

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Friday, 24 January 2025
Wyndham Anaheim - Anaheim, CA

Chairperson:

Alan M. Rowe; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728; P

Recording secretary:

Richard Nix; ESTA

Attendees:

Justin Bennett; USITT; P
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; A
Jerry Gorrell; USITT; A
Erin Grabe; ESTA; exf
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Mike Skinner; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P

1 Opening Remarks

Alan Rowe called the meeting to order at 13:01. He welcomed everyone and thanked them for taking time to attend.

1.1 Mike Garl retires

[see *It's time for me to retire_Mike Garl.pdf*]

A new Co-chairperson will be appointed by ESTA's Board of Directors, sometime in the near future.

Alan Rowe updated everyone on this item. He spoke to Todd Spencer during the ESTA Board Meeting, and thinks an appointment may be forthcoming soon.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Alan Rowe read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

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 an ESTA meeting, please bring your concern to ESTA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the ESTA staff.

Richard Nix held up the pamphlet.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

Alan Rowe 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 this working group of the

existence of a patent, patent application, copyright, or other protected intellectual property that might protect material in a standard being developed by this working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright to notify this working group of its existence.

Nothing was revealed.

3 Attendance and introductions

3.1 Welcome to visitors

3.2 Determination of a quorum

A quorum is six voting members.

Alan Rowe confirmed a quorum was present.

3.3 Consensus body

The full consensus body during the time of this meeting, including voters not present, is:

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A
Justin Bennett	USITT	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A
	Total votes possible	11

4 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

[See TSCmin10-2024_DRAFT.pdf]

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried, without objection or abstention.

5 Approval of agenda

Bill Gillett moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried, without objection or abstention.

6 Old Business and standing reports

6.1 Financial reports

6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

[see TSP FY 2025 Draft BudgetOverviewBudget_FY25_PL-FY25PLClasses.pdf and TSP FY

2024_StatementofActivitybyClass.pdf]

Richard Nix gave a brief update on TSP renewals.

Mitch Hefter had questions about the deficit and how/where it was presented. Alan Rowe said there is a very active fund-raising activity on the ESTA Board.

6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

[See SalesReportforTSC_01-2025.pdf]

Downloads increased 2.9% over last period.

6.2 Old Business

6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

[See TSP Project Status Summary_01-2025.pdf]

6.2.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

6.2.2.1 First public reviews

6.2.2.1.1 BSR E1.53 – 202x, Overhead mounting of luminaires, lighting accessories, and other portable devices: specification and practice

[See BSR E1.53-202x_2015-7010r8a.pdf]

The EPWG may approve this for first public review.

The working group did approve the first public review. Keith Sklar moved to approve for first public review. The motion was seconded and carried, without objection or abstention.

6.2.2.2 Reaffirmations

6.2.2.3 Approve as ANS

6.2.2.4 Withdrawals or abandonments

6.2.2.5 New project requests

6.2.3 Working group documents for TSC review – information only

[In conformance with the 04-2023 TSC directive, all drafts considered for public review will be sent to the TSC at the time they are distributed to the working group for PR consideration.]

6.2.5 CEN collaboration

No news as of this meeting.

6.2.6 UL and NFPA representation

7 New business

7.1 Illegal document sales

[see Memorandum re Copyright Litigation Costs and Settlement (00732722xA334D).pdf]

ESTA's council has provided a summary of potential litigation action with associated costs. Discussion about the document is on the Board's meeting agenda.

Everyone reviewed the document. Alan Rowe summarized. Erin Grabe added that further action isn't to make a lot of money, but rather to protect the IP. ESTA's Board instructed our council to communicate possibility of further

action with their counsel.

Steve Terry said it completely depends upon how much money ESTA has to spend on this. Justin Bennett says the summary indicates we'll receive more money than what we spend in any case. Mitch Heffer added that we'd be paying in advance if action lead to actual court litigation. Alan Rowe said that it seems apparent the TSC's opinion is similar to the Board's consensus opinion. Erin Grabe will follow up with the ESTA's counsel.

7.2 ISO-TAG participation

One of the Event Safety Working Group participants from Germany is involved with ISO/AWI 22353, Security and resilience — Guidelines for crowd management, under TC 292. He requested that we consider getting involved because it overlaps with our published Event Safety standard, ES1.9 – 2020, Crowd Management. ANSI has a Technical Advisory Group (TAG) for this TC, and we can apply for membership on this TAG. Richard Nix requests permission to apply on behalf of ESTA, and to include Dr. Donald Cooper (ESWG Chairperson) as his Alternate, and SME.

Mitch Heffer moved to approve the application. The motion was seconded and carried, without objection or abstention.

7.3 Discussion of expanded BSR E1.86 project scope

[see Protocol motor cables.pdf and E1.86 Joint Project Proposal Draft 2.pdf]

The EPWG has submitted two documents for TSC discussion.

Mitch gave an overview of the project evolution. It's an existing EPWG project. The EPWG solicited for collaboration with the RWG, who discussed it in today's meeting. Steve Terry said this is a big industry issue. There are at least 5 different pinout assignments, some of them are dangerous. None of them offer any technical advantage over the others. Alan Rowe said the RWG discussion concluded with advice to the RWG members to encourage discussion with EPWG task group participants.

8 Optional reports

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

8.1.1 Control Protocols

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.2 Electrical Power

Mitch Heffer said there is nothing further to report, because we have discussed everything that needs discussion.

8.1.3 Floors

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Nothing to report.

8.1.5 Followspot Positions

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.6 Photometrics

Nothing to report.

8.1.7 Rigging

Richard Nix reported that they had a good meeting, and their discussion about the E1.84 project was brief, yet productive.

8.1.8 Stage machinery

8.1.9 Event Safety

Richard Nix gave an overview of the meeting. They will not meet in March, but will reconvene in July.

8.1.10 Weapons Safety

Richard Nix reported. They've made significant progress on a draft standard that may be ready for public review in July. They also will not meet in March.

8.1.11 Mental Health & Well-being Management

Alan Rowe reported.

8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.2.1 ASTC

Andy Gibb reported that the ASTC has introduced Code Change Proposals to the International Building Code (Chapter 4). Stay tuned for updates.

8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance

Nothing to report.

8.2.3 NFPA

Jerry Gorrell reported, they are just beginning PR comment resolutions.

8.2.3.1 FDW-AAA committee (NFPA 80 fire doors & fire safety curtains)

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.3.2 SPE-AAA (NFPA 160 & 1126, flame and pyrotechnics)

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.3.3 SAF-AXM & BLD (assembly occupancies. NFPA 101, 102, & 5000)

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.3.5 NFPA 70E

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.4 USITT

Mitch said there's a conference in March.

8.2.5 ICC

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.6 IES

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.7 UL

Nothing to report at this time.

8.2.8 ASSP

Nothing to report at this time.

9 Other business and announcements

9.1 Above & Beyond Awards

Information on the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html.

Steve Terry asked who decides approval once submissions are made. Erin Grabe said the panel is comprised of ESTA's Executive Director, the nominee's specific working group chairperson, the Technical Standards Manager, and the TSC Chairperson

9.2 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award

Erin Grabe reported. She thanked everyone for voting. Gary Fails is this year's candidate, and the intent is to present at USITT, if he'll be present.

9.3 Volunteer of the Year Award

Nothing to report.

9.4 Swan Award

Nothing to report.

10 Schedule for future meetings

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

Spring meetings will be held in conjunction with USITT, during the week of 03 March, in Columbus, OH.

The TSC is scheduled to meet at 13:00 Eastern Time on Thursday 06 March. It may move to earlier in the day. The TSC is OK with it being earlier in the day.

11 Adjournment

The agenda business having been completed, Alan Rowe adjourned the meeting at 13:55.

Technical Standards Council Members as of 24 January 2025

Name	Representing	Status
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A
Justin Bennett	USITT	P
Harry Box	PERG	O
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	O
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A
Erin Grabe	ESTA	exf
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P
Andrew Oyaas	I.A.T.S.E. Local 491	exf
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16	O
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A