

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Sunday, 4 August 2013
D/FW Marriott Solana
Westlake, TX

Presiding chairman:

Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P

Recording secretaries:

Erin Grabe; PLASA
Karl G. Ruling; PLASA

Members attending:

Jules Lauve; Theatre Projects Consultants (Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants); P
Kimberly Corbett Oates; Schuler Shook (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
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P
Alan M. Rowe; IATSE Crafts Advancement Program ; P
Eddie Raymond; IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman); P
Ken Vannice; Ken Vannice LLC; P
Mitch Hefter; P
Lori Rubinstein; PLASA NA; exf
Katie McCulloh; PLASA NA; exf
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Jerry Gorrell; USITT; P
David E. Miller; Walt Disney Company; A

Visitors:

Roger Lattin; IATSE Local 728
Michael Lay; Royal Philips

1 Opening remarks

Mike Wood called the meeting to order at 9:02. He explained that Mike Garl had a scheduling conflict that made his attendance impossible, so he, Mike Wood, would be leading the meeting alone.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

A hot magenta sign-in sheet was circulated.

2.2 Welcome to visitors

There were no visitors who had not attended before, but Mike Wood introduced and welcomed Matthew Antonucci to his first TSC meeting. Matthew is replacing Wendy Holt in representing the Contract Services Administration Trust Fund.

2.3 Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

2.4 Consensus body

The complete consensus body during this meeting, including those not present was:

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
Jules Lauve	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc., representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc., representing the Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Kimberly Corbett Oates	Schuler Shook, representing the 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
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Local 728, representing the IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman)	P
Ken Vannice	Ken Vannice LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
Mike Garl	Tomcat USA, Inc. (Milos Group)	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield, representing USITT	A
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs, representing USITT	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment (Walt Disney Company)	A
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment (Walt Disney Company)	P
	Total votes possible	14

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See *TSCmin03-2013.pdf*

Eddie Kramer moved that the draft minutes be accepted as written. 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 Wood:

PLASA intends not to publish any standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that information can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. PLASA uses a process of open patent and copyright disclosures to implement its intent. PLASA 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 Council 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 Council of its existence.

Nothing was reported.

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

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Mike Wood

The PLASA Board of Directors and the leadership of this Technical Standards Council 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 PLASA Chair immediately.

PLASA 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.

A copy of the easy-to-read pamphlet was held up by Erin Grabe to show that it was available.

No restraint of trade issues were reported.

6 Approval of agenda

Items were added to the agenda. Bill Sapsis moved that the modified agenda be accepted. The motion was seconded and then approved with a show of hands.

7 Reminder about PLASA contact information on the website

Lori Rubinstein reminded people to check their contact information on the TSP website. Karl Ruling said that he'd moved the non-voting members of the TSC to the "Advisory Committee" on the TSC Members page.

8 Old business and standing reports

8.1 Financial reports

8.1.1 Treasurer's report

Lori Rubinstein noted the significant increase to the budget caused by now having additional staff (Erin Grabe) and travel, but these additional expenses are covered by the additional funding from ProSight Specialty Insurance's sponsorship.

8.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

Lori Rubinstein noted that the contributions are significantly down. We have lost a number of key donors, which is disappointing. Work is being done to reverse this decline.

8.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold

The report had been distributed in advance of the meeting, showing both documents sold and the downloads of the current standards, not the obsolete legacy documents.

Mike Wood read the real-time report of downloads from the website. He noted that safety standards were the most popular and that, while a few people had downloaded the entire library, most people had downloaded five or fewer standards. This suggests that most people are interested in guidance on particular topics, rather than simply collecting everything they can for free.

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

Karl Ruling said that his report is contained in PrjctsSmmry2013-07.pdf. He asked if there were any questions.

8.2.1.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

8.2.1.2.1 CPWG – Approval of BSR E1.45 as an American National Standard.

See E1-45_Draft_r9.pdf and CPWG_E1-45_ballot2013-1004r1_results.pdf

The working group voted by letter ballot to approve this standard as an American National Standard (ANS). That vote ended on 16 April with 23 Yes votes and 1 Yes with Comments, as a result. The working group has declined to add the words suggested in the comments, and "Yes with Comments" is a Yes for ANSI.

Eddie Kramer moved that the proposed standard be accepted as an ANS. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands.

8.2.1.2.2 CPWG – Approval of BSR E1.37-2 public review

Steve Terry moved that BSR E1.37-2, Entertainment Technology - Additional Message Sets for ANSI E1.20 (RDM) – Part 2, IPv4 & DNS Configuration Messages. be offered for public review. The motion was seconded and then approved with a show of hands.

8.2.1.2.3 Abandonment of BSR E1.49

Kimberly Corbett Oates reported that the E1.49 task group recommended that E1.49 be abandoned, and so the working group has voted to abandon the project. Steve Terry said that none of the problems identified in controlling architectural lighting could be addressed by creating a new protocol. Also there was not a sense that any new protocol would have much up-take in the market. It wouldn't be taken up by the large companies and would be unlikely to be taken up by smaller companies.

There was a discussion of the commercial model for the architectural market, which is different than that for the entertainment lighting market.

8.2.1.2.2 RWG

8.2.1.2.2.1 BSR E1.44, Common Show File Exchange Format for Entertainment Industry Automation Control Systems — Stage Machinery

Approval of public review, if the RWG votes to accept the draft resolutions and to approve another review.

Mike Wood said that he is much happier with the revised resolutions and modified draft standard (BSR_E1-44_PublicReviewResols_20130801.pdf & E1-44_StageMachineryShowfile_2012-2055r2.pdf).

Bill Sapsis moved that the revised draft standard be offered for public review. The motion was seconded and then approved with a show of hands.

8.2.1.2.2.2 BSR E1.4 - 201x, Entertainment Technology--Manual Counterweight Rigging Systems

Karl Ruling reported that the RWG had decided to have a letter ballot to accept the revised document as an ANS, concurrent with a public review. The TSC needs to approve the public review.

Bill Sapsis moved that the revised draft standard be offered for public review. The motion was seconded and then approved with a show of hands.

8.2.1.2.2.3 Approval of LED screen project

See CharlieWeiner_TSP_ProjectRequest LED Walls.pdf

The possible project was discussed. Karl Ruling said it was a project to address a real problem area, but urged the TSC to do nothing now, because the proposal has no scope statement, and so exactly what this project will attempt to do is unknown. A task group has been appointed within the working group to draft a scope statement. The TSC's consensus was to do nothing until a scope statement is presented.

8.2.2 TSP Marketing and outreach

Lori Rubinstein and Katie McCulloh to report.

Lori Rubinstein distributed the new TSP brochure done by Katie McCulloh. She also described what will be done at LDI. The Connectivity Pavilion will be gone, and in its place a presentation area for TSP projects and working group demonstrations will be offered. She asked working groups to participate these 10-20 minute in-booth LDI presentations.

Katie McCulloh had been charged with creating a series of TSP ads for publications, which Lori Rubinstein had Katie show on the projection screen. The ads were well-received.

Regarding marketing and fundraising, Lori Rubinstein said that the marketing committee had been struggling with how to recognize the Investors in Innovation; since we no longer collect information about a company's size, we can no longer list their donations relative to their size. Therefore, the size-related ranking has been abandoned. Smaller investors have been approached about this change and the general consensus was that they are okay with the new structure. There is a proposal to add a gold star or some other mark to note those donors and sponsors who have contributed for 15 years or more.

Lori Rubinstein also said that we need a "State of the TSP" report from the TSC chairs, which will be sent to donors and working group participants as part of their thank you package for donating. Mike Wood said that Mike Garl will be happy to write it.

8.2.2.1 Outreach to AHJs

Update by Lori Rubinstein

Lori Rubinstein reported. She began by asking if everyone had a chance to see the published letter from Jeff Carter of Indiana OSHA. Lori Rubinstein had reached out to Jeff asking how to contact OSHA inspectors and she read aloud the email that he sent to the head of Fed OSHA and the organization that oversees the state level OSHAs in response to this request. It was noted that recent performances by Harry Connick, Jr., Pat Benatar, and Barry Manilow had been postponed or canceled due to lack of surety of the stage. The performers in each case had backed the recommendations of their technical staff. Thus far, the outreach to AHJs is positive and work will continue.

8.2.2.2 Prosight proposal

Lori Rubinstein reported. Phase 2 is developing a risk management handbook. The handbook will explain insurance, risk management and reduction, and what to do when bad things happen. Lori Rubinstein detailed the outline of the document, which will be co-branded by PLASA and Prosight. There are still open questions about where this document will be published. More to come.

8.2.2.3 Making the TSP be more international

From the draft March 2013 minutes:

Mike Garl proposed a task group and asked Fred Kosiewski, David Miller, Bill Sapsis, Alan Rowe, and Kimberly Corbett. The charge of the task group is to look at the teleconferencing technology available and provide an opinion and or guidance to the TSC as to which might be the best way to proceed. Erin Grabe was appointed the staff liaison for the group.

Lori Rubinstein said that if we eliminate face-to-face meetings, they need to be the Texas meetings, because of contractual obligations and long-time relations that require us to continue to meet at LDI and USITT.

The general feeling is that the group is leaning, at this point, toward making it be up to the working groups to decide to use teleconferencing or not.

David Miller reported. One of the tasks was to look at more access/easier access for people outside the room to attend meetings.

How many people do we want to engage? There are break-points in the pricing with one set of prices for 2 to 25 connections and a different pricing for 26 to 100 connections. He noted that there are very inexpensive (i.e., free) services, such as Google+ Hangout, that work for up to 10 video connections.

GoToMeeting and Webex offer better products for more connections, but it comes down to money & money. There are service costs and connectivity costs. At a hotel, the entry level connectivity is \$1,000 for a single connection in a room per day, and \$5000 for three connections on a dedicated network.

Lori Rubinstein asked about the idea of having remote meeting sites linked to a local meeting site. It was noted that one meeting in one room is one connection, despite the number of members in that room.

Steve Terry said that individual call-in/connect using Webex works well, but that means no face-to-face meeting at a hotel or conference center.

David Miller said that by LDI the task group will have a completed list of possible solutions with prices.

8.2.3 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

Nothing.

9 New business

None.

10 Optional Reports

10.1 Reports by working and task group leaders on active projects

10.1.1 Control Protocols

Kimberly Corbett Oates was nominated to serve for another two years, reported Michael Lay. There were no other nominations, so Kimberly Corbett Oates is the working group's choice.

No action required by TSC; the working group is content with the current leadership.

10.1.2 Electrical Power

GFCI project progress reported by Mitch Hefter. Steve Terry called it a pull and tug between an industry sector and a manufacturer.

Hefter also mentioned that the group has a grounding and bonding guidance project that could become a standard. A Canadian version of the abandoned BSR E1.18 is a possibility, too, as an American National Standard. No action for the TSC at this time.

10.1.3 Floors

The Edges project (BSR E1.46) is moving on, said Jerry Gorrell. The noted that there was hope of a draft for the January meeting.

10.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Karl Ruling said that the group had no active projects. The question right now for the working group is whether it is better to schedule meetings and then cancel them when we have no agenda, or not to

schedule meetings and then add them when an agenda item arises. The working group will consider the options.

10.1.5 Followspot Position

Karl Ruling reported that they are meeting once a year to simply review whether any work needs to be done on the existing E1.28 standard or if another standard needs to be developed. The working group last met over breakfast at the USITT Conference. R. Duane Wilson picked up the bill.

10.1.6 Photometrics

Karl Ruling reported that BSR E1.48 - 201x, A Recommended Luminous Efficiency Function for Stage and Studio Luminaire Photometry, is in public review through September 2. We have one response so far, from a person that Karl Ruling met at the Entech trade show in Australia. The response is a No, but the reason cites a problem that is outside the scope of the standard, so it is irrelevant.

10.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis reported that Rocky Paulson has had to withdraw from the BSR E1.39 personal fall arrest project for personal reasons, so he has appointed Ethan Gilson as the task group leader. He expects the task group to have draft comment resolutions for the working group to consider at the November, Las Vegas meetings.

The E1.43 performer flying project is moving slowly, reported Bill Sapsis, but he is optimistic that a first review document for the Las Vegas meeting. Erin Grabe said that the task group members also were disappointed too of their lack of progress, but that they should have something for RWG to review in a couple of weeks.

Bill Sapsis said that Pete Svitasky is the now the leader on the BSR E1.47 rigging inspections project. He expects a complete, if not finished, document in January 2014

Bill Sapsis also mentioned the video wall project. Charlie Weiner is the task group leader, and they will be developing a detailed scope statement for consideration by the working group.

Karl Ruling reported the following actions of note

- BSR E1.6-4, Control of Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry: The working group will be voting by letter ballot to accept the document as an American National Standard.
- BSR E1.21 - 201x, Temporary Ground-Supported Overhead Structures Used To Cover Stage Areas and Support Equipment in the Production of Outdoor Entertainment Events, has been renamed to Entertainment Technology — Temporary Structures Used for Technical Production of Outdoor Entertainment Events. The working group will be voting by letter ballot to accept the document as an American National Standard.

10.1.8 Stage Lifts

Erin Grabe reporting; A document may be available for public review soon. She has implemented the comment resolutions as able, but is awaiting further instruction from the working group chair.

(The chair announced a short break from 11:19am to 11:30am)

10.2 Reports of affiliated organizations and PLASA EU

10.2.1 ASTC

Jules Lauve said that ASTC had a booth at the USITT Stage Expo, compliments of USITT. They handed out brochures about ASTC members and ASTC membership. The group also went to Madison, WI after the USITT Conference and toured the Overture Center for the Arts and the Edgewood College theatre.

Jules Lauve noted that NFPA 80 was out for review. One of the chapters deals with fire safety curtains.

He then noted that September 21 and 22 in Miami are the next ASTC meetings. They will look at the New World Center there.

10.2.2 NFPA

10.2.2.1 SPE-AAA

From the draft March 2013 minutes:

Larry Schoeneman reported that the most recently scheduled SPE-AAA meeting was cancelled due to the leader having laryngitis. There are two task groups to deal with combined effects.

Karl Ruling reported that the efforts in this group have focused on mixed flame and pyro effects, and on defining how close "proximate" is to determine whether a pyro effect falls under NFPA 1126 or NFPA 1123. They have abandoned the idea of a comprehensive "special effects" code. Karl Ruling said he never could get them to define what a "special effect" was, and that he did not think it would be in the interests of PLASA members to have the NFPA writing standards for fog effects.

10.2.2.2 SAF-AXM

Jerry Gorrell to report on assembly occupancies meeting in San Diego in June. The termination of aisle stairs is the main issue. There is also an on-going discussion of how large an assembly must be at churches to trigger the need for crowd managers.

The NFPA 80 group has not met yet. Chapter 20 addresses fire safety curtains.

Alan Rowe reported that he and Eddie Raymond spoke at the recent NFPA national conference about our work to enhance safety.

Steve Terry noted that the revised National Electrical Code will be out soon. There are significant changes to Article 520

10.2.3 PLASA EU

Karl Ruling reported on the efforts to turn CWA 15902-1:2008, Lifting and Load-bearing Equipment for Stages and other Production Areas within the Entertainment Industry - Part 1: General requirements (excluding aluminium and steel trusses and towers), and CWA 15902-2:2008, Lifting and Load-bearing Equipment for Stages and other Production Areas within the Entertainment Industry - Part 2: Specifications for design, manufacture and for use of aluminium and steel trusses and towers, into real EN standards.

Ron Bonner has filed a project with BSI to do this, but the secretary for MHE/3/13 (BS7905/6) has moved on and there is a new secretary. Bonner has emailed that person, but not received a reply. The new work item proposal is either still sitting with MHE/4 and hasn't gone forward or it has gone forward to CEN and TC/10 and they are sitting on it. Either way there's no real progress on that front in the UK.

In Germany, the DIN NVBT-149 committee will meet in August to form an international group and to define their goals for a pan-European effort to make an EN stage machinery standard. Michael Lichter of ETC will be at that meeting. Michael Lichter says that the members of the DIN NVBT-149 committee are willing to work on the group formed by Ron.

A National Rigging Advisory Group (NRAG) report was offered by Lori Rubinstein. The group wants to cover more than the National Rigging Certificate. PLASA disbanded the original NRAG group to get a broader representation to better advocate for regulations and standards. There will be a subgroup just for supervising the National Rigging Certificate program and another subgroup to work on standards.

10.2.4 USITT

Mitch Heffer reported that there will be a USITT Board meeting and retreat in San Francisco in two weeks.

10.2.5 IATSE Quadrennial

Lori Rubinstein reported on the IATSE Quadrennial, held in Boston the week previous to this meeting.

PLASA had tables outside of the ballroom where the sessions were held. She noted that she and her team focused on getting information out about free standards and ETCP certification. Lori Rubinstein noted the value of Meredith Moseley-Bennett being able to meet many of the people she has been talking to on the phone. One hour of the two hour caucus was devoted to talking about the ETCP and getting significant numbers of union members certified. Some people from union locals talked about how they did it.

Lori Rubinstein said the result of the hour talk and being at the Quadrennial was a sea change. Meredith was swamped at the conference, and there have been lots of phone calls since then.

11 Other business : Volunteer recognition.

Michael Lay spoke on the need for more volunteer recognition for the guy/gal who pushed through public review resolutions, set up a booth, et cetera. This would be a low-key award, not a presentation at a banquet. There would be open nominations, on the model of the Rock Our World Award.

Jules Lauve moved that such an award be established and Michael Lay be authorized to proceed. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands.

12 Schedule for future meetings

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 20 from 1:00pm to 5:00pm at the Las Vegas Hotel, Mike Wood announced.

13 Adjournment

Steve Terry moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. Hearing no objections, Mike Wood declared the meeting adjourned at 12:00.

Council Membership and Contact Information as of 6 August 2013

Name	Company	Representing	Voting Status
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA Technical Resources Office	PLASA EU	O
Harry Box	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	O
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	O
Mike Garl	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Milos Group	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	O
David Johnson	Live Design	Penton Media	O
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment	Walt Disney Company	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P
Jules Lauve	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment	Walt Disney Company	A
Kimberly Corbett Oates	Schuler Shook	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Eddie Raymond	IATSE Local 16	IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman)	P
JR Reid	JR Lighting, Inc.	PLASA Production Equipment Rental Group	O
Alan M. Rowe	IATSE Local 728	IATSE Crafts Advancement Program	P
Marian Sandberg	Live Design	Penton Media	O
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Larry Schoeneman	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	DesignLab Chicago, Inc.	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Ken Vannice	Ken Vannice LLC	Ken Vannice LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P

Key to voting status:

P= Principal voting member; A = Alternate voting member; O = Observer non-voting member