

**Minutes**  
**Technical Standards Council**  
Monday, 29 January 2018  
The Disney Paradise Pier Hotel  
Anaheim, CA

**Presiding chairman:** Mike Garl; Mike Garl Consulting LLC; P

**Recording secretaries:** Erin Grabe & Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

**Members attending:**

Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs, representing USITT; P  
Mitch Heffer; P  
Fred Kosiewski; Walt Disney Company; P  
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P  
Jules Lauve ; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; ESTA President; P  
David E. Miller; Walt Disney Company; A  
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.; D. A. Gibbs and Associates, representing ASTC; P  
Eddie Raymond; IATSE Local 16; O  
Alan M. Rowe; IATSE Local 728; (IATSE Crafts Advancement Program); P  
Lori Rubinstein; ESTA; ESTA; exf  
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P  
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls; P

**Visitors:**

Bryan Honeycutt; Disney Parks & Live Entertainment  
Michael Lay; Philips Lighting  
Roger Lattin; IATSE Local 728

**1 Opening remarks**

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 9:05. He thanked those attending for taking time out of their busy schedules to help guide the program forward. He asked attendees to silence their mobile devices. He also pointed out the exits and specified a meeting point outside, where we should meet if we need to evacuate.

Steve Terry gave a short eulogy for Ken Vannice, who had died two weeks ago today. He called him a “giant in the industry,” who had contributed much, and who will be missed. He was the longest serving member of NEC Code Panel 15. A celebration of his life will be held in Portland, Oregon, but the details of that are still being determined.

Lori Rubinstein noted that Vannice had left a bequest to the TSP in his will.

**2 Attendance and membership**

**2.1 Taking attendance**

A yellow sign-in sheet was passed around.

**2.2 Welcome to visitors**

Mike Garl welcomed the visitors present.

**2.3 Introductions**

Self-introductions took place around the table.

## 2.4 Call for quorum

Mike Garl announced that a quorum was present.

## 2.5 Consensus body

Delegate	Representation or company	Voting status
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Jules Lauve	ESTA President	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P
	<b>Total votes possible</b>	<b>13</b>

## 3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See *TSCmin11-2017.pdf*.

Steve Terry moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting as written. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

## 4 Reading of the call for patents

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Mike Garl:

“ESTA intends not to publish any standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that information can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. ESTA uses a process of open patent and copyright disclosures to implement its intent. ESTA does not conduct patent or copyright searches and does not warrant that its standards contain no protected intellectual property.

“In keeping with the open disclosures policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify this council group of the existence of a patent, patent application, copyright, or other intellectual property that might protect material in a standard being developed by any working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright to notify the council of its existence.”

Nothing was revealed.

## 5 Reading of the anti-trust statement

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Mike Garl:

“ESTA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws. Therefore, during this meeting and during all ESTA events, all discussions will be limited to those subjects that are

permitted by the antitrust laws. All members should refrain from any discussion or mention of competitively sensitive subjects such as the current or future prices charged for any member product or services, current or future marketing plans or strategies, and current or future costs, including employee salaries. There also must be no agreement on the suppliers or customers that members will or will not do business with or the markets in which members will conduct business.

“Violations of the antitrust laws can have serious consequences. If you have any questions or concerns about anything that is discussed at a ESTA meeting, please bring your concern to ESTA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the ESTA staff.”

Karl Ruling held up a copy of the pamphlet. No one reported any anti-trust problems or concerns.

## **6 Approval of agenda**

Mike Garl added the reaffirmation of E1.35 and a discussion on wireless stewardship. Bill Sapsis moved to approve the agenda as amended. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a show of hands.

## **7 Old business and standing reports**

### **7.1 Financial reports**

#### **7.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges**

*See TSP Draft 2017 Financials.pdf.*

Mike Garl noted that everyone received a copy of the financial report. There were no questions on the report, but it was noted that this latest report is positive. That is, we did not spend more money than we brought in.

#### **7.1.2 TSP Fundraising**

Lori Rubinstein expressed concern about the Lori expressed concern about the long-term commitment from two of the largest companies in the Visionary category of the Investors in Innovation. Steve Terry suggested we need some more long-term commitments. We cannot assume that all our donors will always be our donors.

#### **7.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded**

There was no report available.

### **7.2 Old Business**

#### **7.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report**

*See TSPPrjctsSmmry2018-01.pdf.*

There were no questions on the report.

##### **7.2.1.1 Report on status of documents: ones in process, ones stable, ones needing action or of concern**

##### **7.2.1.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC**

###### **7.2.1.2.1 Public reviews**

*See BSR\_ES\_1-19\_ES2017-20007r1\_Structures.pdf.*

The ESWG voted at its 27 January meeting to offer the draft standard for public review. Steve Terry moved that the BSR S1.19 be offered for public review. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

*See BSR\_E1-37-4\_doc2017-1024.pdf, distributed on 26 January.*

The CPWG had voted to offer BSR E1.37-4 for public review at its meeting on 26 January. Mitch Heffer moved that BSR E1.37-4 be offered for public review. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

### **7.2.1.2.2 Reaffirmations**

The Photometrics Working Group had voted by letter ballot to reaffirm E1.35. No public review comments had been received on the reaffirmation motion.

Steve Terry moved to accept the reaffirmation of E1.35. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

### **7.2.1.2.3 Final approvals**

#### **7.2.1.2.3.1 BSR E1.6-2**

*The recirculated RWG letter ballot to accept BSR E1.6-2 – 20xx, Design, Inspection, and Maintenance of Electric Chain Hoists for the Entertainment Industry, as an American National Standard ends on 2 January 2018.*

Karl Ruling explained the status of the document. The final vote for accepting the standard, after recirculation of the negative votes, was 52 Yes, 1 Yes with Comments, 3 No with reasons, 1 Abstain with reasons, and 10 ballots not returned out of a voting body of 67. This constitutes acceptance of the motion by a supermajority.

Eddie Kramer moved that the revised BSR E1.6-2 be accepted as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

#### **7.2.1.2.3.2 BSR E1.14**

*The Fog & Smoke WG letter ballot to accept E1.14 – 20xx, Recommendations for Inclusions in Fog Equipment Manuals, closed with all the votes, 13 out of a voting body of 13, in favor of accepting the revised E1.14.*

Bill Sapsis moved that the revised E1.14 be accepted as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

### **7.2.1.2.4 Withdrawal**

#### **7.2.1.2.5 New projects**

*See Network Advertisement of Entertainment Protocols Project Request\_Update.pdf. The cost estimate to ESTA for this project is \$685. It was approved by the CPWG at their 01-2018 meeting.*

Steve Terry moved to accept the new project. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

## **8 Optional Reports**

### **8.1 Optional reports by working and task group leaders on active projects**

#### **8.1.1 Control Protocols**

Michael Lay reported that new interest is being generated through the progress of the E1.59. He reported that the working group had approved five new public reviews. He also noted the opposition of backwards compatibility, which may wind up coming to the attention of the TSC. He also noted the complaints by some of the members regarding the higher cost of this meeting cycle, versus the lower cost meeting in Texas.

#### **8.1.2 Electrical Power**

Mitch Hefter noted that the WG did not meet at this cycle and, sadly, needs a new co-chair, since Ken Vannice has died. Steve Terry asked that the WG to look at their membership and make a recommendation to the TSC.

#### **8.1.3 Floors**

Jerry Gorrell said that they have one standard in review and has voted to offer BSR E1.60 for raked stages for public review.

Karl Ruling said that the TSC will receive a letter ballot to approve the first review of E1.60 after this meeting cycle. Changes to the draft standard had been agreed on at the Floors Working Group meeting, but not all the changes had been implemented yet. The document the TSC will see for its vote will be the fully revised draft.

#### **8.1.4 Fog and Smoke**

Karl Ruling said that they didn't meet here and aren't meeting in March, but that there is a need for a meeting to approve the new application from Actors' Equity to be a voting member.

#### **8.1.5 Followspot Position**

Jules Lauve addressed the group. There was discussion on the possible need to address the safety of workers in remote locations around the building.

#### **8.1.6 Photometrics**

No report said Jerry Gorrell.

#### **8.1.7 Rigging**

Bill Sapsis reported a short productive meeting, that generated some public review motions that will be forwarded to the TSC for approval.

#### **8.1.8 Stage Lifts**

Erin Grabe said that the TSC vote for the E1.42 public review closed Friday. The public review motion was approved. It will be placed in public review next week.

#### **8.1.9 Event Safety**

*No further report.*

### **8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations**

#### **8.2.1 ASTC**

Andrew Gibbs had no news to report, but he said that the ASTC was in support of the TSP and its work.

#### **8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance**

*The 2017 Event Safety Summit took place 29-30 Nov & 1 Dec. in Pennsylvania. Lori Rubinstein and Erin Grabe attended.*

Erin Grabe reported on her experience at the Event Safety Summit. It was her first, and she greatly enjoyed it. Her report on it is in the most recent issue of *Protocol*. She noted that it has become an important event, paid attention to by many. She reported on a conversation with the risk manager for Amazon, the retailer.

#### **8.2.3 NFPA**

##### **8.2.3.1 FDW-AAA committee**

Jerry Gorrell said that the committee work should be completed soon. Barring a NITMAM, the standard should be published before the end of the year.

##### **8.2.3.2 SPE-AAA**

Karl Ruling spoke to the group about the Sparkular. A TIA for NFPA 1126 moves this type of flame effect, which looks like a pyrotechnic effect, into the scope of 1126.

##### **8.2.3.3 SAF-AXM & BLD**

Jerry Gorrell said that the committee's next meeting will be in August.

#### **8.2.3.4 NEC**

Mitch Hefter said that there were meetings last week to review public input. All proposals that directly relate to our industry were approved. They will meet again in the fall to finalize for the next edition. Steve Terry added that the proposal to allow the use of junior service cords at 100 feet or less in length, in certain situations, will likely pass.

#### **8.2.4 PLASA**

Karl Ruling said that Ron Bonner is retiring in March. Lori Rubinstein said that PLASA is interviewing candidates for the position, but she doesn't know if this will be a staff or independent contractor position.

#### **8.2.5 USITT**

Jerry Gorrell addressed the group. There was some discussion on the location and timing of this year's show, which will have higher costs. Very few rooms and reasonable flights are a major concern. The locations of the next three conferences were listed:

2019 Louisville, KY  
2020 Houston, TX  
2021 Columbus, OH

#### **8.2.6 New World Rigging Symposium**

*The two-day NWRS will take place in conjunction with USITT, on Tuesday and Wednesday, 13-14 March.*

Scott Fisher will be doing the keynote, said Bill Sapsis. Lori Rubinstein asked the TSC representatives from Disney to help spread the word to their riggers about the symposium.

#### **8.2.7 DTHG**

Karl Ruling said that things have been mostly quiet, but there is a big conference planned for June in Dresden. It's not quite as big an event as Stage|Set|Scenery, which is held in Berlin in odd-numbered years.

### **9 New business**

### **10 Other business and announcements**

#### **10.1 International Code Council**

No news.

#### **10.2 ICOPER**

Lori reported that over 500 copies have been downloaded. Request to translate it from the Hong Kong Academy for Performing Arts, and from Poland into Polish, and into French by CITT. The downloads are coming from a wide range of countries.

There was discussion of regularly revising the document. We have lots of downloads, but no comments on terms that need to be added or perhaps corrected. There may be a formal public review at regular intervals, every four years, to address this, to keep it accurate and current.

#### **10.3 The Our Common Goals Initiative**

Nothing to report.

#### **10.4 NATEAC 2020**

Bill Sapsis said that there is nothing new to report.

#### **10.5 Above & Beyond Awards**

*The website is open for nominations year-round, [http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award\\_recipients.html](http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html).*

Steve Walker from the RWG and Scott Blair from the CPWG were honored at this meeting cycle. There is third award, but it was not given because the working group did not meet. The consensus was that the full announcement on our website would be held until all the awards had been presented.

#### **10.6 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award**

Scott Fisher was discussed as a possible recipient of the Lifetime Technical Achievement Award. Bill Sapsis, Steve Terry, and Jules Lauve all spoke in favor of Fisher and his contributions to the industry. Navigator was praised as a great innovation in motion control.

Steve Terry moved that Scott Fisher be given the Lifetime Achievement Award for 2018. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved with a unanimous show of hands.

Eddie Kramer mentioned Duncan MacKenzie for a future award.

#### **10.7 Volunteer of the Year Award**

Lori Rubinstein said Frances Thompson will poll the TSC this summer.

#### **10.8 Swan Award**

Lori Rubinstein said Frances Thompson will poll the TSC this summer.

#### **10.9 TSP participation fee donor fund**

There currently is \$475 left in the fund. As of 19 December 2017, no new requests had been received, reported Erin Grabe.

#### **10.12 INNOVA**

Lori Rubinstein said there is need for more content. Ken Vannice was working on two sessions when he passed away.

#### **10.11 NAMM**

Lori Rubinstein prefaced the discussion by saying that NAMM is happy with how things had gone. (We are part of the “Event Technology Community.”) We earned a significant amount of money for this show, and will earn an additional \$25,000 next year—if it all continues to go well.

Rubinstein described the problems of people coming in on the badge for the company from whom they got the free registration code. As a result, a man with a sound company badge turned out to be the risk manager for the City of Los Angeles.

She also talked about the over 500 educational events this year, about double what was offered last year. This was the first year that they held the sessions at the Hilton, and they did this because there were too many sessions to be held in the Convention Center itself.

Our sessions were fully booked, but had much less than full attendance. The problem was that people quickly signed up for almost everything, but probably did not have any intention to attend everything for which they had signed up. These early registrants were people that we did not know, so they probably were NAMM veterans who had adopted this procedure so they could be sure of a seat.

There was further discussion about the value of the educational business sessions. Many of them nominally were aimed at the music business, but they were applicable to any business.

There were discussions about the demographics of the NAMM show, both the exhibitors and the attendees.

#### **10.10 LDI**

There was an extensive discussion about whether we should continue to meet at LDI.

Steve Terry moved that we move the October 2018 TSP meetings to the Dallas area, and that the TSP have a continued commitment to having a task group and working group presence at the NAMM show. The motion was seconded by discussion. The motion was approved with a unanimous show of hands.

The consensus was that the corollary to meeting in Texas in October is that we no longer continue to meet at LDI. However, we should not schedule our meetings against the LDI show, because some of our meeting participants might want to attend LDI. It would be difficult for people to be in two places at once. (The next LDI is scheduled for October 15 through 21, with the trade show running from 19 through 21.)

### **10.13 Wireless stewardship**

Alan Rowe addressed the group regarding an ad-hoc meeting they had last year about wireless frequency management. He asked the group to prepare a project request. There was discussion on whether or not this problem belongs under the purview of the TSP. Whether it belongs in the TSP or not, ESTA has an interest in being a part of the solution.

### **11 Schedule for future meetings**

The current meeting schedule is available at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>.

#### **11.1 March 2018 ESTA meetings**

The March meetings will take place in conjunction with USITT 2018 in Fort Lauderdale, FL. The show dates are 14-17 March 2018. The TSC meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, 14 March 2018 from 13:00 to 17:00 at the Hilton Ft. Lauderdale Marina.

#### **11.2 July 2018 ESTA meetings**

The July 2018 meetings are scheduled to take place 19-24 July 2018 at the D/FW Marriott Solana in Westlake, Tx. The TSC meeting is scheduled for Sunday 22 July, from 9:00 to 13:00.

#### **11.4 Autumn meetings**

*From the draft November minutes:*

*There was discussion on whether or not we need to have meetings in conjunction with the LDI trade show.*

*The general consensus was no, we do not need to have meetings at LDI. There was further discussion as to what the other options are, including a fall meeting elsewhere or moving one whole meeting cycle to WebEx.*

*Michael Lay suggested that co-chairs poll their groups to see how the member-base feels about these ideas.*

This topic was dealt with in item 10.12. We have decided to not meet at LDI.

### **12 Adjournment**

Jules Lauve moved to adjourn. Hearing no objections, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 12:23.



Technical Standards Council Members as of 2 February 2018

Delegate	Company	Representation, if not company	Voting status
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Harry Box	Production Equipment Rental Group	PERG	O
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC		P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Erin Grabe	ESTA		exf
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter		P
A. Scott Hoyt	Heartland Scenic Studio	ESTA Treasurer	exf
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment	Walt Disney Company	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P
Jules Lauve	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	ESTA President	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment	Walt Disney Company	A
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	D. A. Gibbs and Associates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16		O
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Local 728	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Lori Rubinstein	ESTA		exf
Karl G. Ruling	ESTA		exf
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.		P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.		P
R. Duane Wilson	George C. Izenour Associates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P

**Voting status key:** P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter, I = Individual voter, O = Observer member, exf = Ex Officio member (staff)