

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Sunday, 27 October 2024
Marriott D/FW Westlake - Westlake, TX

Chairpersons:

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

Recording secretary:

Richard Nix; ESTA

Attendees:

Justin Bennett; USITT; P
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; A
Erin Grabe; ESTA; exf
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P
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
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P
R. Duane Wilson; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A

Visitors:

Milton Davis; Doug Fleenor Design (CPWG Chairperson)
Ethan Gilson; Entertainment Rigging Services

1 Opening Remarks

Alan Rowe called to order at 09:03. Thanks for making time. Mike Garl also said welcome.

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.

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.

Nothing was revealed.

3 Attendance and introductions

3.1 Welcome to visitors

3.2 Determination of a quorum

A quorum is seven voting members.

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
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	12

4 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

[See TSCmin07-2024_DRAFT.pdf]

Bill Gillett moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions.

5 Approval of agenda

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions.

6 Old Business and standing reports

6.1 Financial reports

6.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

[see TSP Statement of Activity 2024-09-30.pdf]

Erin Grabe reported. The presentation format is slightly different. We've changed software and have new accountants. This should help clear up numerous errors being made by prior accountants. The TSP is better than

anticipated, due to the \$50K donation made by Don Earl of Earl Girls. Announcements have been made to match the donations. She acknowledged Bill Gillette and Disney for their consistent and regular contributions.

Alan Rowe said he liked the new format, because it's easier to read.

6.1.2 TSP Fundraising

6.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold and downloaded

[See SalesReportforTSC_10-2024.pdf]

Richard Nix reported. Downloads have increased by 3.4% over last quarter's report.

6.2 Old Business

6.2.1 Technical Standards Program project report

[See TSP Project Status Summary_10-2024.pdf]

Richard Nix reported – nothing to add to the report.

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 ES1.42, Parade Safety

[see BSR ES1.42_ES2024-20012r0.pdf]

The ESWG might approve this for first public review.

The ESWG approved it for first public review. There was discussion about deletion of a front matter paragraph containing task group acknowledgments and a one-sentence dedication "...to the memories of children who perished in parade mishaps, and to the families they left behind." Some spoke both in favor and against the dedication, but were not in favor of the additional task group acknowledgment. The task group was reminded of the TSC's stated policy on task group acknowledgments in published standards. Steve Adelman, the task group leader, asked for the TSC to reconsider this policy.

Richard Nix reported, saying there is nothing more to say beyond the summary. There was discussion about why this had become an issue. The TSC reaffirmed their standing opinion that task group acknowledgments will not be made in published standards – task group members are acknowledged as part of the consensus voting body.

Mitch Hefter moved to approve first public review. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions. A BSR8 will be filed.

6.2.2.1.2 BSR ES1.43, Material Handling

[see BSR ES1.43_ES2024-20017r0.pdf]

The ESWG might approve this for first public review.

Richard Nix reported that the ESWG did approve it for first public review, with some minor formatting changes (nothing substantive). Bill Sapsis moved to approve first public review. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions. A BSR8 will be filed.

6.2.2.2 Reaffirmations

6.2.2.3 Approve as ANS

6.2.2.3.1 BSR E1.20 (RDM)

[see Summary_E1.20_WG_LtrBitApprvANS.pdf]

The CPWG letter ballot, set to end on 18 October, has carried unanimously the motion to approve as ANS.

Mitch Hefter moved to approve as an ANS. The motion was seconded. A roll-call ballot was conducted.

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	
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	Y
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	Not present
Todd Spencer	ESTA President	P	Not present
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	Y
Alan M. Rowe	I.A.T.S.E. Local 728	P	Y
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P	Y
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P	Y
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	Y
Jerry Gorrell	USITT	A	
Justin Bennett	USITT	P	Y
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	P	
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	A	Y
Total votes possible		12	10

The motion carried with ten votes in favor, and without objections or abstentions. The motion now forwards to the ExC.

6.2.2.4 Withdrawals or abandonments

6.2.2.4.1 ANSI E1.30-3 – 2009 (R2019)

[see E1.30-3 withdraw binder.pdf]

The CPWG carried a motion to withdraw as ANS. There was one objection, to which the working group responded. The objecting voter was notified of the CPWG response.

Mitch Hefter moved to approve withdrawal as an ANS. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions. The motion forwards to the ExC.

6.2.2.4.2 ANSI E1.30-10 – 2009 (R2019)

[see E1.30-10 withdraw binder.pdf]

The CPWG carried a motion to withdraw as ANS. There were no objections.

Mitch Hefter moved to approve withdrawal as an ANS. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions. The motion forwards to the ExC.

6.2.2.5 New project requests

6.2.2.5.1 Boom Lifts for exposition and trade show use

[see TSP_ProjectRequest_Boom Lift.pdf]

The RWG approved the project request.

Bill Sapsis reported. He gave background. Chris Schmidt brought this to the RWG after having discussions with the Event Services Contractor Association (ESCA). Alan Rowe and Mike Skinner both expressed concerns about overlapping scope with Film and TV, suggesting it might be best to clarify, or specifically exclude them from the project scope. Richard Nix explained that ESTA has due diligence to review for overlapping standards prior to the PINS filing. Erin Grabe said that she had met with ESCA.

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the request. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions. A PINS will be filed.

6.2.5.5.2 Motor hoist connectors

See *TSP_ProjectRequest_Motor hoist connectors.pdf*

The EPWG approved the project.

Justin Bennett reported with an overview of scope and recap of EPWG discussion. He moved to approve the project. The motion was seconded and carried, without objections or abstentions. A PINS will be filed.

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.]

BSR E1.50-1-202x_Rig2023-2001r2.pdf

BSR E1.42_ES2024-20012r0.pdf

BSR_ES1-5_Medical_ES2021-20010r3c.pdf

BSR_ES1-17_ES2018-20001r2.pdf

E1-43_PerformerFlyingSystems_Rig2020-2032r3.pdf

6.2.5 CEN collaboration

No news as of this meeting.

6.2.6 UL and NFPA representation

7 New business

7.1 CPWG co-chairperson appointments

The TSC must appoint a co-chairperson to fill the void created by Mike Lay's passing. Four names were brought forward in the CPWG's discussion during their 06 September meeting. All four individuals were present, and were asked about their willingness to serve. Two nominees (Maya Nigrosh and Dan Murfin) expressed pensive willingness – i.e. would do it if no one else will – and the other two (Ford Sellers and Javid Butler) expressed a clear desire to serve. Milton Davis has announced that he will step back from the Chairperson role within the next year, and he suggests appointing two co-chairpersons moving forward, so he can assist and mentor until such time as he actually steps back.

From Steve Terry:

I strongly support Maya Nigrosh as CPWG co-chair. Over many years, she has concretely demonstrated her commitment to the goals of the CPWG, as well as doing a phenomenal amount of work and bringing her considerable technical expertise to bear on achieving those goals.

We are lucky to have her as a CPWG member and I am really glad she has put her name forward (even pensively 😊) as a co-chair candidate.

Milton Davis spoke. He is ready to step down and move into more task group work. Mike Lay's passing delayed this decision, and so initiated planning for two co-chairpersons instead of one. He and Mike Lay had a standing policy that they would remain impartial to task group work. The Chairpersons for a high profile group need to be able to manage bandwidth.

Richard Nix said that Javid Butler had asked him to convey to the TSC his willingness serve if appointed. Erin

Grabe noted Maya's past experience. She's been a co-chair before.

Alan Rowe moved to appoint Javid Butler as one of the Co-chairpersons. The motion was seconded and carried without objections.

Justin Bennett moved to appoint Maya Nigrosh. The motion was seconded and carried without objections.

7.2 Illegal document sales

[see Cease Unauthorized Sale of ESTA's ANSI Standards.pdf and Cease and Desist Letter - ESTA (00716601xA334D).PDF]

Our standards were found available online for unauthorized sale, document-center.com. ESTA's legal council has sent them correspondence.

Richard Nix and Erin Grabe recapped activities to-date.

8 Optional reports

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

8.1.1 Control Protocols

Milton Davis was present. CPWG met yesterday. Highlights: Reaffirmed E1.17 ACN with long-term intent to withdraw (too many external references to withdraw now). EU Cybersecurity preview.

Around 23 attendees for Plugfest, at least half-dozen new attendees. Round table discussion last night, recorded. Scott Blair wasn't present because he was receiving an Emmy for the Helios product. They discussed NAMM sessions.

8.1.2 Electrical Power

Justin Bennett recapped. The TSC has just approved new projects, others are in progress.

8.1.3 Floors

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.4 Fog and Smoke

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.5 Followspot Positions

No meeting this cycle.

8.1.6 Photometrics

Jerry Gorrell recapped the meeting. There is one active project, which lost its originator. They've postponed any work until the next meeting.

8.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis recapped. The meeting was well-attended. They resolved a previously contentious issue with Performer Flying, so it's going out for another PR.

8.1.8 Stage machinery

8.1.9 Event Safety

8.1.10 Weapons Safety

Richard Nix reported. They have two active parts of a single project. Both task groups expect to have their respective parts ready for public review in January.

8.1.11 Mental Health & Well-being Management

Their inaugural meeting was held on Tuesday 15 October. It was well-attended and there was good discussion, the entire meeting lasting about two hours. They plan to meet monthly for 2-3 more months until an outline is organized, and tasks are assigned.

Meetings will be scheduled for 21 November, 20 January (during NAMM) and sometime between 5-8 March, at USITT.

Alan Rowe reported. The inaugural meeting was well-attended. He thinks that the presence of multiple and often differing opinions is a positive in this group. The co-chairpersons did well identifying intended goals. He noted that he had reiterated the TSC's desire to see crisis response addressed. He thinks this group will experience growing pains. There are strong opinions and conflicting personalities.

8.2 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.2.1 ASTC

Andy Gibbs said there is nothing to report.

8.2.2 Event Safety Alliance

Erin Grabe said the Event Safety Summit will be held 13-15 November, in San Diego.

8.2.3 NFPA

Jerry Gorrell reported. There is an NFPA 80 proposal on who could relabel a fire door. The proposal appeared to be a restraint of trade, but passed through voting, causing a subsequent rewrite of the proposal on the advice of their correlating committee. Approval looks promising in this cycle.

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

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

Erin Grabe reported. There was a meeting earlier this month, regarding resolution of comments from the most recent public review. Monona Rossol had made several public comments centered around airborne articulates. Most of them were reasonably rejected.

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

Jerry Gorrell reported. Someone has proposed 10 f.c. for aisle lighting. This will cause an issue. Nothing else to report.

8.2.3.4 NEC (NFPA 70)

From Mitch Hefter:

The 2nd Draft meetings are in process now. The fast completion of ANSI/ESTA E1.80 (thanks to the EPWG) is allowing a reference to it to be included in the proposed revision to 520.68(D) addressing Special-Purpose Multicircuit Cable Systems.

The NEC Panels met over 2 weeks ending October 26, 2024 to consider Public Comments on the first draft of the 2026 National Electrical Code,

On the three panels where our industry has members (ESTA, USITT, IES, IATSE, etc.), most cybersecurity proposals were not accepted, in a large part since cybersecurity is an ongoing issue and not something that

the AHJ can address as an installation item subject for approval.

A number of proposals related to Commissioning had similar issues since commissioning is a process that actually starts in the design phase. Much of the Code language is really about startup and witness testing but is written using the term commissioning – in spite of the references in the NEC to commissioning standards describing the process.

Emergency Lighting and Directly Controlled Luminaires (700.24): 2026 draft language that allows for a directly controlled luminaire which goes to full upon loss of signal to not be Listed for emergency remained; a proposal to allow less than full output without a specific listing for emergency was rejected.

Most of the work on articles 520, 525, and 530 which are of most interest to our group were mostly language cleanup.

Alert for the next edition (2029) - Fasten your seat belts (4-point harness maybe)! Major structure changes are coming. The current structure hasn't been updated since 1937 other than addition of articles, but technology has changed. 9 chapters to become 20. Reordering and renumbering of Articles. Actual content doesn't change other than the normal revision process, and this new structure does make sense.

Alan Rowe recapped. Mike Skinner said they've asked the correlating committee for new proposals.

8.2.3.5 NFPA 70E

Jerry Gorrell reported. No technical changes. They have discussed an extensive list of training required under 70E that one must follow to become a qualified person. Arc flash has gotten a lot of attention lately.

8.2.4 USITT

The next conference is in Columbus, OH during the week of 03 March 2025.

Justin Bennett reported. It's already later in the agenda.

Erin Grabe said that the ESTA Board had approved meetings for the Board, ETCP, and the TSC at USITT. Working Groups will meet as needed. Richard Nix reported at least CPWG and MHWG will meet.

8.2.5 ICC

Richard Nix said there is nothing to report at this time.

8.2.6 IES

*From Mitch Hefter:
RP-42 – Dimming and Control Method Designations, is open for revisions. Mitch was honored as an IES Fellow in August (He's now one of three who are Fellows of both USITT & IES).*

Alan Rowe congratulated Mitch on his fellowship award.

8.2.7 UL

8.2.8 ASSP

Jerry Gorrell said there is nothing to report, except they have an upcoming meeting.

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.

No nominations at this time.

9.2 Lifetime Technical Achievement Award

Erin Grabe said there was prior conversation about nominations. She will pass the reformatted document around for action at January's meeting.

9.3 Volunteer of the Year Award

Nothing to report.

9.4 Swan Award

Nothing to report.

9.5 Educational session proposals for NAMM 2025

[Laura Hoepker]

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.

9.6 Staff change

Erin Grabe said that Laura Hoepker is retiring within a 6-month time frame. Alan Rowe said she's done her job well, is always pleasant to work with, and that she will be missed.

9.7 Meeting schedule overlaps

Ethan Gilson asked about overlap of board meetings with working group meetings. He was attending the board meeting, but logged into the RWG for attendance purposes. He didn't think people with overlapping commitments like this should be penalized for performing service in other meetings. Erin Grabe said it's always been an issue and we will try to do better at not scheduling overlapping meetings.

10 Schedule for future meetings

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

Winter 2025 meetings will return to Anaheim, CA in conjunction with the 2025 NAMM Show, during the week of 20 January 2025. Spring meetings will be held in conjunction with USITT, during the week of 03 March.

11 Adjournment

Alan Rowe thanked everyone again for taking time to help, then adjourned the meeting at 10:34 AM.

Technical Standards Council Members as of 27 October 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
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