

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Saturday 13 July 2024
NYC College of Technology - Brooklyn, NY

Chairpersons:

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

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; A
Jerry Gorrell; USITT; A
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P
Michael Lay; Candela Controls, Inc; R
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Mike Skinner; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P
R. Duane Wilson; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A

1 Opening Remarks

Alan Rowe called the meeting to order at 13:02, welcoming everyone thanking everyone for attending, in-person and online.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Alan Rowe read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

ESTA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws. Therefore, during this meeting and during all ESTA events, all discussions will be limited to those subjects that are permitted by the antitrust laws. All members should refrain from any discussion or mention of competitively sensitive subjects such as the current or future prices charged for any member product or services, current or future marketing plans or strategies, and current or future costs, including employee salaries. There also must be no agreement on the suppliers or customers that members will or will not do business with or the markets in which members will conduct business.

Violations of the antitrust laws can have serious consequences. If you have any questions or concerns about anything that is discussed at an ESTA meeting, please bring your concern to ESTA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the ESTA staff.

Richard Nix held up the pamphlet. No 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 IP concerns were brought forth.

3 Attendance and introductions

Everyone introduced themselves.

3.1 Welcome to visitors

3.2 Determination of a quorum

A quorum is seven voting members.

Alan Rowe announced that 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 TSCmin06-2024_DRAFT.pdf]

Mitch Hefter moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection.

5 Approval of agenda

Steve Terry asked to add an item to review the P&P regarding principal and alternate voting status, under new business. Alan Rowe asked for approval of the agenda as modified. The agenda was approved.

6 Old Business and standing reports

6.1 Financial reports

6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

[see documents to come]

No report

6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

Alan Rowe reported that the Board talked about TSP funding at its meeting this morning. We need to develop a plan to raise funds for the TSP. He urged everyone to consider creative ways to do so. Bill Sapsis asked if the expectation was for the TSC to engage, or if engagement was a board item. Alan said it's a board item, but we need to help coordinate.

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

[See SalesReportforTSC_07-2024.pdf]

6.2 Old Business

6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

[See TSP Project Status Summary_07-2024.pdf]

6.2.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

6.2.2.1 First public reviews

6.2.2.1.1 BSR E1.79, Entertainment Industry Electrical Practices in Canada

[see E1.79 Proposal Jun 21 2024.pdf]

Richard Nix said it was sent back to task group for further organization.

6.2.2.1.2 BSR E1.31-1, Per-slot priority extension for ANSI E1.31

[see BSR E1.31-1_Per-Channel_Priority_CP2024-1029r0.pdf]

Mike Lay reported that the CPWG had approved this, then he moved to approve for first public review. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI.

6.2.2.1.3 BSR E1.37-8, Additional Message Sets for ANSI E1.20 (RDM) – IPv6 & Improved IPv4 Configuration Messages

[see E1-37-8 IPv4-IPv6 PIDs 2020-06-20.pdf]

The CPWG may approve First Public Review for this draft.

Mike Lay reported that the CPWG had approved this, then he moved to approve for first public review. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI.

6.2.2.2 Reaffirmations

6.2.2.2.1 E1.44 – 2014, Common Show File Exchange Format for Entertainment Industry AutomationControl Systems - Stage Machinery

[see WG letter ballot summary document to arrive after 05 July, and ANSI E1-44_2014R2019RPR.pdf]

Richard Nix reported that it was approved by the SMWG. Steve Terry moved to reaffirm. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection. The question will forward to the ExC via letter ballot.

6.2.2.3 Approve as ANS

6.2.2.4 Withdrawals or abandonments

6.2.2.5 New project requests

6.2.2.5.1 19-pin mechanical requirements

[see TSP_ProjectRequest 19PinMech-Dim.pdf]

Richard Nix gave an overview, saying that they'd approved it in the EPWG. Steve Terry moved to approve the project. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection. A PINS will be filed with ANSI.

6.2.2.5.2 powerCON compatibility

[see TSP_ProjectRequest_ESTA_Neutrik powerCON TRUE1 compatible connectors.pdf]

Mitch Hefter gave an overview, saying that the EPWG had approved the project. Steve Terry explained the issues with these connectors being used for different voltages. They are *recognized* connectors, not *listed* connectors. Creating this standard is a good step towards listing agency approval. VDE has agreed that the connector can be used at two different voltages as long as the voltage is marked on the outside of the equipment. VDE's acceptance of the dual voltage use is a powerful argument for UL allowing this. He also said the momentous thing coming out of yesterday's ad hoc meeting was that Neutrik agreed to put their internal drawings into the public domain, for the task group's use.

Steve Terry moved to approve the project. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection. A PINS will be filed with ANSI.

6.2.3 Working group documents for TSC review – information only

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

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

[see BSR E1.50-1-202x_Rig2023-2001r1a.pdf]

Richard Nix said it was approved for PR3.

6.2.3.2 BSR E1.37-4, File Transfer Control with RDM over DMX512 Networks

[see BSR_E1.37-4_CP2024-1024r1.pdf]

Richard Nix said it was approved for PR2

6.2.5 CEN collaboration

No news as of this meeting.

6.2.6 UL and NFPA representation

Karl Ruling asked the TSC to make decisions on who will represent. He's quickly headed for retirement. He will resubmit a list of what UL and NFPA committees he is on to the TSP.

7 New business

7.1 P&P review of P & A voting

Steve Terry disagreed with "Last vote takes precedence", and thinks there is an anomaly to correct in the P&P.

Karl Ruling explained the reasons for why it is done this way, and that making a distinction between Principal and Alternate voters also creates a significant issue with the current ballot system.

Steve Terry moved to change the P&P. The motion was not seconded.

8 Optional reports

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

8.1.1 Control Protocols

Michael Lay reported. They've enlisted twelve new members so far, this year. Five task group meetings were hosted, here in NY.

8.1.2 Electrical Power

Mitch Hefter reported. He recapped the final approval action on E1.80, and approval of two new projects. E1.79 is going back to TG for reorganization.

8.1.3 Floors

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Karl Ruling reported. No action on standards, so this was a meeting to process applications and status change requests. A large contingency of Actors' Equity field reps was present for the meeting.

8.1.5 Followspot Positions

Richard Nix reported that the working group had a proforma, once-per-year meeting. There were a lot of Actors' Equity Association field reps present for this meeting, too. It was a pleasant meeting.

8.1.6 Photometrics

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis reported. Last night's meeting was somewhat under-attended, relatively speaking,, but it was a lively group. He recapped the E1.70 crank up tower project discussion, and if nothing is happening with it by October the project will be abandoned. He also recapped the E1.43 discussion, saying that the draft had been revised during the meeting, and will be sent back out to public review.

8.1.8 Stage machinery

Richard nix reported that they have been quite productive.

8.1.9 Event Safety

Richard Nix reported that some people on the working group are still learning the process. Much of the meeting was arguing about "shall" and "must."

8.1.10 Weapons Safety

Richard Nix reported, saying that they now have an initial draft document – words on paper, which shows progress.

8.1.11 Mental Health & Well-being Management

The working group web page is now live, and the working group application is posted. As of 29 June, two working group applications have been received. Alan Rowe reported that they did meet on July 13, and assigned a name to the working group. Nix reported that we have three applications, but Rowe said that he thought we will have more

8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.2.1 ASTC

Andy Gibbs said nothing to report.

8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance

No report.

8.2.3 NFPA

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

Jerry Gorrell said there are substantial issues with this, potentially procedural issues that have generated a lot of paper.

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

Karl Ruling said he hasn't seen anything there that worries him from ESTA's perspective.

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

Jerry Gorrell said he will attend the next meetings.

8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)

Mitch Hefter reported that the first draft for the 2026 NEC was posted for Public Comment on July 10. Go to [nfpa.org/70](https://www.nfpa.org/70) and click on 'Next Edition to view and submit Public Comments. The "First Draft" button shows legislative text indicating changes from 2023. The "Submit Public Comments Online" button shows the "clean" version to which you can submit proposed changes. Note – proposals (public inputs) that were rejected by the CMPs do not appear – there is a method to find those so you can comment to have those accepted, or revised and accepted. The deadline for Public Comments is August 28.

The Code Panels meet in October to act on those comments – Panel 13 Oct. 21 – 24, Panel 15 Oct. 24-26 (conflicts with ESTA Meetings), Panel 18 meets Oct. 17-19.

The 2029 edition is expected to be a complete restructure of the Code to make it easier to navigate and apply, in part by creating more chapters with fewer articles grouping related materials more logically. This new structure will also be able to support new technologies in a more coherent manner. Article content is not changing other than the normal revision process, just locations.

8.2.3.5 NFPA 70E

Jerry Gorrell said, *"until technology changes this standard is not likely to change."*

8.2.4 USITT

The Seattle conference was very successful. Karl Ruling was presented with a Distinguished Achievement Award from the Engineering Commission. There is a nice write-up on that in the current issue of Protocol.

The 2025 conference will be in Columbus, Ohio March 5 – 8. Session proposals are due July 15. Future conferences will be held 18-21 March 2026 in Long Beach; 17-20 March 2027 in Baltimore.

8.2.5 ICC

The Code Change Proposal submitted by Richard Nix, for inclusion in Chapter 31 of the 2027 International Fire Code, was approved as submitted.

Richard Nix reported. This now goes through public review then to final action near the end of the year.

8.2.6 IES

Mitch Hefter reported. The update to LP-6 (Lighting Control Systems – Properties, Selection, and Specification) - is in committee ballot; the update to LP-8 (The Commissioning Process Applied to Lighting and Control Systems) is nearing committee ballot. After successful committee ballots, they move to Public Review.

8.2.7 UL

Mitch said there are proposals working for 924. Signify was asked for commentary on them.

8.2.8 ASSP

Jerry Gorrell reported that their convention is coming up. He noted a push to have members be certified.

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.

9.2 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award

9.3 Volunteer of the Year Award

9.4 Swan Award

9.5 Educational session proposals for NAMM 2025

[Laura Hoepker]

Richard Nix reported on Laura's behalf. We've made a commitment for more presentations and more time (40 hours), so please encourage working group participation in sessions by proposing a session or more. A call for educational proposals for the 2025 NAMM Show is now open. Interested parties should contact Laura Hoepker (laura.hoepker@esta.org) for details.

10 Schedule for future meetings

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

Fall meetings will return to Westlake, TX during the week of 21 October. The TSC is scheduled to meet at 09:00am Central Time on Sunday 27 October. Winter 2025 meetings will return to Anaheim, CA in conjunction with the 2025 NAMM Show, during the week of 20 January 2025.

11 Adjournment

The agenda business having been completed, Alan Rowe declared the meeting adjourned at 13:53.

Technical Standards Council Members as of 13 July 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