

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Monday, 02 August 2021
via WebEx

Chairpersons:

Mike Garl; Make Garl Consulting, LLC; P
(Mike Garl had a cut Fiber Optic line near his office, so called in late.)
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting, LLC (Presiding)

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity; P
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P
Mike Skinner; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; A
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; 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
Justin Bennett; USITT; A
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; A
Erin Grabe; ESTA Executive Director; ex officio
Steve Surratt; ESTA Treasurer; ex officio

1 Opening Remarks

Mike Wood called the meeting to order at 11:02 a.m.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance and introductions

Erin Grabe and Steve Surratt were also present

2.2 Welcome to visitors

2.3 Call for quorum

Karl Ruling verified a quorum was present.

2.4 Consensus body changes

At the last meeting, Jerry Gorrell reported 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.

Erin Grabe consulted the TSP P&P and ESTA Bylaws. Since this is an institutional appointment, and USITT already has a seat, no further approval is necessary. Justin Bennett now is on the TSC representing USITT.

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

Name	Company or representation	Voting status
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	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
Justin Bennett	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 *TSCmin04-2021_DRAFT.pdf*.

Steve Terry 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 Wood 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 up a copy of the pamphlet for attendees to see. No anti-trust concerns were raised.

4.2 Reading of the call for patents

Mike Wood 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

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

6 Old Business and standing reports

6.1 Financial reports

6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

Steve Surratt reported that the budget is pretty much on target, except that pledges are behind. Erin Grabe said that we will be asking TSC members to assist in contacting those who haven't yet paid their pledged amounts. Steve Terry said he does not yet know what ETC's new commitment will be, but he will tell Erin when he knows.

6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

See SalesReportforTSC_08-2021.pdf

6.2 Old Business

6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

See TSPPrjctsSmmry08-2021.pdf.

6.2.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

6.2.2.1 Public reviews

6.2.2.1.1 BSR ES1.5 – 202x, Event Safety – Medical

BSR_ES1-5_Medical_ES2021-20010r0.pdf to come if appropriate.

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

Bill Sapsis moved to approve first public review. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstentions. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI, followed by a public review.

6.2.2.1.2 BSR ES1.8 – 202x, Event Safety – Venue and Site Design

BSR_ES1-8_VSD_ES2021-20001r0.rev5a.pdf to come if appropriate.

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

Eddie Kramer moved to reject the document due to a substantial number of editorial errors. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention. The document will be returned to the working group, with a summary of the issues to be corrected.

6.2.2.1.3 BSR ES1.18 – 202x, Event Safety – Rigging

BSR_ES1-18_Rigging_ES2017-2005r1a.pdf to come if appropriate.

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

Steve Terry moved to send the draft over to the Rigging Working Group for review. The motion was seconded.

There was significant discussion about overlapping projects. The sense was that the TSC wants the Rigging Working to make sure there are no contradictions, particularly in the definitions. Any substantive comments would be considered as public review comments. Karl Ruling said we do not have a way to do this according to the P&P, but suggested that the TSC could ask for the RWG's guidance in determining whether or not there were conflicts between standards, and that this will help the TSC in its vote to approve the first public review.

The motion was amended accordingly, and carried without objection or abstention. The document will be sent to the rigging working group for a limited 21-day review period. Comments returned will be considered as public review comments.

6.2.2.2 Withdrawals

6.2.2.3 Accept as ANS

6.2.2.4 Reaffirmation of ANSI E1.40, theatrical dust effects standard

See *F&S_E1-40_BallotResults.pdf*. No public review comments to resolve and no working group comments or objections.

Mike Garl moved to approve the reaffirmation. The motion was seconded and carried with the following roll-call vote.

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	
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	
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
Justin Bennett	USITT	A	
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A	Y
Total votes		14 possible	11 yes

6.2.2.5 Followup on past “new projects,” which are now old business

6.2.2.5.1 GitHub

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

Any news or updates from the task group?

No report.

6.2.2.5.2 RDM trademark

From the draft April TSC meeting minutes:

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.
Any news or updates?*

Mike Lay said that the UK-based CPWG members with whom he spoke reported no conflicts or issues.

7 New business

7.1 New project request – Wire Tension Grids

See TSP_ProjectRequest_Wire Tension Grid.pdf. The Floors Working Group has this project on their agenda.

Bill Sapsis said he agreed this should be a Floors project. Jerry Gorrell agreed, and said that they had discussed it in the Floors Working Group meeting. It is an interesting project.

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the project request. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention. Bill Sapsis suggested that others be added to the task group. Jerry Gorrell said that he thought there would be other interested parties come forward, but at the moment they just needed to get the project moving, so a small group is good. A PINS will be filed with ANSI.

7.2 Intellectual property policy

Proposal for ESTA's TSP to model the SMPTE policy

Mike Wood reported that Hans Lau had asked us to review our IP policy and suggested we change it to mirror the SMPTE's policy. He noted that SMPTE requires everyone to sign mandatory disclosure agreements.

Steve Terry asked what problem we would be solving? Mike Wood agreed, there doesn't seem to be any problem created by our current policy.

Karl Ruling pointed out that our P&P says we shall conform to ANSI's Policy, which does not require disclosure of IP in order for people to participate in standards projects. Doing anything different would make us non-conforming with that policy.

Steve Terry moved to direct Karl Ruling to notify Hans Lau that the topic was thoroughly debated within the TSC, and we don't want to do anything different than conform with ANSI's policy. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention.

7.3 Other new business

Mike Wood said that there is a request to allow Bill Ellis to apply as a [second] alternate to Jason Potterf on NEC CP18. There was general discussion about the process of initiating the appropriate authorization. Karl will coordinate this with Mike Wood, et alia.

8 Optional reports

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

8.1.1 Control Protocols

8.1.2 Electrical Power

Justin Bennett reported on the working group's meeting actions. There are projects moving forward, and the electrical inspections project, BSR E1.65, is moving towards abandonment, through attrition and lack of interest.

Steve Terry moved to abandon the project. The motion was seconded and will be answered by public review, then finally by letter ballot after the public review.

8.1.3 Floors

Jerry Gorrell reported that the main discussion topic was the new project for wire tension grids.

8.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Mike Wood reported on the working group's meeting actions. He detailed some of the discussions regarding the new ventilation project.

8.1.5 Followspot Position

No report.

8.1.6 Photometrics

Jerry Gorrell had no additional report.

8.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis had no report.

8.1.8 Stage machinery

Nothing to report.

8.1.9 Event Safety

Richard Nix reported that the draft Fire Safety and Communications standards are going back out to public review.

8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.2.1 ASTC

Andy Gibb reported they have been meeting virtually, and looking forward to face-to-face once everyone is vaccinated. Otherwise, no news.

8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance

8.2.3 NFPA

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

Nothing to report.

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

Karl Ruling reported there is nothing to report.

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

Karl Ruling reported that Steve Adelman, representing the ESA, had made comments regarding "festival seating" wanting to remove the term. That proposal went nowhere. He said that Steve Adelman had also made comments about crowd management in regard to festival seating, and included the ES1.9 standard as a good reference to be cited in 101's informative annex. That was better received.

There was other general discussion about what Jerry Gorrell characterized as "...a fun 7 hours, which ran a little long, but that was OK because it kept us from going another day of meetings."

8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)

Steve Terry reported this is in public comment until 19 August. He reiterated his previous suggestions to comment on the definitions changes, if anyone so desired. Nothing else to report.

8.2.3.5 NFPA 70E

Jerry Gorrell said that they are constantly revising the standard and discussing eliminating hazard assessment. He said he didn't think the proposal would go anywhere.

8.2.4 USITT

Justin Bennett said that they are planning for a face-to-face Conference in Baltimore.

8.2.5 ICC

Richard Nix reported that the potential issues mentioned in the last meeting seemed to have worked themselves out by way of last-minute revisions to the proposals and the referenced ASTM standard. This will go to the ICC membership at-large for voting in November. Meanwhile, The Group A code changes – including CCP's for the IBC, relative to temporary structures and loading requirements, are in active development.

8.2.6 IES

Mitch Hefter reported they are updating more standards.

8.2.7 UL

Jerry Gorrell reported that there were no changes made on UL fire doors.

8.2.8 ASSP

Jerry Gorrell reported that the Z359 fall protection standards package continues to change and grow.

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. Mike Wood encouraged everyone to consider nominations.

9.2 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award

9.3 Volunteer of the Year Award

9.4 Swan Award

9.5 TSP participation fee donor fund

Mike Wood asked who administered this. Richard said that this is administered by Erin Grabe. Erin Grabe reported that there is still a small amount of money available. Tucker Downs was the last recipient.

9.7 INNOVA

Erin Grabe said nothing new to report.

9.8 NATEAC

Bill Sapsis said it went very well, and it can be taken off of the agenda, at least for another few years.

9.9 Server move

Mike Wood reminded everyone that the ESTA server was being taken offline, and physically relocated beginning at 6:00 p.m. EDT Friday, and is expected to be back online 12 hours thereafter. All web and mail services will be interrupted for that 12-hour period.

10 Schedule for future meetings

The meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The next TSC meeting has not yet been scheduled, but is anticipated to be scheduled for sometime within the last week of September to the first week in October. *[It subsequently has been scheduled for the morning of October 1.]*

Karl Ruling asked who is doing meeting scheduling. Erin Grabe said things remain status quo until 16 August, when Laura Hoepker will take over for Frances Thompson as the new membership, trade show, and logistics manager. Ruling asked if Richard Nix should continue scheduling working group meetings on the website, as he has been doing for the last several months. Erin Grabe said Yes.

11 Adjournment

The agenda being complete, and there being no further business to conduct, Mike Wood declared the meeting adjourned at 12:37 p.m.

Technical Standards Council members

Name	Representing	Status
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
D. Andrew Gibbs, Ph.D.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Michael Lay	Candela Controls, Inc	P
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P
Erin Grabe	ESTA	exf
Karl G. Ruling	ESTA	exf
Richard J. Nix	ESTA	exf
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	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	O
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
Harry Box	PERG	O
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P
Stephen G. Surratt	Texas Scenic Company	exf
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	P
Justin Bennett	USITT	A
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A