

Minutes
Technical Standards Committee
Sunday, 25 January 2009
Dallas/Ft. Worth Marriott Solana
Westlake, TX

Chairman: Mike Garl; James Thomas Engineering, Inc.; P

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending:

Bill Groener; Tim Hunter Design, LLC; P
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P
James Niesel; Arup; P
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs, representing USITT; P
Ken Vannice; Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.); P
Larry Schoeneman; Designlab Chicago, Inc.; P
Louis Bradfield, representing USITT; A
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P
Mitch Hefter; Entertainment Technology (Royal Philips Electronics); P
Richard Cadena; Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.); P
Ron Bonner; PLASA; A
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls Inc.; P
Lori Rubinstein; ESTA; ex officio

Visitors:

Alan M. Rowe; IATSE Local 728
Kent Jorgensen; IATSE Local 80
Michael Lay; Strand Lighting
Roger Lattin; IATSE Local 728

1 Opening remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 09:01.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

A hot pink attendance sheet was circulated. Mike Garl noted that a quorum was present

2.2 Welcome to visitors

Garl welcomed the four visitors.

2.3 Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

2.4 Consensus body

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

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	ASTC	P
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	ASTC	A
James Niesel	ARUP		P

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		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
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Royal Philips Electronics)		P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P
Bill Groener	Tim Hunter Design, LLC		P
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.)		P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P
		Total votes possible	15

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

(See TSCmin10-2008.pdf.) Larry Schoeneman moved the draft minutes for the October 2008 meeting be approved as written. The motion was seconded and then accepted with a show of hands.

4 Call for patents, to be read aloud to the assembly

Mike Garl 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 protected intellectual property issues were brought to the attention of the TSC.

5 Anti-trust statement, to be read aloud to the assembly

Mike Garl 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."

The Technical Standards Manager held up one of the easy-to-read pamphlets to show that the pamphlets are available. No restraint of trade issues were brought to the attention of the assembly

6 Approval of agenda

It was suggested that item 8.2.3.3 should be addressed right after we vote on the documents.

Steve Terry moved the amended agenda (with 8.2.3.3 addressed early) be accepted. The motion was seconded and then accepted with a show of hands.

7 Reminder about ESTA contact information on the website

Lori Rubinstein reminded people to check the contact information on the website.

8 Old business and standing reports

8.1 Financial reports

8.1.1 Treasurer's report

(See TSP_BudgetInfo01-09.pdf.) Mike wood explained the financial statement. He said that very little change from the 2008 budget is proposed for 2009.

Bill Groener asked about the reduction in insurance costs. Wood explained that the shift is due to the burden of the charges for insurance being moved to the ETCP, commensurate with the increase in the number of people certified by ETCP. That is, the overall insurance bill is roughly the same, but the portion that is charged to ETCP has increased, thus decreasing the portion charged to the TSC.

8.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

Lori Rubinstein said the report on contributions had been held until just a few days ago so that the contributions offered with the ESTA dues renewals could be included. We are waiting for the VAT refunds for three years: 2006, 2007, and 2008. They may all come in this year, then we will ask the companies to which they are due if they want the money or want to donate it. Probably they will donate the 2006 refund, but perhaps not, and perhaps not for the other years, given the state of the economy.

8.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold

Lori Rubinstein noted the high costs for servicing overseas subscriptions. Could we simply do electronic and disk distribution of the documents? The consensus was that this would be acceptable.

Steve Terry asked that principal voting members should have the right to copies of all our published standards. The consensus was that Mike Wood should set up an FTP site that is password protected for this access.

Eddie Kramer suggested that we watermark the documents that they are TSP members use only. Ruling said he can do that.

8.1.4 TSP Marketing

Lori Rubinstein reported that a web banner has been sent to the people who are members of a working group or who have donated money to the TSP.

8.2 Old Business

8.2.1 TSM's report

8.2.1.1 Report on status of documents: ones in process, ones stable, ones needing action or of concern

Ruling said he'd be happy to answer any questions, but his project summary ([Appendix A](#)) says pretty much all he has to say.

8.2.1.2 Documents or projects requiring action by the TSC

8.2.1.2.1 BSR E1.4, manual rigging systems (RWG)

(See E1-4NinthRevwResols.pdf, E1-4_WGAcceptTotal.pdf, and E1-4_1997-2002r17.pdf. Possible ANS approval vote.)

Bill Sapsis moved that BSR E1.4 (doc Rig/1997-2002r17) be accepted as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded, and then approved with a roll call ballot, with 13 out of a possible 15 voting Yes, and no objections or abstentions.

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status	Yes	Yes with comments	No with reasons	Abstain	Not present
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	ASTC	P					X
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	ASTC	A					
James Niesel	Arup		P	X				
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P	X				
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	X				
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P	X				
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	X				
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	X				
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P	X				
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P					
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A	X				
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Royal Philips Electronics)		P	X				
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P	X				
Bill Groener	Tim Hunter Design, LLC		P	X				
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.)		P	X				
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P	X				
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A					
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P					X
15 total possible				13	0	0	0	2

8.2.1.2.2 BSR E1.22, fire safety curtain systems (RWG)

(See E1-22_5th_RvwResols.pdf, E1-22_2002-2032r9-1.pdf, and E1-22_WGAcceptTotal.pdf. Possible ANS approval vote.)

Bill Sapsis moved that BSR E1.22 (Rig/2002-2032r9.1) be accepted as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded and then approved with a roll call ballot, with 13 out of a possible 15 voting Yes, and no objections or abstentions.

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status	Yes	Yes with comments	No with reasons	Abstain	Not present
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	ASTC	P					X
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	ASTC	A					
James Niesel	Arup		P	X				
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P	X				
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	X				
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P	X				
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	X				
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	X				
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P	X				
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P					
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A	X				
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Royal Philips Electronics)		P	X				
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P	X				
Bill Groener	Tim Hunter Design, LLC		P	X				
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.)		P	X				
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P	X				
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A					

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status	Yes	Yes with comments	No with reasons	Abstain	Not present
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P					X
15 total possible				13	0	0	0	2

8.2.1.2.3 BSR E1.30, Application level equipment interoperability for control of commonly encountered entertainment technology devices using E1.17 (CPWG)

(See EPI 32.pdf and E1-30-10WG_Bllt_Total.pdf. Possible ANS approval vote.)

Eddie Kramer moved that BSR E1.30-10 be accepted as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded and then approved with a roll call ballot, with 13 out of a possible 15 voting Yes, and no objections or abstentions.

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status	Yes	Yes with comments	No with reasons	Abstain	Not present
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	ASTC	P					X
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	ASTC	A					
James Niesel	Arup		P	X				
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P	X				
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	X				
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P	X				
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	X				
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	X				
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P	X				
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P					
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A	X				
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Royal Philips Electronics)		P	X				
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P	X				
Bill Groener	Tim Hunter Design, LLC		P	X				
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.)		P	X				
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P	X				
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A					
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P					X
15 total possible				13	0	0	0	2

8.2.1.2.4 BSR E1.31, Lightweight streaming protocol for transport of DMX512 using ACN (CPWG)

See E1-31PR2_CmmntResols.PDF, E1-31WG_Bllt_Total.pdf, and E1-31r3.PDF. Possible ANS approval vote at this meeting or later by letter ballot.

Mitch Hefter moved that BSR E1.31 be accepted as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved with a roll call ballot, with 13 out of a possible 15 voting Yes, and no objections or abstentions.

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status	Yes	Yes with comments	No with reasons	Abstain	Not present
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	ASTC	P					X
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	ASTC	A					
James Niesel	Arup		P	X				
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P	X				
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	X				
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P	X				
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	X				
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	X				
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P	X				
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P					
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A	X				
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Royal Philips Electronics)		P	X				
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P	X				

Name	Company	Representation	Voting status	Yes	Yes with comments	No with reasons	Abstain	Not present
Bill Groener	Tim Hunter Design, LLC		P	X				
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.)		P	X				
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P	X				
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A					
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P					X
15 total possible				13	0	0	0	2

8.2.2 Optional reports by working and task group leaders on active projects

8.2.2.1 Camera Cranes

No additional report.

8.2.2.2 Control Protocols

No additional report.

8.2.2.3 Electrical Power

Steve Terry described his conversation with Don Talka of UL about the possibility of working on joint UL/ESTA projects. Talka said he was ready to send senior staff to meet with ESTA to determine how we can work on such projects. A joint standard for theatrical dimmer racks was one possible project that came to mind.

Terry will apply to serve as ESTA's representative on the UL 498 connector standard panel. Ruling will write a letter in support of this application.

8.2.2.4 Flame Resistance Task Group

No additional report.

8.2.2.4 Floors

No additional report.

8.2.2.5 Fog and Smoke

Larry Schoeneman reported that the working group's recent meeting was convivial. The working group will move three standards forward by letter ballot: BSR E1.5 to become an ANS; BSR E1.23 for another public review; and BSR E1.29 to become an ANS.

8.2.2.6 Followspot Position

Steve Terry reported that certain TSC members had received comments about the BSR E1.28 project, arguing that is not within the valid scope of ESTA's TSP. There was discussion about how the project serves the needs of several ESTA members.

Bill Groener will respond to the complaints, saying that we have a process that will be followed. It allows public review and appeals at every step of the way. They are welcome to be a part of the procedure.

8.2.2.7 Photometrics

No additional report.

8.2.2.8 Rigging

There was a discussion of the BSR E1.6-2 project, which was not accepted as an ANS and will need another public review, and the progress of BSR E1.6-1. Bill Sapsis will press the BSR E1.6-1 task group to offer a document to the working group--something, since the working group has not seen anything concrete since the document's last public review in late 2006 and the distribution of the public review comments in January 2007.

8.2.3 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

8.2.3.1 Standard citation task group report

Mike Wood said that this project has been deferred to the P&P revision.

8.2.3.2 Sending searchable version of E1.17 to those who bought the unsearchable version

Ruling reported that it hasn't been done yet.

8.2.3.3 P&P revision task group report

(This part of the agenda was handled after 8.2.1.2.4 and before 8.2.2.)

Steve Terry reviewed the task group report ([Appendix B](#)).

There was discussion about how to improve the writing in the standards documents. A tighter style guide would help, as would an editorial review board. The board could review the first draft before its first public review vote and then as a last step before its vote to be accepted as an American National Standard.

There was also discussion about how to avoid feature creep, which in standards writing is constant addition of new material, so that what was a very simple document written to address a particular problem becomes an omnibus code.

There was also discussion on how to limit the task groups to keep them from becoming de facto standing committees and usurping the role of the working group. There was broad agreement that the task groups need to be assigned specific, limited tasks with specific due dates, set not far in the future. Ron Bonner summed this up with the phrase, "Task and Finish."

Bill Sapsis asked for some sort of review process for evaluating the effectiveness of working group chairs.

P&P compliance was also discussed, with the recently instituted "Working Group Chairs Meeting" being a way to review the P&P for them.

The inefficiency of public review comments being submitted in hard copy and needing to be retyped was also discussed. The consensus was that we can require public review comments to be submitted electronically in some form in which the text that can be copied and pasted into another document.

8.2.3.4 TSC reorganization

Bill Groener said that work has gone on but there is no consensus yet on how the TSC should be restructured. He said that he will work with Mike Garl to better use the Technical Standards Committee to accomplish tasks, to be more active and proactive in managing the TSP.

8.2.3.4 Others

8.3 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.3.1 ASTC

No report.

8.3.2 PLASA

Ron Bonner reported that he had nothing of great consequence to report.

Roger Lattin asked about the reassignment of wireless microphone radio frequencies. Bonner said that wireless microphones had been assigned channel 69, but that channel has now been reassigned as a mobile communications subchannel. So PLASA is again in negotiations with Ofcom and the British government.

8.3.3 USITT

Jerry Gorrell announced that the USITT Conference is scheduled to be held at the Duke Energy Center in Cincinnati, Ohio, March 18 through 21, 2009.

8.3.4 VPLT

No report.

9 New Business

9.1 Working Group Chairs meeting

Mike Garl reported that the meeting had been extremely valuable, and has lead to some changes in the way the working groups are working already. He plans to have the meeting every six months. He did a rushed version of the effective meeting model at this meeting, so he may revisit that topic at the next working group chairs meeting.

9.2 Other new business

None.

10 Other business

10.1 Lori Rubinstein reported that the ETCP council has two new members: NBC Universal and Disney Theatrical Productions.

10.2 Mitch Hefter reported on the NEC meetings in Hilton Head. The only material changes to the Code affecting our industry were those offered by Mitch Hefter. The color coding of border light cable was clarified. No new requirements were added, but language was adopted to offer a reasonable interpretation of the existing requirements. Also the language detailing the exceptions to conduit fill requirements that need to be applied to drop boxes was clarified.

Most of the comments the committee had to address were from one person, Dan Leaf of Seneca, South Carolina, who submitted more than 1100 comments, almost one quarter of all the proposals on the NEC.

11 Schedule for future meetings

Mike Garl announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 18 March 2009, from 13:00 to 17:00, at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza in Cincinnati, OH. The July meeting will be on Sunday, July 19, with the working group chairs meeting being held on the afternoon of Friday, July 17.

12 Adjournment

Larry Schoeneman moved that the meeting adjourned. The motion was seconded. Mike Garl asked if there were any objections. Hearing no objections, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 11:59.

TSC Membership and Contact Information as of 24 February 2009

Name	Company	Parent company or representation	Voting status
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
James Niesel	ARUP	ARUP	P
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	P
Ken Vannice	Colortran	Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
David Johnson	Live Design	Penton Media	O
Marian Sandberg	Live Design	Penton Media	O
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	O
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology	Royal Philips Electronics	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Bill Groener	Tim Hunter Design, LLC	Tim Hunter Design, LLC	P
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News	Timeless Communications Corp.	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P

**TSM's Report on TSP Projects
For the 25 January 2009 TSC Meeting**

PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS WITH NO WORK NEEDED AT THIS TIME

Application Guide for ANSI E1.3 - 2001 Entertainment Technology Lighting Control Systems 0 to 10V Analog Control Specification (CPWG)

Camera crane operator's handbook (CCWG)

Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects, 4th edition (FSWG)

Nothing significant has happened in the field since this edition was published.

ANSI E1.1-2006, wire rope ladders (RWG)

ANSI E1.2-2006, aluminum towers and trusses (RWG)

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

ANSI E1.8-2005, speaker enclosures for rigging standard (RWG)

ANSI E1.9-2007, reporting photometric data revision (PHWG)

ANSI E1.14-2001 (R2007), Recommendations for Inclusions in Fog Equipment Manuals (FSWG)

ANSI E1.15-2006, boom & base assemblies (RWG)

We have a proposal on this. See the listing in active projects below.

ANSI E1.16-2002 (R2006), Configuration Standard for Metal Halide Ballast Power Cables (EPWG)

ANSI E1.21-2006, portable roof systems (RWG)

ANSI E1.24-2006, pin connector intermatability standard (EPWG)

ANSI E1.25-2006, flat-wall photometry basic conditions (PHWG)

ANSI E1.26-2006, floor energy absorption (FLWG)

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

ANSI E1.35 - 2007, Lens Quality Measurements for Pattern Projecting Luminaires Intended for Entertainment Use (PHWG)

ANSI E1.36 - 2007, 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 (PHWG)

PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS WITH WORK NEEDED

Recommended Practice for Ethernet Cabling Systems in Entertainment Lighting Applications and The Supplement to the Recommended Practice for Ethernet Cabling Systems in Entertainment Lighting Applications (CPWG)

These two documents are listed together because we now sell them bundled. The first is old and covers obsolete systems. The supplement builds on the first, so we haven't gotten rid of the first. The supplement also is old, and the working group has discussed revising it, but it's not obsolete yet for what it covers, which is 100 megabit/second systems. We will need to do something to update these documents, but the CPWG is very busy with other projects, and I doubt that revising these documents should take precedence over those other projects.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

Things needing action by the TSC at this meeting are highlighted in green.

Fire Resistance Task Group

The task group members have been meeting regularly to refine the problem and to break it down into specific issues. It all seems to be going well, and they are settling on a particular standard or group of standard to try to fix first rather than trying to fix them all. They seem to have settled on ironing out problems with NFPA 701 and 705.

BSR E1.4, manual rigging systems (RWG)

The Rigging Working Group addressed the comments from the last public review (see E1-4NinthRevwResols.pdf) and I sent the resolutions to the commenters, with a response deadline of January 22. As I write this on January 11, no one has responded. The RWG has voted by letter ballot (E1-4_WGAcceptTotal.pdf) to accept the revised draft (E1-4_1997-2002r17.pdf) as an American National Standard. The motion now passes to the TSC for action.

BSR E1.5, glycol and glycerin fog exposure standard (FSWG)

The document has been revised to correct the CAS numbers for dipropylene glycol. The document was offered for public review, and no one commented until the day after the review closed, at which time some comments from ABTT were received. Mike Wood has drafted a possible response for the working group to consider at its meeting on January 23.

BSR E1.6-1, powered winch hoist systems (RWG)

The last public review ran from 10 November 2006 through the end of the day 25 December 2006. The task group has been working on the resolutions since then, over two years. We have a proposal to split off controlling winches into a separate part, BSR E1.6-5.

BSR E1.6-2, powered serially produced chain hoist systems (RWG)

The document was offered for public review through 26 May 2008. One person responded and offered two comments. We also received some unofficial comments. The working group drafted resolutions, I sent them back to the commenters and have received no response. The working group voted by letter ballot to accept the revised draft standard as an American National Standard, but the motion received one No vote with reason. (See E1-6-2_WGAcceptTotal.pdf) The ballot recirculation times out at the RWG meeting January 24.

BSR E1.6-3, safe use of serial manufactured electric chain hoists in the entertainment industry (RWG)

The project was started at the October 2006 meeting, and since then the task group has been working on a first draft. Charlie Weiner has stated that he intends to offer a document for public review at the 24 January RWG meeting.

BSR E1.6-4, Control of Serially Manufactured Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry (RWG)

This project was created at the Summer 2007 RWG meeting as a split-off from the BSR E1.6-3 project. The task group is still working on a first draft.

BSR E1.6-5, Control of Winches in the Entertainment Industry—or something like this (RWG)

A proposal has been made to split the control part of BSR E1.6-1 into a separate part, BSR E1.6-5. This proposal is to be considered at the 24 January RWG meeting.

BSR E1.11, DMX512-A revision (CPWG)

It's approved by everyone, including ANSI. I need to prepare the document for publication. This is about a day's work, and will be done when the January meeting documents are off my agenda.

BSR E1.12, camera crane standard (CCWG)

This project is moving very slowly. The working group met in January and December.

ANSI E1.15-2006, boom & base assemblies (RWG)

The existing document was written to address the use of vertical pipes screwed into a boom base. A stage hand was disappointed to discover that it didn't cover trusses used with outriggers as vertical booms and has proposed we revise it. (See E1-15Proposal.pdf.) This is New Business on the RWG's 24 January meeting agenda. I have no sense whether this is a good idea or not.

BSR E1.17, ACN (CPWG)

We've started a project to correct errors in the existing ANSI E1.17. Dan Antonuk had prepared some errata and revision documents, and they were offered to the CPWG at the March 2008 working group meeting. At that meeting a motion was made and seconded to offer the documents for public review by letter ballot. The documents that Dan Antonuk had submitted for the meeting were not quite polished and needed the correct document numbers, so I have been waiting to get the reference documents from Antonuk. I have asked about them, but I haven't received them yet, so I haven't issued the letter ballot to decide the motion made in March.

BSR E1.18-1, Recommended practice for selection, installation, and use of portable feeder cable (EPWG)

The E1.18 project is split into two parts. This part, a radically trimmed version of the original BSR E1.18, is in public review through February 23.

BSR E1.18-2, name to be decided

This part will address ring distribution systems. At the October EPWG, Roger Lattin was appointed to start work on a draft standard for closed loop systems, an E1.18-2, and to identify others to work with him. His deliverables for the January 2009 meeting would be a scope statement, and a section stating why and where closed loops are advantageous, and a section stating why and where closed loop systems are not. He is also to develop a timeline for the completion of the rest of the document.

BSR E1.19, Recommended practice for use of Class A GFCIs (EPWG)

The EPWG and TSC have approved BSR E1.19 as an ANS. The motion has been forwarded to the ESTA Board. The one commenter in the last review has been informed of the resolutions, and not responded. The one No-voter in the working group has not retracted his no, but he and the rest of working group have had ample opportunities to discuss and to consider his objections. As I write this, I have on my agenda writing to all the negative commenters in all the reviews to inform them of the pending approval and their last chance to file an appeal.

BSR E1.20, a revision of ANSI E1.20-2006, Remote Device Management (CPWG)

The list of errata and the proposed changes were offered for public review through November 24. We received comments from three people. Two of them were clearly suggesting changes to other parts of the document. That is, their comments were not relevant to the changes proposed in the revision. The

working group can respond to those comments by simply accepting them for a future revision of the document and can move forward with the proposed changes. The third commenter simply offered comments, which are mostly questions suggesting some unhappiness, but not suggesting specific changes. Thus, we don't have a "Yes with comments" on file from him, and the CPWG has to figure out from what he wrote whether his comments have any bearing on the proposed revisions..

BSR E1.22, fire safety curtain systems (RWG)

The Rigging Working Group addressed the comments from the last public review (see E1-22_5th_RvwResols.pdf) and I sent the resolutions to the commenters, with a response deadline of January 22. As I write this on January 11, no one has responded. The RWG has voted by letter ballot (E1-22_WGAcceptTotal.pdf) to accept the revised draft (E1-22_2002-2032r9-1.pdf) as an American National Standard. The motion now passes to the TSC for action.

BSR E1.23, general fog effect planning standard (FSWG)

The revised version with the fixed CAS numbers is scheduled to be in public review through December 15. The document was offered for public review, and no one commented until the day after the review closed, at which time some comments from ABTT were received. Discussing them is on the agenda for the Fog & Smoke Working Group meeting on January 23.

BSR E1.27-2, permanent DMX512 cabling (CPWG)

The document was in public review through November 24, and one person responded "Yes." So, we can assume there are no objections out there in the broader world to this document, and can move forward to adopt it as an ANS.

BSR E1.28, followspot position planning guidance document (FPWG)

A revised draft standard and a set of resolutions have been created. The working group is scheduled to have a last look at them and a vote at its meeting on January 22.

BSR E1.29, fog equipment product safety standard (FSWG)

The revised version with the fixed CAS numbers and improved language describing the aerosol hygiene testing is scheduled to be in public review through December 15. No one commented until the day after the review closed, at which time some comments from ABTT were received. Mike Wood has drafted a possible response for the working group to consider at its meeting on January 23.

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

Ten new EPIs that are part of this project were in public review through August 25. Six received comments, and four did not. The CPWG voted by letter ballot to accept the four that did not as American National Standards. Three of them received comments or no votes with reasons that generated a recirculation that closes at the CPWG meeting January 24. The fourth, BSR E1.30-10 (EPI 32.pdf) was accepted by the working group as an American National Standard. (See E1-30-10WG_Bllt_Total.pdf) The motion now is before the TSC.

BSR E1.31, Lightweight streaming protocol for transport of DMX512 using ACN (CPWG)

The most recent public review ended August 25. A handful of comments were received. The working group drafted resolutions and a revised version, and voted by letter ballot to accept them. (See E1-31PR2_CmmntResols.PDF, E1-31WG_Bllt_Total.pdf, and E1-31r3.PDF.) I have not yet sent the resolutions to the commenters. I intend to send you a letter ballot for the approval of this document after I do that, unless you would prefer to vote at the TSC meeting with the understanding that we may need to revisit the resolutions if the commenters object.

BSR E1.32, luminaire maintenance guidance (EPWG)

The document was offered for public review through August 25. Only a few people commented, but they really didn't like the document, since it would require a more frequent inspection schedule than is customarily used in the US. Many venues and rental shops have no regular inspection schedule, and this

is accepted by some of the commenters as a norm that should not be challenged. The task group that wrote the document (Jerry Gorrell with a little help from his friends) has started work on drafting a set of possible resolutions.

BSR E1.33, RDM over ACN (CPWG)

Little progress has been made with this. Most of the effort is going into BSR E1.31.

BSR E1.34, Entertainment Technology-Measuring and Specifying the Slipperiness of Floors Used in Live Performance Venues (FLWG)

The ESTA Board approved it with a letter ballot that timed out at the end of the day on December 23. Submitting it to ANSI is now on my agenda.

BSR E1.37, Additional Message Sets for ANSI E1.20, Remote Device Management (CPWG)

Work continues, but the same group that is working on this is working on BSR E1.31, so there is competition for resources.

OTHER THINGS OF NOTE

The Rigging Working Group has some other projects to consider or talk about, besides the revision to ANSI E1.15 noted above:

- a project for a standard for dead-hung systems (e.g. static battens and pipe grids),
- a project for certification for those who erect self-climbing rigs, but this would be outside the scope of the TSP, which doesn't do employee certification, and
- a possible revival of the BSR E1.7 project in response to the recent death of an aerial artist

Respectfully submitted,



Karl G. Ruling
Technical Standards Manager

ESTA TSC Policies and Procedures –Issue List Report

Steve Terry, Bill Conner, Gene Leiterman, Karl Ruling, Richard Cadena—December 31, 2008

The ad-hoc task group identified the following issues with the current TSP process and the Policies and Procedures document. We have suggested a solution where there was consensus. In cases where there was no consensus or we couldn't think of a solution, we have deferred the discussion to the TSC.

1. Public review Cycles.

- a. Number of public reviews can be excessive. Solution: redefine “substantive change” to allow more judgment by the working group as to whether another public review is needed. Add another layer of review by TSC to approve the choice of non-substantive material.
- b. Variable document quality creates the need for multiple public reviews. See 1 C
- c. A mechanism to improve document quality is needed, including more editorial review and oversight. Solution: TSC consider the creation of a tighter style guide and creation of an editorial review team to review all standards.
- d. Lack of ESTA staff contributes to poor editorial quality of documents See 1 C.
- e. A clear definition is needed for “consensus” as it applies to “substantive change”—since this is the trigger for a public review. See 1 A.
- f. There is currently no mechanism to prevent the introduction of new material in a public review. New material cannot easily be deferred to a subsequent edition of a standard. Solution: TSC needs to discuss a mechanism to limit new material.

2. Task Groups

- a. Task groups are currently de facto standing committees with no time milestones for their work
- b. Task groups tend to take on authority over the draft document, thus removing needed technical deliberation from the working groups.
- c. Task group authority could be brought into balance by assigning task groups limited scope work with definite deadlines. Such tasks might not be the drafting of a whole document, but a phased approach –perhaps beginning with simply an outline for working group deliberation and approval. Solution: Edit P&P in a number of places to remove de facto authority from Task Groups and place that authority clearly in the Working Groups.

3. Role of the Working Group

- a. Working Groups must do more substantive deliberation and actual work, rather than rubber-stamping the output of Task Groups. See 2C.
- b. Working Groups must be of a manageable size, so they can actually deliberate.
- c. There are currently no clear criteria for Working Group membership, contributing to the large size of groups. We need a mechanism to set criteria. Solution: while being careful not to arbitrarily limit membership, we need to clearly communicate the responsibilities of Principal membership. In many cases, members will be satisfied with observer status. A review of working group membership is needed, with an associated appeal to members who are not likely to need voting status to change to observer status.
- d. Working Group chairs have long tenure in some cases. This has sometimes been a problem. Solution: add a two-year term of service to the P&P, and make it clear that the TSC can change a working group chair that is not performing prior to the expiration of the term. Conversely, a chair can be reappointed for an unlimited number of terms.

4. Role of the Technical Standards Committee

- a. TSC Management of the program should be more specific and more involved.

- b. Issues with Working Group Chairs might be resolved through:
 - i. Specific appointment terms for chairs, perhaps with term limits. See 3D
 - ii. Specific appointment of a chair by the TSC, with agreement from the working group of the selected Chair. See 3D
 - iii. Clarity that a chair can be changed by the TSC if the incumbent is not getting the job done. See 3D
- 5. Scope and Purpose of Technical standards Program
 - a. The types of standards undertaken by the program are materially different than those at the inception of the program.
 - i. There are now safety standards, not just equipment compatibility standards
 - ii. ESTA standards are now far more likely to be incorporated by reference into other “mainstream” standards. These may require a different approach. Solution: rework P&P to create a new level of standard where it is likely to be referenced by another standard or adopted into law. Add wording to make sure that such a standard is written in the correct style for its target audience and complies with the requirements of the likely referencing organization.
 - b. The purpose of the program is no longer “principally” to create equipment compatibility standards.
 - c. Assumed “voluntary adoption” of ESTA standards may no longer be valid—the very existence of an ESTA standard in a unique “standards space” may create a de facto involuntary adoption by AHJ’s. Solution: Modify Scope and Purpose wording of P&P to more accurately reflect current status and intent.
 - d. We need stronger criteria for TSC approval of projects—not every standard is applicable to the ESTA program. Solution: Modify section 14.1 to make the TSC the only authority to initiate projects.
- 6. P&P Compliance
 - a. Compliance with the details and philosophy of the P&P is somewhat variable across projects
 - b. We need a mechanism to make P&P compliance more uniform. This needs TSC discussion.
- 7. Interest Categories
 - a. Current categories may not be applicable to the current program
 - b. Interest categories should be reviewed for current applicability
 - c. There is no guarantee that the self-declared interest category of a working group member will be accurate. Solution: modify P&P to give TSC authority to change a member’s interest category if it is in error, based on readily available information.
- 8. P&P revisions
 - a. There is no clearly defined mechanism for revising the P&P
 - b. A clear procedure for P&P revision should be included in the document itself. The TSC should accept petitions for P&P revision, which should be run like any other standards project in the program. Solution: edit P&P to include this procedure.