

**Minutes**  
**Technical Standards Council**  
Sunday, 21 July 2019  
D/FW Marriott Solana  
Westlake, TX

**Presiding chairperson:**

Mike Garl; Mike Garl Consulting, LLC; P

**Recording secretaries:**

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

**Attendees:**

Matthew Antonucci; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P  
Jerry Gorrell; USITT; P  
Erin Grabe; ESTA; exf  
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P  
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P  
Jules Lauve ; ESTA President; P  
Michael Lay; Signify; P  
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P  
Alan M. Rowe; IATSE Crafts Advancement Program ; P  
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P  
Larry Schoeneman; Larry Schoeneman; P  
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P  
Stephen G. Surratt; Texas Scenic Company; exf  
R. Duane Wilson; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A

**Visitors:**

Justin Bennett; University of the Incarnate Word  
Roger Lattin; IATSE Local 728

**1 Opening Remarks**

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 09:01, thanking everyone for their attendance this morning, and for making the commitment to help develop standards. He asked everyone to place their cell phones in silent mode, then noted the exits from the room. In the event of an active shooter, he advised using the "run, hide, fight" principle. He reminded everyone that microphones were on the table, so please be wary of extraneous noise.

He noted that a recent survey had revealed the TSP as one of ESTA's most popular programs, and thanked everyone for making it as successful as it is.

**2 Attendance and membership**

**2.1 Taking attendance**

Karl Ruling noted the unexciting green sign-in sheet, which was circulated around the room, for people to record their presence

**2.2 Welcome to visitors**

**2.3 Introductions**

Everyone in the room introduced themselves, then the people present online did the same.

**2.4 Call for quorum**

*There are currently 15 votes possible. A quorum is 8.*

Mike Garl declared that a quorum was present, and that the requirement for supermajority had been met.

**2.5 Consensus body, including those not present**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company or representation</b>	<b>Voting status</b>
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
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
Michael Lay	Michael Lay	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A
<b>Total votes possible</b>		<b>15</b>

**Voting status key:** P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter

**3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

See *TSC\_min\_03-2019\_DRAFT.pdf*

Bill Sapsis moved to accept the minutes. The motion was seconded, and carried unanimously.

**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 displayed the pamphlet.

#### 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

Mike Garl added an item under new business, 7.1 revision to P&P

Larry Schoeneman moved to accept the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried.

### 6 Old Business and standing reports

#### 6.1 Financial reports

Steve Surrat reported that Ken Vannice's bequeathment has been placed in a secure public utilities fund.

Mitch Hefter reported that some of that money has also gone to support education.

Erin Grabe reported that the ProSight agreement had been renewed.

##### 6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

##### 6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

##### 6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

*See ANSI Report 1st Q 2019 (1).pdf*

#### 6.2 Old Business

##### 6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

*See TSPPrjctsSmmry2019-07.pdf.*

##### 6.2.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

*See Project Summary, TSPPrjctsSmmry2019-07.pdf.*

##### 6.2.2.1 Final approval reaffirmation of ANSI E1.27-2, Recommended Practice for Permanently Installed Control Cables for Use with ANSI E1.11 (DMX512-A) and USITT DMX512/1990 Products

Eddie Kramer moved to accept. The motion was seconded, and a roll-call ballot was taken, recorded as follows:

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Vote
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	Y
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	Y

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Vote
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	Y
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P	Y
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	
Jules Lauve	ESTA President	P	Y
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	Y
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P	Y
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	Y
Michael Lay	Michael Lay	P	Y
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	Y
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P	Y
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A	
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P	
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A	
	<b>15 votes possible</b>		<b>12</b>

The motion carried and will be forwarded to the ExC.

#### 6.2.2.2 Final approval reaffirmation of ANSI E1.30-3, EPI 25, Time Reference in ACN Systems Using SNTP and NTP

Larry Schoeneman moved to accept, The motion was seconded, and a roll-call ballot was taken, recorded as follows:

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Vote
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	Y
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	Y
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	Y
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P	Y
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	
Jules Lauve	ESTA President	P	Y
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	Y
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P	Y
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	Y
Michael Lay	Michael Lay	P	Y
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	Y

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Vote
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P	Y
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A	
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P	
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A	
	<b>15 votes possible</b>		<b>12</b>

The motion carried and will be forwarded to the ExC.

### 6.2.2.3 Final approval reaffirmation of ANSI E1.30-10, EPI 32, Identification of Draft Device Description Language Modules

Mitch Hefter moved to accept. The motion was seconded and a roll-call ballot was taken, recorded as follows:

Name	Company or representation	Voting status	Vote
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity	P	Y
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	Y
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	Y
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P	Y
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	
Jules Lauve	ESTA President	P	Y
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	Y
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P	Y
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	Y
Michael Lay	Michael Lay	P	Y
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	Y
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P	Y
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A	
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P	
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A	
	<b>15 votes possible</b>		<b>12</b>

The motion carried and will be forwarded to the ExC.

### 6.2.2.3 Status of BSR E1.33 BSR9 form

Karl Ruling reported on E1.33 status, saying that ANSI had asked for clarifications on the final consensus body letter ballot recirculation, and consensus body vote tally. He said that Richard Nix had been communicating with the ANSI representative. In answering the request, it appeared as though we might need to add clarity to our P&P requirements for letter ballot vote recirculations, so another letter ballot had been issued asking the CPWG consensus body to reaffirm their affirmative vote(s) on the E1.33 final approval action. Once this is complete, the

BSR9 requirements should be satisfied.

#### **6.2.2.4 Withdrawals**

None.

#### **6.2.2.5 New projects**

None.

### **6.2.3 Other old business**

#### **6.2.3.1 E1.19 in Spanish**

*Richard Nix reports. See TSPPrjctsSmmry2019-07.pdf.*

Nothing to report.

#### **6.2.3.2 E1.20 in Chinese**

*Richard Nix reports. See TSPPrjctsSmmry2019-07.pdf. There has been a second request from China.*

Richard Nix reported that he had received a second request to translate E1.20 – 2010 into Chinese. He said that he advised the person making this request that another organization (CALI) had already begun translation, asking if the requestor making the request was aware of that effort, and asking if it might be possible for the two organizations to collaborate. The requestor said he was not aware of the pending translation, and said he would contact the organization. During this communication process, CALI delivered a completed translation, asking for a final approval to publish. Richard said he ran the translated document through an online translator, just to see what the results looked like, and – if possible – identify any red flags that might be made apparent. There was an issue with the bi-directional translation of our English word “shall”, and its Chinese translation, which means “should”. He said that he advised CALI of the TSC’s coming meeting, at which this topic would be discussed.

After discussion, the TSC directed Richard to ask CALI if there was a better equivalent word or phrase that could be used, to indicate clear intent where a mandatory requirement is necessary.

#### **6.2.3.3 NEC Code Panel 18**

*Any news or updates?*

Mitch Hefter reported that Jason Potterf’s application was wait-listed.

#### **6.2.3.4 Outreach to Electrical Inspectors**

*Any news or updates?*

Mitch Hefter reported there are no developments worthy of mention.

## **7 New business**

### **7.1 Coming changes in EU standards**

*[See FW\_ EU\_ German Standards Meeting Feedback\_ FastMail.pdf*

Karl Ruling reported, referring to Steve Terry’s email regarding the new GDTF file format being developed in Europe. There was discussion about the possible ramifications, will there be competing standards in the future. Michael Lichter is active on the European committees, and intends to look after our interests there.

### **7.2 P&Pr14**

Karl Ruling reported that he had reconsidered the proposed changes and suggested that it was not necessary, so no action is required.

## **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 (11) new members had joined the CPWG this year. Six task group study group meetings had been held since March. He said that Plugfest is another success this year, and that the upcoming roundtable discussion webcast currently had (105) registrants.

He also reported on the Next Gen study group survey, which had (360) respondents. It revealed that color calibration is a big area of interest. He also suggested that we publish the survey raw data for public distribution, because it would be useful to lighting manufacturers.

#### **8.1.2 Electrical Power**

Mitch Hefter reported that EPWG did not meet, but that the Electrical Inspections task group did meet, with a new roadmap and progress anticipated over the next few months.

#### **8.1.3 Floors**

Jerry Gorrell reported on portable platforms.

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

Larry Schoenemann reported that he arrived at the meeting late due to airline delays, and deferred to Karl Ruling, who gave an overview of the working group discussions on whether or not to revise the Guide to Modern Atmospheric Effects. The WG agreed to add some of the motion picture industry bulletins, etc into the back of the guide. The WG also agreed that more detail was necessary for how to properly plan for these types of effects. The revisions are already in progress.

#### **8.1.5 Followspot Position**

Eddie Kramer reported that the working group worked on the new standard, which might be ready for TSC action by October.

#### **8.1.6 Photometrics**

Jerry Gorrell reported that two proposals had been sent from the TSC, they are slightly different, and there didn't seem to be sufficient consensus in the working group about how to address either, of the proposals, much less a project that combined them both together. He said that an ad-hoc committee had been appointed, with an assignment of streamlining the requests of each proposal, make them more complete, with a goal of bringing back a finalized project scope for consideration at October's meeting.

#### **8.1.7 Rigging**

Bill Sapsis reported that they had a good meeting, resulting in no action items for this body. He noted that Mike Garl is now leading the BSR E1.2 (Truss) task group, replacing Keith Bohn.

#### **8.1.8 Stage machinery**

Jerry Gorrell reported on the USITT white paper on risk assessment.

#### **8.1.9 Event Safety**

Richard Nix reported that we should have three to six documents in October, if everyone making task group commitments actually followed through on their commitments.

## **8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations**

### **8.2.1 ASTC**

No report.

### **8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance**

Bill Sapsis said that Jacob Worek has asked him to give a presentation on standards at the Event Safety Summit.

### **8.2.3 NFPA**

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

Jerry Gorrell reported the first meeting in the new cycle will occur in November, and that there will be a pre-meeting discussion to help clear up some issues.

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

Larry Schoenemann reported that there was initially an interest from them in having someone develop a certification program, but that interest has evaporated. He said he had also reached out to the NFPA about technician certification, but had received no response.

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

Jerry Gorrell reported that there is a task group to address railings in public assembly, which has stated in interim reports that theatres do not represent any significant hazard with respects to railings, and the focus is now more towards stadiums.

#### **8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)**

Mitch Hefter reported that the 2019 conference was held in June, in San Antonio, TX. There was nothing unexpected in the new or proposed changes. He said that Steve Terry was given an award.

He also reported that the 2020 Edition should be coming out soon. 70E has risk assessment in it, but there is opposition to including risk assessment in the scope.

#### **8.2.3.5 NEC (Panel 18 representation)**

*[See PLASA ESTA\_Standards Council Actions.pdf]*

Jason Potter's application was wait-listed.

#### **8.2.3.6 NEC (NFPA 70E)**

Jerry Gorrell reiterated Mitch Hefter's earlier statement that the panel is making a strong push against risk assessment.

### **8.2.4 PLASA**

### **8.2.5 USITT**

Jerry Gorrell reported that the Board of Directors, and commissioners, have a retreat in August. He reported that Justin Bennett is now the Engineering Commissioner.



### **8.2.6 DTHG**

*Karl Ruling reports.*

Karl Ruling reported that everyone can read all about it in the new Protocol's article, entitled "A letter from Berlin".

### **8.2.7 ICC**

Richard Nix gave a report on the ICC Group A Committee Action Hearing (CAH) in Albuquerque NM, which he attended in May. There was a code change proposal to create an exception in the IBC, Chapter 16, for temporary special event structures, making them comply with E1.21. Richard said that Bill Gorlin, Dan Louis, and Daniel Clark all were able to attend, to give testimony in support of the code change. The proposal was not accepted, but there is still an opportunity to get the change passed through public review comments.

Bill Sapsis asked if the RWG membership might be able to help with this. Richard said that it might be possible to submit comments even though the deadline was within (3) days.

### **8.2.8 IES**

Mitch Hefter gave a report, saying that three documents are currently being voted on: RP 42, LP 6, and a Controls Narrative. They are working towards publishing the Lighting Handbook online.

## **9 Other business and announcements**

### **9.1 UNCEC Gender Declaration**

*[See United Nations\_ Declaration on \_Gender-Responsive Standards and Standards Development" \_FastMail.pdf and UNECEGenderDeclaration\_English.pdf]*

Karl Ruling reported by summarizing the intent of the letter, which essentially says ANSI wants their constituents to be more gender-responsive. We currently do not have a formal statement. Bill Sapsis mentioned that we have discussed this internally many times, and perhaps it is time to make the discussion external. Karl Ruling said he would start including gender-responsive statements in the usual calls for members.

### **9.2 Low voltage wiring in Texas and elsewhere update**

Karl Ruling reported about the current issue, discussed at the last TSC meeting. The bill has not made it out of committee in Texas.

### **9.3 NATEAC 2020**

Bill Sapsis reported that it will be held again at the Roosevelt in New York, one year from today. The focus will be outdoor venues, and he intends to put out a call for presentations after Labor Day.

### **9.4 Above & Beyond Awards**

*Information on the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at [http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award\\_recipients.html](http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html). The nomination site is open year-round.*

Erin Grabe announced that an award had been given the previous day to Roger Lattin.

### **9.5 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award**

No report.

### **9.6 Volunteer of the Year Award**

No report.

## **9.7 Swan Award**

## **9.8 TSP participation fee donor fund**

There are no current requests.

## **9.9 INNOVA**

Jules Lauve reported that David Schraffenberger has a new job and this project has fallen off of his plate, so the effort is floundering somewhat. David suggested finding a University with a strong video department, to help mitigate the problems being experienced with video production quality.

Michael Lay suggested setting up a room at one of our meeting cycles, that could be dedicated to 30-minute shoots of individual programs

## **9.10 Strategic Planning Survey**

Jules Lauve reported that an outside consultant had been retained to provide assistance with strategic planning. An initial survey has been conducted. An 8-hour board meeting was held on the previous day. The old strategic plan was developed during our time collaborating with PLASA. It never did work, and is certainly not relevant now.

Erin Grabe said the new plan is still under development, but it is based on member surveys and brainstorming. The final document will help guide what she does over the next five years.

## **10 Schedule for future meetings**

*The meeting schedule may be found at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>.*

### **10.1 Autumn meetings**

*The Autumn meetings will be October 24-27 at the Marriott Solana. See <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>.*

### **10.2 Winter meetings (NAMM 2020)**

*The Winter meetings will again be held in conjunction with the Winter NAMM 2020 show in Anaheim, CA. From 15-19 January 2020. The full schedule has not yet been confirmed.*

## **11 Adjournment**

The agenda being complete, and there being no further business brought forth, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 11:05.

Technical Standards Council members as of 21 August 2019

Name	Representing	Status
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Harry Box	PERG	O
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Erin Grabe	ESTA	exf
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
A. Scott Hoyt	Heartland Scenic Studio	R
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Jules Lauve	ESTA President	P
Michael Lay	Signify	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A
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
Larry Schoeneman	Larry Schoeneman	P
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	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