

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Monday, 19 April 2021
via WebEx

Chairpersons:

Mike Garl; Mike Garl Consulting (presiding)
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix; ESTA

Attendees:

Erin Grabe; ESTA
Steve Surratt; ESTA
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity; P
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P
Michael Lay; Candela Controls, Inc.; 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
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Jerry Gorrell; USITT; P
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; A

Visitors:

Justin Bennett

1 Opening Remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 11:03, welcoming everyone to the meeting and thanking them for their attendance today. He reminded everyone to mute their microphones, then noted that Richard Nix and Karl Ruling had taken attendance and that a quorum is present.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance and introductions

2.2 Welcome to visitors

2.3 Call for quorum

2.4 Consensus body changes

2.5 Consensus body

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

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
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	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
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A
	Total votes possible	14

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See *TSCmin01-2021_DRAFT.pdf*.

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

4 Patent and anti-trust statements

4.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Mike Garl 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 held the pamphlet up in front of his camera for all video-enabled attendees to see.

4.2 Reading of the call for patents

Mike Garl read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

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

In keeping with the open disclosures policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify 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.

5 Approval of agenda

Two items were added about an RDM trademark and an ESA reopening checklist were added as items 7.1 and 7.2 under New business.

William Gillett moved to approve the agenda as revised. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

6 Old Business and standing reports

6.1 Financial reports

Erin Grabe reported. This is our first year working with a new accountant. Frank Stewart has retired. The budget is currently flat, which is good.

6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

There was discussion of the pledges. The actually received amount is lower than budgeted. Some of these pledges are late, Erin Grabe reported, but they may yet fulfill their pledges. Mike Wood suggested we have a projection at the next meeting for how much of those unfulfilled pledges will probably never be filled.

6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

[See SalesReportforTSC_04-2021.pdf]

There were no questions about the sales accounting.

6.2 Old Business

6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

See TSPPrjctsSmmry04-2021.pdf.

No questions.

6.2.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

6.2.2.1 Public reviews

6.2.2.1.1 BSR E1.4-1 – 202x, Manual Counterweight Rigging

[See BSR_E1_4-1-202x_2014-2029r6a.pdf]

The RWG approved the motion for 1st public review, which will also require TSC approval.

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the first public review. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. A BSR8 will be filed.

6.2.2.1.2 BSR ES1.6 – 202x, Event Safety – Communications

[See BSR_ES1-6-202x_Comms_ES_2020-20022r1.pdf]

The ESWG approved the current draft for its first public review, which will also require TSC approval.

Steve Terry moved to approve the first public review. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously. A BSR8 will be filed.

6.2.2.2 Withdrawals

6.2.2.3 Accept as ANS

6.2.2.3.1 BSR E1.2 – 202x, Aluminum trusses and towers

[See BSR E1-2_201x_Rig2019-2022r2a.pdf; BSR_E1-2_PR1 CmmntResols.pdf; RWGmin01-2020_DRAFT_Excerpts.pdf; Pages from RWGmin01-2021r1_DRAFT_E1-2.pdf; FinalSummry_RWG_Ltr_Ballot for E1-2_AcceptANS.pdf, all included in the zip archive file]

The WG ballot timed out on 31 March, and carried with no objections or abstentions. There were editorial comments provided that will be fixed before publication. A 21-day TSC letter ballot would have closed after this meeting.

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the draft as an ANS. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously by roll-call vote. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion will forward to the ExC.

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Vote
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	Y
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	Y
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P	Y
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	Y
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	Y
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P	Y
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	Y
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P	
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	Y
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	Y
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P	Y
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A	
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A	Y
	Total votes	14 possible	13

6.2.2.3.2 BSR E1.4-2

[See BSRE 1.4-2DRAFT_Rig2015-2023r8a.pdf; BSR_E1-4-2_DRAFT_PR1CmmntResolsR1.pdf; BSR_E1-4-2_PR2_CmmntResols.pdf; BSR_E1-4-2_PR3_Resols_Completed r1_Apprvd.pdf; BSR_E1-4-2_PR4_CmmntResols_Apprvd.pdf; Pages from RWGmin01-2021r1_DRAFT_E1-4-2motion.pdf; FinalSummary_RWGballot_AcceptANS_BSRE1-4-2.pdf, all included in the zip archive TSC_AcceptANS_BSRE1-4-2files.zip]

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Bill Sapsis moved to approve the draft as an ANS. The motion was seconded, and carried unanimously by roll-call vote. There were no objections or abstentions. The motion forwards to the ExC.

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Vote
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	Y
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	Y
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc.	P	Y
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	Y
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	Y
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P	Y
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	Y
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P	
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	Y
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	Y
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P	Y
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A	
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A	Y
	Total votes	14 possible	13

6.2.2.4 Reaffirmations

[TSM note: reaffirmations require supermajority; any voting method that documents the supermajority may be used.]

6.2.2.4.1 Reaffirmation of ANSI E1.28- 2011 (R2016)

See *E1-28_FPWG_BallotResults.pdf* and *Summary_E1-28_PublicReview.pdf*. There were no public review comments, and the working group approved the reaffirmation.

Steve Terry moved to approve the reaffirmation. The motion was seconded, and carried unanimously without objection or abstention, 13 yes out of a possible 14. The motion forwards to the ExC.

6.2.2.4.2 Reaffirmation of ANSI E1.57-2016

See *SummaryOf_E1-57_PublicReview.pdf* and *Floors_E1-57_BallotResults.pdf*. There were no public review comments, and the working group approved the reaffirmation.

Steve Terry moved to approve the reaffirmation. The motion was seconded, and carried unanimously without objection or abstention, 13 yes out of a possible 14. The motion forwards to the ExC.

6.2.2.5 Followup on past “new projects”

6.2.2.5.1 NextGen Library ANS project

See *LetterTo_GDTF_Group.pdf*

Mike Wood asked if we had received a reply to the letter. Karl Ruling said we had not, but he also couldn't see what reasonable objection could be filed. GDTF was considered and found inadequate.

6.2.2.5.2 GitHub

Task group: Mike Wood, Michael Lay, Steve Terry, Karl Ruling

Any news or updates from the task group?

Mike Wood said he had nothing to report. Karl Ruling said there was discussion during the CPWG meeting about GitHub versus GitLab, but there is nothing for the TSC to act on at this time.

7 New business

7.1 RDM trademark

See <https://www.amscreen.com/what-we-do/end-to-end-service/remote-device-management/>

Mike Lay reported on the presence of a company that has registered a trademark for the RDM moniker. He asked Mike Wood to provide additional information. Mike Wood reported that the company is based in the UK, and does have a UK trademark registration. He asked Mike Lay to ask the UK-based CPWG members if they have had any problems with confusion in the market.

7.2 Endorsing the Updated ESA Reopening Checklist

See "2021-04-14 ESA - NIVA Reopening Checklist - DRAFT.pdf"

Karl Ruling reported. He said that the checklist has reasonable requirements; it is something that we could endorse, and that it might be a good show of support for one of our standards partners.

Steve Terry moved to endorse the checklist. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously without abstention. Karl Ruling will send a TSP logo to accompany the endorsement.

8 Optional reports

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

8.1.1 Control Protocols

Mike Lay reported a lot of activity. There are two new CPWG members, fourteen projects in development, and five task group meetings last week. He notified the TSC that the CPWG task groups are now running an unofficial chat service on Discord. Erin Grabe and Eddie Kramer asked for credentialed links so they could go and check it out.

8.1.2 Electrical Power

Justin Bennett reported there was no meeting, the BSR E1.19 public review ends tomorrow, therefore nothing else to report.

8.1.3 Floors

Jerry Gorrell reported an uneventful meeting, and no meeting scheduled for July.

8.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Mike Wood reported that the TSC had passed a new project request on ventilation. It was discussed and accepted by the FSWG. Karl Ruling added that Mona Shum had asked for the project to include motion picture studios, as well as stages and theatres. Keith Sklar was content with that.

8.1.5 Followspot Position

Nothing else to report. The TSC has approved the reaffirmation of ANSI E1.28- 2011 (R2016) with agenda item 6.2.2.4.1.

8.1.6 Photometrics

Jerry Gorrell gave a brief overview of progress on BSR E1.41, LED performance reporting, revision and the BSR E1.69, LED dimming, new project.

8.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis reported that the RWG had a brief meeting, and made good progress. He said there are a lot of projects up for action over the next 18 months.

8.1.8 Stage machinery

Gorrell reported progress is being made on the working group's active projects.

8.1.9 Event Safety

Richard Nix reported that there are four or five new drafts that are in working group review, so they should be coming up for public review votes soon.

8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.2.1 ASTC

Andy Gibbs reported that their annual design challenge was carried out successfully on Zoom.

8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance

No news.

8.2.3 NFPA

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

Jerry Gorrell reported that he and Dan Culhane plan to meet and discuss if any argument needs to be advanced in ESTA's interests.

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

No news, reported Karl Ruling.

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

Jerry Gorrell reported that the first draft meeting will be in July.

8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)

Steve Terry reported that the 2023 edition revision process is currently in progress. However, more importantly, he has submitted two TIAs on the 2020 edition, which are in public review until June 2. He asked everyone to look at them and comment, saying they need to pass. If they do not pass, then UL and other NRTLs will withdraw the listings on existing dimmer and relay racks that listed as stage switchboards.

8.2.3.5 NFPA 70E

Jerry Gorrell reported that the proposed requirements we would be most concerned with have been dropped.

8.2.4 USITT

Jerry Gorrell reported that he had recently communicated to Karl Ruling that USITT has approved Justin Bennett as a replacement for Louis Bradfield. The TSC asked Erin Grabe to confirm the appointment with ESTA's Board of Directors.

8.2.5 DTHG

Karl Ruling reported that the Stage|Set|Scenery trade show, which would have occurred in June, has been discontinued for good by Messe Berlin. This has made DTHG's leadership very unhappy. He suspects that another trade show partner will be found, perhaps Messe Frankfurt.

8.2.6 ICC

Richard Nix reported nothing to report.

8.2.7 IES

Mitch Hefter would have reported, but he had no audio.

8.2.8 UL

“Nothing to report,” reported Steve Terry.

8.2.9 ASSP

Nothing to report, said Gorrell.

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 said that Michael Lay has been very proactive at soliciting nominations, and she encouraged everyone to do the same, in anticipation of face-to-face meetings in January 2022 at the NAMM Show, which she thinks will happen.

9.2 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award

No news.

9.3 Volunteer of the Year Award

No news.

9.4 Swan Award

No news.

9.5 TSP participation fee donor fund

Erin Grabe reported that the fund had been established 5 years ago, and has supported 10 participants. There was discussion about if and how to continue, and replenish, this fund. Bill Sapsis said we should approach Chris about renewing her contribution, and said he would take it up if Chris Kaiser did not.

Richard Nix asked if the TSC had guidance for how to address approximately 42 outstanding TSP fees from 2020. What should we do with these people? Should we write them off, or perhaps offer a 50% discount on last year's fee, if they pay this year.

Erin Grabe said we have not yet ejected anyone from ESTA membership for inability to pay.

Michael Lay said that we should let them go with the understanding that 2020 was a special year. The TSC consensus was in agreement. Richard Nix said he would craft an email to that effect, with an expectation that those whose fees were forgiven would renew for this year.

9.7 INNOVA

Bill Sapsis said that the NWRS is being uploaded to Innova, where it will be available on a fee-based access plan to those who were not already NWRS paid participants, with free access to NWRS paid participants. Erin Grabe said the NWRS went very well, and gave kudos to the organizers, content developers, and emcees.

9.8 NATEAC

The virtual NATEAC conference is being held 20-22 July. TSP meetings will begin afterwards.

Sapsis said that the virtual NWRS was a lot of work, but successful. NATEAC will be the same—a lot of work, but he expects success.

10 Schedule for future meetings

The meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The next TSC meeting is scheduled for 11:00 AM on Monday 02 August 2021, via WebEx.

11 Adjournment

The agenda being complete, and there being no further business brought forth, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 12:27

Technical Standards Council members

Name	Representing	Status
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A
Harry Box	PERG	O
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Erin Grabe	ESTA	exf
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
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16	O
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Karl G. Ruling	ESTA	exf
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
Stephen G. Surratt	Texas Scenic Company	exf
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P

Voting status:

- P = principal
- A = alternate
- O = observer
- exf = ex officio