used in Live Performance Venues

Tim Hansen reported that they discussed another draft of the document at the working group meeting. The working group plans to experiment with a drag sled at the meeting in Phoenix to see if the method works.

8.2.5 Fog and Smoke

8.2.5.1 ANSI E1.5-2003, glycol and glycerin fog exposure standard

Larry Schoeneman reported that there was no action on this standard at this time. None is yet needed.

8.2.5.2 ANSI E1.14-2001, Recommendations for Inclusions in Fog Equipment Manuals, reaffirmation

Schoeneman said that the motion to approve the reaffirmation of ANSI E1.14 had been forwarded to the ESTA Board.

8.2.5.3 ANSI E1.23-2006, general fog effect planning standard

It's published. Karl Ruling reported that we recently sold a copy.

8.2.5.4 BSR E1.29, fog equipment product safety standard

Schoeneman reported that the Fog & Smoke Working Group meeting, scheduled for Saturday night, had been changed to a task group meeting to work on this project.

8.2.6 Followspot Position

Karl Ruling reported that the working group had met on Thursday night and worked some more on BSR E1.28, the followspot position planning guidance document. The big issue seems to be defining the different types of followspot positions. The types are determined by a classification system that is based on the space and power requirements for the followspots that are likely to be installed in the positions.

8.2.7 Photometrics 15:25

8.2.7.1 ANSI E1.25-2006, flat-wall photometry basic conditions

It's published. No news.

8.2.7.2 ANSI E1.9-2001, reporting photometric data revision

Ruling reported that the working group and the TSC had accepted the new version as an American National Standard. The revised document has been forwarded to the ESTA Board for approval.

8.2.7.3 BSR E1.35, Lens Quality Measurements for Pattern Projecting Luminaires Intended for Entertainment Use

Ruling reported that the TSC had approved the public review, with a supermajority of the Technical Standards Committee voting Yes. Out of a voting body of 15, 14 voted Yes, and none voted Yes with comments or No. One voter, David Johnson, did not return a ballot. The document was now posted on the ESTA website for public review.

8.2.7.4 BSR E1.36, Model Procedure for Permitting the Use of Tungsten-Halogen Incandescent Lamps and Stage and Studio Luminaires in Vendor Exhibit Booths in Convention and Trade Show Exhibition Halls

Ruling reported that the TSC had approved the public review, with a supermajority of the Technical Standards Committee voting Yes. Out of a voting body of 15, 14 voted Yes, and none voted Yes with comments or No. One voter, David Johnson, did not return a ballot. The document was now posted on the ESTA website for public review.

8.2.8 Rigging

8.2.8.1 ANSI E1.1-2006, wire rope ladders revision

It's published. Bill Sapsis reported that we'd sold at least one copy because he bought it.

8.2.8.2 ANSI E1.2-2006, aluminum towers and trusses revision

Bill Sapsis said it's published. He had no further news.

8.2.8.3 BSR E1.4, manual rigging systems

8.2.8.3.1 Response to the appeal of three E1.4 comment resolutions filed by Todd Hensley

See [EmailSendingApprovedResponse.pdf](#) and [ApprovedResponseToAppeal.pdf](#). Karl Ruling reported that no response from Todd Hensley was received by the deadline of December 1.

8.2.8.3.2 TSC vote to accept BSR E1.4 as an American National Standard

See [E1-4_1997-2002r13.pdf](#), [E1-4_8thCmmntResolsR1.pdf](#), [WG_E1-4AcceptBallotTotal-Final.pdf](#), and [RIGmin10-2006.pdf](#).

Bill Sapsis moved that the TSC accept BSR E1.4, Entertainment Technology—Manual Counterweight Rigging Systems (Rig/1997-2002r13) as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded.

Jim L. Read Jr. had written a letter on behalf of the American Society of Theatre Consultants to every member of the TSC arguing against accepting BSR E1.4 as an American National Standard, questioning some of the comment resolutions and the working group's meeting procedures, and citing several letters from ASTC members objecting to requirements or passages of the proposed standard. [The Read letter and its appendices are appended as part of these minutes.]

There was a discussion of the Read letter and how that letter, sent after the last public review and after working group had voted to accept E1.4, fits into our standards development process.

On a roll call vote the motion failed to win the required supermajority vote of the Technical Standards Committee. Out of a voting body of 15, three voted No, six voted Abstain, and three voted Yes. Three voting members were not present. Eight Yes votes were needed to pass the motion, so the motion failed.

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Vote	Reason or comment offered
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	abstain with reasons	The Read letter with attachments.
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A		
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P	no	
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	abstain	
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)		P	no	
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P	abstain	
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	abstain	
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	abstain	
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P	yes	
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P		
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A	abstain	
Bill Groener	PRG		P	no	
David Johnson	Live Design (Prism Business Media)		P		
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories		P		
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P	yes	
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	USITT	P	yes	
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	USITT	A		
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P		
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A		

Mitch Hefter moved that the TSC shall direct the Rigging Working Group to address the concerns of the Jim L. Read letter, and to offer the draft document for another public review, if substantive changes are made. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands.

8.2.8.4 BSR E1.6-1, powered winch hoist systems

Ruling reported that the public review had run from 10 November 2006 through the end of Christmas Day. One hundred forty-eight comments were received.

8.2.8.5 BSR E1.6-2, powered serially produced chain hoist systems

Ruling reported that it's public review from 5 January 2007 through the end of the day on 19 February 2007.

8.2.3.6 BSR E1.6-3, Safe Use of Serial Manufactured Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry

The BSR E1.6-3 task group had a meeting last night, Bill Sapsis reported. It was a very popular meeting, with a lot of people in the room. One of the participants had come from Israel for the meeting.

8.2.8.7 ANSI E1.8-2005, speaker enclosures for rigging standard

It's published. No news.

8.2.8.8 ANSI E1.15-2006, boom & base assemblies

It's published. No news.

8.2.6.9 ANSI E1.21-2006, portable roof systems

It's published. No news.

8.2.6.10 BSR E1.22, fire safety curtain systems

Karl Ruling reported that after recirculation of the abstain reasons that closed on 10 January 2007, the final TSC vote had approved the motion for public review, with 12 voting "Yes," and one voting "Abstain with reasons, out of a voting body of 15. David Johnson and Mark Engel did not returned ballots. The public review documents are already available on the ESTA website, but the official ANSI 45-day review will run from 26 January through 12 March 2007.

8.3 Reports on liaisons and news from other industry groups

8.3.1 ASTC

Gene Leitermann reported that the group has been effective in dealing with codes and standards, and perhaps the ASTC should better publicize this work. He repeated his thanks for our consideration of the ASTC views on the draft E1.4 standard.

Bill Conner invited someone from ESTA to attend the ASTC general meeting in February. Steve Terry volunteered to go, as did Larry Schoeneman.

8.3.2 CANENA

Ken Vannice reported that CANENA is continuing to have web meetings and to work on the dimensions of cam connector brass. He said that people should contact him if they want more information on how to become involved.

8.3.3 ETCP

Tim Hansen reported that there are now 110 entertainment electricians, 125 arena riggers, and 127 theatre riggers. The actual number of people holding rigging certificates is somewhat smaller because some people have both certificates. There are at least six people with all three certificates.

Hansen reported that some employers are writing into contracts that at least one person on a crew should be a certified technician.

Steve Terry suggested that marketing needs to get the message across that a person may be an excellent rigger, but that without certification this person's expertise may not be recognized by employers or customers.

8.3.4 ICC

No news of significance, reported Jerry Gorrell. Bill Conner said that any objections or comments on the actions of the last meeting are due January 24.

8.3.5 NFPA

8.3.5.1 NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code) and 5000 (building code)

A letter ballot just went out to approve a set of unremarkable changes, reported Conner.

8.3.5.2 NFPA 1126 (proximate pyro) and 160 (flame effects)

Larry Schoeneman reported that we did not get a slot to do a session on special effects at the NFPA annual conference in June. He asked if he should plan to attend anyway. Eddie Kramer said he already has plans to be there, so he volunteered to be our presence.

8.3.5.3 NFPA 70 (NEC)

Mitch Hefter reported that he is now the principal representative for the IESNA to NEC Code Panel 15. He reported some of the highlights of the NEC voted on at the code panel meetings in Redondo Beach, CA. There is a new article 522 (previously proposed as 519) for ride control for amusement attractions. The neutral power feeder conductor will not have to be derated for sine-wave dimmer systems. There have been some other changes made to clarify grounding and bonding requirement. There now will be specific language in Articles 700 (Emergency Systems) regarding dimmer systems being acceptable if Listed for the purpose. Other changes were mostly editorial.

The highlight of the meetings was a tour of CBS Studio Center arranged by Mike Skinner and led by him along with Roger Lattin and Alan Rowe of IATSE 728. This tour was to help the "non-

entertainment" members of Panel 15 learn more about what we do. Local 728 also provided dinner for the group, which was quite good.

8.3.5.4 NFPA 80

Conner reported the proposal to NFPA 101 and 5000 to reference 2007 NFPA 80 for Fire Safety Curtains was approved by the committee (working group) and unless comments to the contrary are submitted, it will likely be referenced in the next edition of each standard, 2009.

Gorrell reported that he's been reappointed to the SAF-AXM and BLD-AXM technical committees as representing the USITT.

8.3.6 PLASA

Ron Bonner reported on CWA 25. The optimistic target date for completion has been missed, but the trussing part is 76% done. The mechanical engineering side is falling way behind. The chairman was asked to stand down, but he refused.

Bonner reported that there is a problem with the use of radio devices, such as wireless microphones, and the UK government's plan to auction off the spectrum. He does not expect that our industry's companies will be able to outbid the big telecom companies. PLASA is asking for part of the spectrum to be left for our industry, to be given to PLASA for management.

Jerry Gorrell reported that President George W. Bush made a recess appointment to the FCC, and that the FCC in the US is pushing for auctioning off the electromagnetic spectrum to the highest bidder.

Bonner also reported that the UK's RoHS and WEEE regulations are now in place and WEEE starts in July 1. The government has now made it mandatory that you have to join a compliance scheme rather than supplying recycling services for your products on your own.

Bonner reported that at the PLASA trade show's control protocols breakfast it was suggested that an RDM plufest be held. One is planned for February of this year.

Bonner pointed out a problem with the EMC regulations in the UK. Another European Directive was issued in 2004, and the UK government has written some rules, but the rules don't recognize a temporary installation. Instead, temporary installations, such as those installed for a summer music festival, fall under the rules for "mobile installations," which would be mobile transmitter trucks, etc. The regulations don't work, and suggest that a music tent might need to have a big CE on it.

Bonner reported that PLASA's rigging certificate program has run into government interference, which has slowed things. By September 2007 they plan to have it up and running.

8.3.7 SAE/FAA [Gorrell]

See Jerry Gorrell's report Report_SAE_G-10T_Nov2006_Meeting.pdf. Gorrell reported that the next meeting is scheduled for February 8 in Melbourne, Florida. He will attend.

8.3.8 UL

Vannice reported that UL will give free access to all their standards to all their testing service customers.

8.3.9 USITT

Rodney Kaiser invited all to Phoenix for the 2007 USITT Conference and Stage Expo.

8.3.10VPLT

No report.

8.3.11 Other liaisons

8.4 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

None.

9 New Business

Karl Ruling, the Technical Standards Manager, proposed some changes to the P&P to simplify procedures and to remove some contradictions. The text changes were detailed in PagesFromP&P-r7_DRAFT.pdf, which was a PDF of the two pages with the proposed changes. The proposed changes were as follows:

6.4 Task groups

The working group chairperson shall appoint a chairperson or chairpersons for each task group. The task group chairperson shall be drawn solely from the membership of its parent working group. The appointment shall be subject to confirmation by a simple majority vote of the working group affirmation by the working group, by any method acceptable to the working group voting members that shows a simple majority in favor of the appointment.

Ruling explained that this change would allow a working group chairperson to simply ask if there were any objections and, if none are voiced, to move on to the next agenda item, rather than mandating an actual vote. We do not want a chairperson to appoint an unpopular task group leader, but we also want a simple process.

In 7.2 Scheduling, the proposed change was:

Working and task group chairperson or chairpersons shall inform the TSC of any meetings as soon as said meetings are scheduled. The TSC shall notify all working group members, including observers, of each scheduled working and task group meeting reported to it. ~~The~~ ~~This~~ notification for working group meetings shall be given at least two weeks prior to each meeting. The notification shall state the location and time of the meeting.

If several ~~working group and/or task group~~ meetings will occur at the same location during a given ten day interval, the TSC may send one notification describing all the meetings to all affected working group members.

Ruling explained that our intention is to have meetings be open, not secretive, but that requiring two-week notice for task group meetings complicates the process for no purpose. It makes it impossible for a task group appointed at a working group meeting to convene right after the working group meeting because no two week notice was given. Also, it makes any ad hoc meetings or conversations about a document between task group members a possible violation of the P&P and a failure of the TSC to announce them. While we want to keep the meetings open, the task group meetings are not meetings of the consensus body (no binding votes are taken by task groups, task groups are advisory to the working group), so the interests of affected parties are protected by the two-week notice for working group meetings.

Steve Terry said that the wording wasn't quite right. "Each scheduled" should be changed to "every" and "those" should be added before "task group meetings reported to it." The first paragraph would then read:

Working and task group chairperson or chairpersons shall inform the TSC of any meetings as soon as said meetings are scheduled. The TSC shall notify all working group members, including observers, of every working group meeting and those task group meetings reported to it. The notification for working group meetings shall be given at least two weeks prior to each meeting. The notification shall state the location and time of the meeting.

Ruling made the suggested changes to the proposed wording.

The final proposed change was to remove the requirement for reasons to be supplied with an abstain vote offered on a letter ballot, as now required in clause 8.3.2.1. Ruling explained that reasons and comments on a letter ballot are required to be recirculated and trigger an additional voting time for people to consider them and perhaps to change their votes. However, the reasons for abstentions are usually personal, such as "I do not have enough experience with this subject to vote properly," or, "My business is undergoing an audit, and I do not have time to consider this questions carefully." These reasons would have no bearing on any other voter's response, so recirculating them is not helpful, slows the process, and may be taken as wasting people's time. It would be better to not require reasons for an abstention, but if a voter does offer them, even if not required, they will be circulated.

Bill Sapsis moved that the proposed changes to the P&P, as modified at this meeting, be accepted. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by all present, 12 out of a voting body of 15, with no abstentions, and no dissenting votes:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Vote	Reason or comment offered
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	yes	
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A		
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P	yes	
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	yes	
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)		P	yes	
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P	yes	
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	yes	
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	yes	
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P	yes	
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P		
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A	yes	
Bill Groener	PRG		P	yes	
David Johnson	Live Design (Prism Business Media)		P		
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories		P		
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P	yes	
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	USITT	P	yes	
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	USITT	A		
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P		
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A		

10 Other business

None.

11 Schedule for future meetings

It was announced that the next meeting is scheduled for 13:00 to 17:00, Wednesday, 14 March 2007, at the Hyatt Regency Phoenix in Phoenix, AZ. The following meeting is scheduled for Friday, 13 July 2007, at this hotel, the Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott South in Ft. Worth, Texas.

12 Adjournment

Larry Schoeneman moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation. Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 17:01.

Technical Standards Committee Membership and Contact Information as of 21 February 2007

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)		P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A
Bill Groener	PRG North Bergen (PRG)		P
David Johnson	Live Design (Prism Business Media)		P
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories		P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	USITT	P
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	USITT	A
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A