

Minutes
Technical Standards Committee
Tuesday, 30 March 2010
Marriott Kansas City Downtown
Kansas City, MO

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

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending:

William Conner; Bill Conner Associates LLC representing ASTC; P
Eugene Leitermann; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc. representing ASTC; A
James Niesel; Arup; P (arrived at 14:00)
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls; P
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P
Ken Vannice; Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.; P
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P
Matthew Griffiths; PLASA; P
Ron Bonner; PLASA; A
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
JR Reid; JR Lighting, Inc. representing The PERA Council; P
Bill Groener; Tim Hunter Design, LLC; P
Richard Cadena; Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.); P
Louis Bradfield representing USITT; A
Lori Rubinstein;ESTA; ex officio

Visitors:

Roger Lattin; IATSE Local 728 (arrived at 13:54)
Kent Jorgensen; IATSE Local 80
Alan Rowe, IATSE Local 728 (arrived at 13:54)

1 Opening remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 13:00. He thanked people for attending.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

An orange attendance sign-in sheet was circulated. Garl noted that a quorum was present.

Ken Vannice gave Mitch Hefter's regrets for not being at this meeting. He needs to attend a USITT meeting scheduled for this same time.

Mike Garl said that Jim Niesel would be late because of travel problems.

2.2 Welcome to visitors

Garl welcomed Kent Jorgensen. (The other two visitors were not present at the beginning of the meeting.)

2.3 Introductions

Mike Garl introduced JR Reid, the new PERA council representative, to the assembly.

2.4 Consensus body

The full 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 (ASTC)	P
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc., representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
James Niesel	Arup	P
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	Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA	A
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Royal Philips Electronics)	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
JR Reid	JR Lighting, Inc., representing The PERA Council	P
Leigh Blicher	Videofax, representing The PERA Council	A
Bill Groener	Tim Hunter Design, LLC	P
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.)	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs, representing USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	representing USITT	A
Total votes		15

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See TSCmin01-2010.pdf

Eddie Kramer asked for clarification of paragraph 8.3.3. to put "NFPA" and the titles in to identify the referenced standards.

With these changes, Mike Wood moved that the draft minutes be accepted. The motion was seconded and then approved with a show of hands.

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

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

"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 was reported.

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

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

"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, Karl Ruling, held aloft some of the easy-to-read pamphlets to show that they were available at this meeting.

No actions in restraint of trade were reported.

6 Approval of agenda

Steve Terry moved that the agenda be approved. The motion was seconded and then accepted with a show of hands.

7 Reminder about ESTA contact information on the website

People were reminded to check the ESTA website if they change committees or their contact information to ensure that the website is accurate. Errors should be reported to Lori Rubinstein or Karl Ruling.

8 Old business and standing reports

8.1 Financial reports

8.1.1 Treasurer's report

Wood reported that the audit with new auditors has been a lot of work because they are better informed about the 501(c)6 regulations than the previous auditors. However, there have been no problems.

8.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

Lori Rubinstein expanded on report given by Mike Wood. The TSP netted \$12,000 on the check-the-box dues renewal, which was better than expected.

8.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold

See TSP_PublicationSales02-28-2010.pdf

Lori Rubinstein commented on the up-surge in E1.4 sales. JR Clancy had put in a note about the standard in their dealer newsletter, recommending that people buy it and use it.

8.1.4 TSP Marketing

Nothing new to report, said Lori Rubinstein.

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

See PrjctsSmmry2010-03.pdf

Karl Ruling talked about the "A note about the TSC Editorial Committee" entry under 3.2.1. It's given him more work in having to reconcile the edits from the individual committee members.

The consensus was that the committee should send one document back to Ruling after circulating it amongst themselves. Richard Cadena was appointed as the TSC editorial committee chairman.

Ruling said that the editorial committee would be among the things to think about in perhaps further revising the procedures. The merger and the report from the ANSI audit will make changes to the procedure inevitable.

8.2.1.2 Working group documents or projects requiring action by the TSC

Public review of BSR E1.32. See E1-32CmmntRsols-R2.pdf, E1-32WG_RsIsPubRvwBlItTotal.pdf, and BSR_E1-32_2006-7016r8.pdf.

Terry moved that BSR E1.32 be offered for public review. The motion was seconded. There was discussion.

There discussion included how the EPWG should deal with Bob Goddard's objections to the comment resolutions, and whether the resolutions that took no action in response to comments because no text was offered were appropriate. Bill Conner said that he didn't like the resolutions and didn't think that the resolutions were substantive enough. Steve Terry said that he thought that the Goddard issues should be considered first.

The motion failed with a show of hands. All the votes were No, save for three abstentions.

Steve Terry moved that the TSC direct the EPWG to address Goddard's response to the resolutions, and to review the resolutions to make sure that none are being rejected simply because no text has been submitted, but to reject them only if no text is offered and the comment is so unclear that no considered response is possible. The working group can request commenters to clarify their comments.

The motion passed with a show of hands, with all voting Yes, except for one abstention.

8.2.2 Optional reports by working and task group leaders on active projects (14:30)

8.2.2.1 Camera Cranes

Steve Terry noted that there has been no Camera Cranes Working Group activity in the report. He moved that we terminate the BSR E1.12 project. The motion was seconded. There was discussion.

JR Reid spoke against ending the project. The PERA Council needs to see what they can do with it. Lori Rubinstein agreed that the PERA Council should work on this. Mike Wood said that the project can move forward if there is a champion for it. He urged the PERA Council to become the champion for this project.

Steve withdrew the motion on the basis of the above argument.

Kent Jorgensen said that he is really too busy with other projects to lead the working group, and he can't push BSR E1.12 forward. The working group needs a new chairman.

Mike Garl asked JR Reid to take the camera crane project to the PERA Council to identify who will lead it and to develop a time-line for moving it forward. A responses should be returned by the July meeting. JR said that this is reasonable.

8.2.2.2 Control Protocols

No further news or discussion.

8.2.2.3 Electrical Power

Ken Vannice said that the resolution by resolution BSR E1.18-1 letter ballot will move the project forward.

8.2.2.4 Flame Resistance Task Group

Bill Conner said that he thinks this task group should be given a push to produce something. Bill Sapsis said that some kind of an advisory document would be handy.

Steve Terry asked the TSC to reach out to Tom Andrews and the task group saying the TSC wants them to move forward. How can we help? Is there someone to drive this forward? The TSC needs to see some progress or a report by July.

8.2.2.4 Floors

No further news or discussion.

8.2.2.5 Fog and Smoke

No further news or discussion.

8.2.2.6 Followspot Position

No further news or discussion.

8.2.2.7 Photometrics

Steve Terry moved that the TSC approve the initiation of the "Recommendations for the Measurement of Luminaires Utilizing Solid State Light Sources" project. The motion was seconded and then accepted with a unanimous show of hands. (Neisel was present by this time.)

8.2.2.8 Rigging

Bill Sapsis added the observation that we have seen excellent progress on projects. Two standards have come out of public review.

8.2.3 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above (15:00)

None.

8.3 Reports of affiliated organizations (16:00)

8.3.1 ASTC

Bill Conner reported that ASTC had met in February in Dallas at the new AT&T center. They discussed the need for a standard for stage lifts. Most members thought it was a good idea. There have been anecdotal reports of elevator inspectors being called in and either not knowing what to do or applying elevator standards to stage lifts with disastrous results. He said he plans to file a project proposal for the July meeting. It would be a safety standard, written to be a reference document for building codes. It probably would be a distinctly US or North American standard with prescriptive requirements.

Conner said it would be a project for a new working group that would meet twice a year. The parties who are interested in working on this project do not seem to be interested in meeting more frequently.

Bill Groener said that he'd met with Jim Read of ASTC and that Read was excited about it. Groener and Read are excited that ASTC members are seeing a use for the TSP.

8.3.2 PLASA

Matthew Griffiths deferred to Ron Bonner, but Bonner said he had nothing to report. However, he mentioned the PLASA rigging conference to be held in conjunction with the PLASA trade show in September at Earls Court. Information is available at <http://www.plsariggingconference.com>. A registration fee discount is available for ESTA and PLASA members, and for ETCP-certified riggers.

There was a discussion of the ESTA/PLASA merger proposal. People were urged to encourage others to vote. A majority of the members must vote for the election to be valid, and the majority of those must vote in favor for the proposal to pass.

8.3.3 USITT

Louis Bradfield said that the USITT Board is considering publishing some recommended practices: Rocky Paulson's recommendations for variable names in rigging equations and a recommended practice for audio system graphics.

8.3.4 VPLT

Karl Ruling reported that new editions of VPLT's standards for trusses and electric chain hoists, SR 1 and SR 2 respectively, debuted at Prolight + Sound as SQ P1, *Transversen* and SQ P2, *Elektrokettenzüge*. They aren't simply VPLT standard anymore; they are publications of a new association, the Interessengemeinschaft Veranstaltungswirtschaft (IGVW), which is an association of four German trade associations and professional societies—DTHG, EVVC, FAMAB, and VPLT—working in cooperation with VBG. SQ P1 and SQ P2 are significantly updated and expanded from the older SR 1 and SR 2.

9 New business

Boiler plate from the CPWG, *ESTA_Boilerplate_For_Specifiers_Rev_006.pdf*, was discussed.

Steve Terry moved that we adopt this and update it once a year. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands. We will issue a press release and post the boilerplate on the ESTA website.

Bill Conner asked, Who is referencing our standards? Do we see consultants referencing these things? Discussion of who references them, and what we can do to make more specifiers aware that they are useful. Gene Leiterman volunteered to write something for publication in the CSI magazine, *Construction Specifier*.

10 Other business

None.

11 Schedule for future meetings

Mike Garl announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Sunday, 25 July 2010, from 9:00 to 13:00 at the Marriott Solana in Westlake, Texas. Lori Rubinstein said that the LDI meeting will be at the Las Vegas Hilton on Wednesday, 20 October.

12 Adjournment

Bill Sapsis moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. Hearing no objections, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 15:49.

TSC Membership as of 17 June 2010

Name	Company	Parent company or representation	Voting stauts
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	Leviton Manufacturing	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
JR Reid	JR Lighting, Inc.	The PERA Council	P
Leigh Blicher	Videofax	The PERA Council	A
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	O

**TSM's Report on TSP Projects
For the 30 March 2010 TSC Meeting**

Possible TSC action items are in green.

1 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS WITH NO WORK NEEDED OR ONGOING AT THIS TIME

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

1.2 Camera crane operator's handbook (CCWG)

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

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

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

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

1.7 ANSI E1.4 - 2009, manual rigging systems (RWG)

1.8 ANSI E1.5 – 2009, Entertainment Technology - Theatrical Fog Made With Aqueous Solutions Of Di- And Trihydric Alcohols

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

1.10 ANSI E1.11 - 2008, DMX512-A revision (CPWG)

1.11 ANSI E1.14 - 2001 (R2007), recommendations for inclusions in fog equipment manuals (FSWG)

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

1.13 ANSI E1.16 - 2002 (R2006), configuration standard for metal halide ballast power cables (EPWG)

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

1.15 ANSI E1.22 – 2009, fire safety curtain systems (RWG)

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

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

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

1.19 ANSI E1.27-2 – 2009, Entertainment Technology -- Recommended Practice for Permanently Installed Control Cables for Use with ANSI E1.11 (DMX512-A) and USITT DMX512/1990 Products (CPWG)

1.21 ANSI E1.29 – 2009, Product Safety Standard for Theatrical Fog Generators that Create Aerosols of Water, Aqueous Solutions of Glycol or Glycerin, or Aerosols of Highly Refined Alkane Mineral Oil (FSWG)

1.22 ANSI E1.30-3 – 2009, EPI 25, Time Reference in ACN Systems Using SNTP and NTP (CPWG)

1.23 ANSI E1.30-7 – 2009, EPI 29, Allocation of Internet Protocol Version 4 Addresses to ACN Hosts (CPWG)

1.24 ANSI E1.30-10 – 2009, EPI 32 Identification of Draft Device Description Language Modules (CPWG)

1.25 ANSI E1.31 – 2009, Lightweight streaming protocol for transport of DMX512 using ACN (CPWG)

1.26 ANSI E1.34 - 2009, Entertainment Technology-Measuring and Specifying the Slipperiness of Floors Used in Live Performance Venues (FLWG)

1.27 ANSI E1.35 - 2007, lens quality measurements for pattern projecting luminaires intended for entertainment use (PHWG)

1.28 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)

1.29 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)

2 PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS WITH WORK NEEDED BUT NOT YET STARTED

None.

3 ACTIVE PROJECTS AND PROJECTS UNDER CONSIDERATION

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

3.1 Camera Cranes Working Group

3.1.1 BSR E1.12, camera crane standard

This project is moving slowly. I can report no measurable progress. The working group hasn't met in over a year, as far as I know.

3.1.2 Other Camera Cranes Working Group projects

None

3.2 Control Protocols Working Group

3.2.1 BSR E1.17, ACN

We've started a project to correct errors in the existing ANSI E1.17. A motion was made to offer some revised parts of the standard for public review at the July CPWG meeting, and the documents were finally presented at the November 2009 meeting and a motion made to offer them for public review. After I received editable source documents, I sent them off to the TSC Editorial Committee for vetting before I issue the first review letter ballot.

A note about the TSC Editorial Committee:

I'm still trying to figure out how the Editorial Committee fits into the process effectively. Two out of the three members of the editorial committee have sent back edited versions of the ACN 16 source documents, and Dan Antonuk has sent me a version of one of those edited files with corrected clause references. Now it remains for me to merge them and to sort out what is substantive and what is editorial, create a set of documents for the CPWG to vote on with only editorial changes, and a list of what substantive changes had been suggested.

The problem with this is that this has given me a substantial amount of work, with this project and with others. The two members of the editorial committee don't seem to agree on anything (one called the ACN documents well thought-out and organized, the other said they were barely English), and on the documents I have looked at so far, offered many tweaks to the language for clarity. My job would be easier if the Editorial Committee had to come to a consensus on what changes were necessary and sent me a single, consensus document or set of documents, but that's not how we did it with this first attempt at having the Editorial Committee in the process. I wonder if the Editorial Committee could actually do this creation of a consensus version in the three weeks that is written into the procedures. I dumped a lot of documents on them after the last set of meetings. The TSP's working groups are extremely productive right now, which has created a bottle neck at the first review and final approval editing stages.

I'm also a little disturbed by what the Editorial Committee has sent back to me. There have been some changes suggested that look simply editorial but are really substantive (they suggest a lack of awareness of the technology) or take out language that was written in response to a public review comment and that the comment resolution document says is going to be inserted. Thus, all the edits from the Editorial Committee need to be checked against the public review comment resolutions. Another problem is that some of the edits from the committee do not conform to the old ANSI style guide, to the *Chicago Manual of Style*, or to Strunk and White's *The Elements of Style*. That is, the Editorial Committee's editing needs editing.

This is not to say that the Editorial Committee is not useful. While it takes me a considerable amount of time to go through their edits, I think it takes me less time doing that than doing it cold on my own—at least, to achieve the same level of review. If I am the only reviewer, I can skip things, let things go as "good enough," to get the job done, and eventually I suffer from MEGO (My Eyes Glaze Over). When I have their reviews to vet, I can't skip so much, and shuttling back and forth between documents is more interesting.

3.2.2 BSR E1.20, a revision of ANSI E1.20-2006, Remote Device Management

The working group accepted the one comment from the last public review, and was ready to accept the revision as an ANS, while working on BSR E1.37 it was found that a change to E1.20 would make that protocol simpler. So, they voted for another public review, the TSC approved it, and the revised E1.20 document is in public review until March 30.

3.2.3 BSR E1.30-1, EPI 23 Device Identification Subdevice

A set of comment resolutions was approved at the January 2010 CPWG meeting. The revised document is in public review until March 30.

3.2.4 BSR E1.30-2, EPI 24 Internet Protocol Properties Subdevice

It received one comment in the first public review, which ran from 11 July through 25 August 2008. The comment needs to be resolved. At the last CPWG meeting, Dan Antonuk reported no progress.

3.2.5 BSR E1.30-4, EPI 26, (DDL) Extensions for DMX512 and E1.31 Devices

A set of proposed comment resolutions was approved by the CPWG at the January 2010 meeting. The next step would be to accept the draft standard as an ANS. I forwarded it to the Editorial Committee, and now I need to vet and merge the changes that came back from the Committee before issuing a letter ballot.

3.2.6 BSR E1.30-5, EPI 27 Operation of SDT on Wireless Networks

It received one comment in the first public review, which ran from 11 July through 25 August 2008. The comment needs to be resolved. Dan Antonuk reported at the November 2009 meeting that proposed changes to ACN may make this EPI redundant. He reported the same thing at the January 2010 meeting.

3.2.7 BSR E1.30-6, EPI 28 Independent Device Location Properties

It received one comment in the first public review, which ran from 11 July through 25 August 2008. The comment needs to be resolved. Dan Antonuk reported at the November 2009 meeting that proposed changes to ACN may make this EPI redundant. The working group has deciding whether to go forward or to kill this project on the agenda for its April 1 meeting.

3.2.8 BSR E1.30-8, EPI 30 Time Code Properties

It received one comment in the first public review, which ran from 11 July through 25 August 2008. The comment still needs to be resolved.

3.2.9 BSR E1.30-9, EPI 31 MIDI System Exclusive Properties

It received one comment in the first public review, which ran from 11 July through 25 August 2008. The comment still needs to be resolved.

3.2.10 BSR E1.33-200x, Extensions to E1.31 for Transport of ANSI E1.20 (RDM)

Work needs to continue on a first draft. The working group hasn't seen one yet.

3.2.11 BSR E1.37-200x—Additional Message Sets for ANSI E1.20, Remote Device Management

The document has been sent to the Editorial Committee in preparation for a first public review letter ballot. It is now on my agenda.

3.2.12 Possible New American National Standard Projects

None right now.

3.2.14 Side Projects

The CPWG has been working on some fairly simple projects to promote our standards in the consultant/specifier community. The latest is some suggested boilerplate to add to specifications. This working group has also been the most active in planning LDI sessions.

3.3 Electrical Power Working Group

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

The E1.18 project was split into two parts: an E1.18-1 covering conventional star-topology distribution systems and an E1.18-2 part covering ring systems—or something else. E1.18-2 has been put on hold

indefinitely. The E1.18-1 part was in public review from 9 January through 23 February 2009. A set of possible comment resolutions was drafted, but at the January 2010 EPWG meeting no progress was made on agreeing to accept any of the resolutions. To break that jam, the TSC directed me to issue a letter ballot with a separate question for each of the 226 resolutions. I did that, creating a 143-page letter ballot. Enough people voted that at least some of the resolutions were accepted, but I am now the obstacle to making further progress. I need to summarize the all votes and issue a recirculation letter ballot for those questions for which there were "yes with comments" or "no with reasons" votes. This will take me many days to do, since this one letter ballot is essentially 226 separate letter ballots and there are 21 voters in the EPWG.

There are ways to export the data from the PDF ballots, but none of the export tools yields anything that is useful. One method creates a 34-megabyte Adobe document, but loses all the text formatting and yields no final count on any vote. Another method allows the data to be exported into a CSV file that can be opened with a spreadsheet application. However, the text formatting is lost, and some of the cells have more text in them than Excel can show—they are truncated and Excel issues an error message. OpenOffice Calc does a better job (no error message), but the text makes some of the columns extremely wide, completely unprintable. The cell text has to be plucked out of the command line and pasted into another document to make the lines wrap. I think the summary will have to be created manually.

All the returned ballots and my experiments at extracting the data have been posted on the ESTA website at <http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/epwg/listfiles.php> so the working group has access to the data.

3.3.2 ANSI E1.19 - 2009, recommended practice for use of Class A GFCIs (EPWG)

It's published, but I need to add the agreed upon text to the Notice and Disclaimer of the standard to address Keith Woods's concern that people might think that following E1.19 would obviate following the entire Canadian Electrical Code:

"This document does not list all the requirements for compliance with local electrical codes. It is intended to supplement local codes, and not to replace or to nullify them. Users of this document are advised to consult their local electrical codes in addition to this document."

3.3.3 BSR E1.24, pin connector intermatibility standard

Work has started to revise ANSI E1.24 – 2006 and to make it more palatable to the UL 498 standards panel. This includes stripping out the informative, non-mandatory material and reformatting it to look like a NEMA connector configuration standard. A draft has been sent to the working group for discussion or action at the March 31 meeting.

3.3.4 BSR E1.32, luminaire maintenance guidance

The document was offered for public review which ended on 25 August 2008. The EPWG has approved a set of comment resolutions and a revised draft standard for public review. The motion is now before you, the TSC. I have sent the resolutions back to the commenters.

3.4 Fire Resistance Task Group

The task group members had been meeting regularly to refine the problem, to break it down into specific issues, and to then write some document or documents to address the issues, but work has stalled. They settled on two projects: one to draft a fire resistance information document along the lines of the Introduction to Modern atmospheric effects, and the second project—one of more immediate concern—to work with the State of California Flame Retardant Committee on its revision of the California flame retardant regulations. Tom Andrews had put himself forward as the main author of the information

document, but he has found himself putting his efforts into the California issue and his business, Turning Star.

3.5 Floors Working Group

No active projects

3.6 Followspot Position Working Group

3.6.1 BSR E1.28, followspot position planning guidance document

The document was offered for public review most recently from 13 November through 28 December 2009 and received 26 comments. The working group decided on a set of resolutions and I sent them to the commenters. Two wrote back objecting to the resolutions. In general, the people objecting want us to be more specific in the draft standard. One argues that it should be a guide for "best practices." The working group will consider their objections to the resolutions at its April 2 meeting.

The proposed draft standard has been vetted by the Editorial Committee. I have created a merged standards document and another document describing the proposed changes from the Editorial Committee that I didn't put in the final document because they were substantive changes (e.g. "beam" changed to "structural element," which would expand the clause to include columns and stressed panels) or contradicted a comment resolution.

3.6.2 Other Followspot Position Working Group projects

None.

3.7 Fog & Smoke Working Group

3.7.1 BSR E1.23, general fog effect planning standard

The working group drafted and accepted a set of comment resolutions for the comments that were received from the one commenter during the last public review, which ended at the EOD November 9. I sent the resolutions back to the commenter and received no objections in reply. The working group has entertained a motion to accept the document as an ANS. The proposed standard has gone through the TSC Editorial Committee. I now need to issue the edited version to vote on and the letter ballot to accept it as an American National Standard.

3.7.2 BSR E1.40, dust effects

Mike Wood has headed a task group to create a first draft, and did most of the work. The working group will discuss it at its meeting on March 31.

3.8 Photometrics Working Group

The Photometrics Working Group is considering a project to write a standard to describe the output of LED-based luminaires. There is really no good way at this time to measure their output in color and to compare their efficacy with that of conventional white-light luminaires. Mike Wood has drafted a proposal, and the working group will discuss it and possibly act on it at the 3 April meeting.

3.9 Rigging Working Group

3.9.1 ANSI E1.1 - 2006, wire rope ladders

The working group is talking about revising it. A task group has started work, but no motion has been offered and voted on yet to do anything with the standard.

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

It was in public review through 15 February 2010. Fifteen responses were received: 14 from individuals and one from a lot of staff at Stagecraft Industries. Three-hundred sixty-six comments were offered, but one was an entire letter to the editor of *TD&T* about the ignorance demonstrated at the "Getting from E-Stop to go" 2009 USITT session.

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

It was in public review through 15 February 2010. Six people commented and offered 39 comments. The review was the sixth as BSR E1.6-2, the tenth if we count the four BSR E1.6 reviews before the project was split.

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

It's in public review until May 3. This is its first public review.

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

This project was created at the Summer 2007 RWG meeting as a split-off from the BSR E1.6-3 project. A first draft has been sent to the working group for the March 30 meeting.

3.9.6 BSR E1.8, speaker enclosures

The working group and you, the TSC, voted to start the process of reaffirming the existing standard. The project's been filed with ANSI. The next step would be a working group vote for public review.

BSR E1.38 - 20xx, Temporary Ground-Supported Structures Used to Support Equipment in the Production of Outdoor Entertainment Events, Excluding Stage Roofs

This is a new project to establish basic requirements for the structural design, manufacture, use, and maintenance of temporary ground-supported structures used to support equipment, such as video walls, followspot towers, and audio mixing platforms. Structures for the public are outside the scope. The working group hasn't seen a draft yet, but the project has only existed since the July 2009 meeting. There is talk of merging this into a revised ANSI E1.21, the existing standard for portable stage roofs.

3.9.6 BSR E1.39 - 20xx, Entertainment Technology – Recommendations for the Use of Fall Protection on Temporary Suspended and Ground-Supported Structures

This is another new project, intended to establish minimum requirements for the selection and use of personal fall arrest systems on temporary structures in the entertainment industry. It also establishes minimum requirements for manufacturers and owners of these structures being used as work platforms. The working group has a draft for the March 30 meeting that is intended to show progress. It is not intended to be acted on, I believe.

All the March/April 2010 working group meeting documents distributed as of today, March 18, are available at

<http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/cpwg/listfiles.php>

<http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/epwg/listfiles.php>

<http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/fp/listfiles.php>

<http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/fs/listfiles.php>

<http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/photo/listfiles.php>

<http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/rwg/listfiles.php>

<http://www.esta.org/meetingfiles/tsc/listfiles.php>

Another item of note: This is a year for a five-year ANSI audit. I have turned in the pre-audit questionnaire and have a conference call scheduled for April 13. The actual audit is to happen during the week of May 10. It will be a remote audit. That is, I will send the documentation to the auditor on a CDROM, and no one will visit the office.

Respectfully submitted,



Karl G. Ruling
Technical Standards Manager