

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Saturday 23 March 2024
Sheraton Grand Seattle, Seattle WA

Chairpersons:

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

Recording secretaries:

Erin Grabe and Karl Ruling (ESTA)

Attendees:

Justin Bennett; USITT; P
Jerry Gorrell; USITT; A
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P
Michael Lay; Candela Controls, Inc; P
David E. Miller; Walt Disney Company; P
Richard J. Nix; ESTA; exf
Mike Skinner; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P

Visitors:

Bryan Honeycutt; Halo Solutions
Greg Petruska; NBC Universal
Lori Rubenstein; BTS
Steven Michaelman; Entertainment Project Services

1 Opening Remarks

Alan Rowe called the meeting to order at 09:06, welcoming everyone to the meeting and to rainy Seattle, hoping that online attendees have sunny weather in their remote locations.

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.

Karl Ruling displayed a copy of the pamphlet. No anti-trust concerns were raised.

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.

No protected IP was reported.

3 Attendance and introductions

3.1 Welcome to visitors

Steven Michaelman was recognized as an online visitor. Lori Rubenstein, Greg Petruska, and Bryan Honeycutt arrived in-person soon after the meeting was called to order.

3.2 Determination of a quorum

A quorum is seven voting members.

Erin Grabe 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
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P
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
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	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		13

4 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

[See *TSCmin01-2024_DRAFT.pdf*]

David Miller moved to accept the minutes as distributed. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved without objection or abstentions.

5 Approval of agenda

Alan Rowe asked if anyone wanted to add anything to the agenda. Hearing not response, he said the agenda was approved by acclamation.

6 Old Business and standing reports

6.1 Financial reports

Erin Grabe reported that the TSP will end the year with a deficit. The Board is working on fund-raising. Q1 financials will be distributed at the end of April.

6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

The Board is considering hiring a fund-raising manager to raise funds, reported Erin Grabe.

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

[See *SalesReportforTSC_03-2024.pdf*]

Richard Nix reported that the downloads are up by 2.5% from January's report. He does not have sold documents report.

6.2 Old Business

6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

[See *TSP Project Status Summary_03-2024.pdf*]

Richard Nix confirmed the file was a last-minute upload to the listfile page.

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 E1.79, Entertainment Industry Electrical Practices in Canada

[see *E1.79 Proposal Feb 27 2024.pdf.pdf*]

The trademark issues have been addressed. The EPWG will consider this for first public review, with a caveat that it will need formatting before it's sent out.

Mitch Hefter reported, some revisions are still being considered.

6.2.2.1.2 BSR E1.80 – 202x Pinout Configuration Types for Special-Purpose Multicircuit Cable Systems

[See *BSR E1.80-202x_EP2024-7004r0.pdf.pdf*]

Mitch Hefter said reported, the EPWG made some minor tweaks to the document and sent the revised version to this group. Male/female language was changed. Karl Ruling noted that he and Hans Lau are working to get the proper image files and formatting. Mitch Hefter moved to offer the document for public review. The motion was seconded, and carried with no objections or abstentions.

6.2.2.2 Reaffirmations

6.2.2.3 Approve as ANS

6.2.2.3.1 BSR E1.1, Wire Rope Ladders

[see *BSR_E1-1_202x_Rig2004-2029r6a.pdf*]

The WG letter ballot to approve as ANS closes on 14 March, provided no objections are received (none as of 08 March).

Mitch Hefter moved to approve as an ANS. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention. The roll-call ballot results are shown below.

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	X		
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P			
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A			
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P			
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	X		
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P			
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	X		
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P	X		
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P			
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	X		
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P			
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A			
Justin Bennett	USITT	P	X		
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	X		
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A			
	Total votes possible:	13	9	0	0
The motion carries.					

The motion will forward to the Executive Committee.

6.2.2.3.2 BSR E1.21, Temporary Structures Used for Technical Production of Outdoor Entertainment Events

[see BSR E1.21-202x_Rig2023-2003r1a.pdf]

The WG letter ballot to approve as ANS closes on 14 March, provided no objections are received (none as of 08 March).

Mitch Hefter moved to approve as an ANS. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention. The roll-call ballot results are shown below.

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	X		
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P			
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A			
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P			
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	X		
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P			
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	X		

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P	X		
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P			
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	X		
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P			
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A			
Justin Bennett	USITT	P	X		
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	X		
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A			
	Total votes possible:	13	9	0	0
The motion carries.					

The motion will forward to the Executive Committee.

6.2.2.3.3 BSR E1.11, DMX512-A

[see BSR E1-11_202x_CP2023-1011r1a.pdf]

The WG letter ballot to approve as ANS closes on 14 March, provided no objections are received (none as of 08 March).

Mitch Hefter moved to approve as an ANS. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention. The roll-call ballot results are shown below.

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	X		
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P			
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A			
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P			
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	X		
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P			
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	X		
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P	X		
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P			
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	X		
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P			
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A			
Justin Bennett	USITT	P	X		
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	X		
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A			
	Total votes possible:	13	9	0	0
The motion carries					

The motion will forward to the Executive Committee.

6.2.2.3.4 BSR E1.68, DMX512-A Compatibility Testing

[see BSRE1-68_CP2021-1003r2a.pdf]

The WG letter ballot to approve as ANS closes on 14 March, provided no objections are received (none as of 08 March).

Mitch Hefter moved to approve as an ANS. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention. The roll-call ballot results are shown below.

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	X		
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P			
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A			
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P			
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	X		
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P			
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	X		
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P	X		
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P			
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	X		
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P			
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A			
Justin Bennett	USITT	P	X		
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	X		
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A			
Total votes possible:		13	9	0	0
The motion carried.					

The motion will forward to the Executive Committee.

6.2.2.3.1 BSR ES1.17, Event Electrical Safety and Lighting

[see BSR_ES1-17_ES2018-20001r1b.pdf]

The WG letter ballot to approve as ANS closes on 14 March, provided no objections are received (none as of 08 March, but a few comments have been submitted, some of which will effect substantive changes, if accepted. Discussion of the letter ballot summary is on the ESWG's meeting agenda.

Karl Ruling reported, the letter ballot has been extended, and the motion is likely to fail, so it will return to the working group.

6.2.2.4 Withdrawals or abandonments

6.2.2.5 New project requests

6.2.2.5.1 Guidelines for Managing Mental Health and Well-being in the Entertainment Workplace

[see *TSP_ProjectRequest_MHWP 20240308_signed.pdf*]

The project request was submitted by Steven Michelman, of Entertainment Project Services, who proposes formation of a new working group to address the subject matter.

Alan Rowe asked Steve Michelman to describe the proposed project. Steven Michaelman said a guidance document is needed, to help our members have work places that are conducive to mental and physical health. His concern is mental health in the workplace.

Lori Rubinstein said that employers have been reluctant to address workplace mental health issues—unions have embraced it, but not employers. The ISO standard referenced in the proposal seems heavy-handed, and that is not what this group wants to do. They want to offer some mitigation techniques on things that everyone can do.

Brian Huneycutt spoke in favor of the project, saying one of the successes they've achieved over the last few years is to bring language about mental health into view, and they want to bring some tools to the forefront in support of that trend.

Steve Terry spoke against the motion; the need for the work is clear, and it is an important effort, but we are the *technical* standards program, and he has a hard time fitting the scope of the work into the work of the TSP;

Steve Michelman said that the TSP is a neutral, safe space to address this. We have crowd control in the ESWG, so we are already dealing with issues that are not strictly technical.

Karl Ruling said that we already have workplace management standards in our portfolio. This would not be far outside that. He told the story of his workplace injury at Wilkes College due to the toxic working environment there.

David Miller expressed a concern about diluting our mission by doing a non-technical project.

Michael Lay said this is an important topic. Even if we do not carry this on forever, we should “spin it up” to have greater status in the community.

Brian Honeycutt agreed, asking, “*If not us, who?*”

There were further discussion.

Mike Skinner noted this OSHA publication in the chat:

<https://www.osha.gov/sites/default/files/publications/OSHA4395.pdf>.

Alan Rowe reported on losing an IA member on February 6 when the catwalk collapsed beneath his feet. He said it was a traumatic event for other union members, but it brought home to him the need for a crisis response plan. He was asked by the police what to do with the body. Employers need guidance on having a crisis response plan.

Rubinstein said that guidance on dealing with workers and their grieving process is critically important.

Justin Bennett moved that we approve the project, and create a new working group. Approved without objection or abstention.

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	X		
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P			
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A			
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P			
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	X		
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	X		
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P			
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	X		
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P	X		
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P			
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	X		
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P			
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A			
Justin Bennett	USITT	P	X		
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	X		
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A			
	Total votes possible:	13			
The motion carried.			9	0	0

Steven Michelman will be the chair. A co-chair will be appointed later with his input.

6.2.3 Working group documents for TSC review

[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.]

6.2.3.1 BSR E1.50-1, Requirements for the Structural Support of Temporary LED, Video & Display Systems

[see BSR E1.50-1-202x_Rig2023-2001r1.pdf]

It's likely that the RWG will approve this for 2nd public review.

6.2.3.2 BSR ES1.6 – Communications

[see 2024-03-17 BSR ES1 6 Event Safety Communications draft.pdf]

It's possible that the ESWG will consider this for 3rd public review. The draft was sent well past the 2-week deadline, but the task group intends to push for public review, nonetheless.

6.2.5 CEN collaboration

At the time of this meeting Richard Nix will be in Germany for ProLight+Sound, during which the TC433 committee members will meet, informally, to discuss this topic. Stay tuned for updates in July.

Richard Nix reported. The ProLight+Sound show is going very well. The floor space seems a little condensed from last year, but there seems to be about as many attendees as last year, so the show floor seems more crowded. He said he had also been invited to an all-German speaking DIN committee membership meeting, after which there was informal discussion about getting Richard Nix into the CEN committee, overcoming the “boss committee's” objections to Richard's membership. He described a proposal to create an IEC committee to deal with our industry. If the IEC committee is formed with American participants, it would be an argument for having an

American on a CEN stage machinery committee. He said the CEN committee feels like they have a good rebuttal; it just needs to be formalized and presented.

6.2.6 UL and NFPA representation

Jerry Gorrell spoke on the NFPA 80 problem of requiring listing by a specific NRTL and the potential restraint of trade issue it causes.

7 New business

7.1 Appointment of Photometrics co-Chairperson

Jerry Gorrell has accepted Javid Butler's offer to co-chair this working group. The TSC must make an official appointment.

Mitch Hefter moved that Javid Butler be appointed as co-chairperson for the Photometrics Working Group. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention.

8 Optional reports

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

8.1.1 Control Protocols

Michael Lay reported a successful meeting.

He said that his members want the meeting schedule to be set further into the future. It would be good if they had the July and October schedules now, or – at least – have “next meeting’s schedule” confirmed in time for “current” meetings.

8.1.2 Electrical Power

Mitch Hefter reported. We've seen most of the highlights today.

8.1.3 Floors

Karl Ruling reported that they met, and the meeting was productive.

8.1.4 Fog and Smoke

There was no meeting this cycle. They might meet again in July.

8.1.5 Followspot Positions

There was no meeting this cycle. They will meet again in July.

8.1.6 Photometrics

There was no meeting this cycle. They might meet again in July.

8.1.7 Rigging

Karl Ruling reported that they met, and the meeting was productive.

8.1.8 Stage machinery

Karl Ruling reported that they met, and the meeting was productive.

8.1.9 Event Safety

Erin Grabe and Karl Ruling both agreed that they thought the previously noted Parade Safety task group issue had worked itself out.

8.1.10 Weapons Safety

Karl Ruling reported, saying he thought they were close to having something written.

8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.2.1 ASTC

8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance

8.2.3 NFPA

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

Jerry Gorrell talked about the listing and restraint of trade problem earlier in the reports.

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

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

Karl Ruling said they met a few weeks ago about about NFPA 102, Grand Stands.

8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)

Steve Terry reported that they are in the middle of the voting cycle. Mitch Hefter reported on possible meeting time conflicts with ESTA meetings, in October.

8.2.3.5 NFPA 70E

8.2.4 USITT

Justin Bennett noted that the call for proposals is now open for next year.

8.2.5 ICC

The Code Change Proposals submitted by Richard Nix, for inclusion in Chapter 31 of the 2027 International Fire Code, will be presented for approval at the Committee Action Hearings in Orlando, FL during the week of 08 April 2024.

8.2.6 IES

No news, said Mitch Hefter. Erin Grabe said that they have a couple of standards in public review that are listed in the most recent issue of Standards Watch.

8.2.7 UL

8.2.8 ASSP

Jerry Gorrell reported on the changing culture of the association.

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.

Erin Grabe reported that Steve Walker and Michael Lay were each presented awards.

9.2 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award

Erin Grabe reported that nominations were received, but none were appropriate.

9.3 Volunteer of the Year Award

No news.

9.4 Swan Award

No news.

10 Schedule for future meetings

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

The Summer meetings will be co-located with NATEAC, 11-13 July, in New York City. Fall meetings will likely return to Westlake, TX during the week of 21 October. Winter 2025 meetings will return to Anaheim, CA in conjunction with the 2025 NAMM Show, during the week of 20 January 2025.

Jerry Gorrell said he is stepping back from what he's been doing. The mental health work is a new industry turning point - he's witnessed many of these over the years. He thanked everyone with whom he's worked over the past 50 years or more.

11 Adjournment

Alan Rowe declare the meeting adjourned at 10:42 AM Pacific Time.

Technical Standards Council Members as of 28 January 2024

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	P
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P
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