

Minutes
Technical Standards Committee
Wednesday, 14 November 2007
Rosen Plaza Hotel
Orlando, FL

Chairman: Mike Garl; James Thomas Engineering

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending:

William Conner; Bill Conner Associates LLC, representing the American Society of Theatre Consultants; P
Eugene Leitermann; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc., representing the American Society of Theatre Consultants; A
Larry Schoeneman; Designlab Chicago, Inc.; P
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P
Mitch Hefter; Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC); P
Mike Garl; James Thomas Engineering, Inc.; P
Ken Vannice; Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.); P
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P
Ron Bonner; PLASA; A
Bill Groener; PRG Systems Integration Group (PRG); P
Mark Engel; Rosco Laboratories; O
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Louis Bradfield; USITT; A
Florian von Hofen; VPLT; P
Lori Rubinstein; ESTA; ex officio

Visitors: Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks
David Saltiel; Bell, Boyd & Lloyd, LLP
Roger Bardwell; Hudson Scenic Studio
Robert Bertrand; Rose Brand
Tom Andrews; Turning Star

1 Opening remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 13:12. He welcomed those present to Orlando, and thanked them for donating their time to the TSP. He asked that electronic gadgetry be turned to vibrate mode or be turned off.

Garl noted that the hard-copy event schedule distributed is the last one that will be printed. All future ones will be distributed electronically only.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

A blue attendance sign-in sheet was circulated. Garl announced that a quorum was present.

2.2 Welcome to visitors

Garl pointed out to those sitting at the hollow-square conference table that there were visitors sitting in the back of the room. He welcomed the visitors.

2.3 Introductions

Those present introduced themselves.

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

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)		P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P
David Johnson	Live Design (Penton Media)		P
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A
Bill Groener	PRG Systems Integration Group (PRG)		P
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories		P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A
		Possible votes	15

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See TSC/2007-0005, file name TSCmin07-2007.pdf

Louis Bradfield moved that 8.4.3 be changed, stating that Jerry Gorrell asked to have his report amended for greater accuracy to read: "Jerry Gorrell reported that the International Code Council is using same language will be referencing NFPA 80 Chapter 20 for fire safety curtains as part of the International Building Code." The motion was seconded, and then approved with a show of hands.

Mike Wood moved that the amended minutes be accepted. The motion was seconded, and then approved with a show of hands. (The amended minutes are document number TSC/2007-0005r1.)

4 Call for patents,

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

"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 the Technical Standards Committee 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 Committee of its existence."

No protected intellectual property was brought to the attention of the assembly.

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

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

"The ESTA Board of Directors and the leadership of this Technical Standards Committee 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 ESTA president immediately.

"ESTA 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."

Karl Ruling, the Technical Standards Manager, held up one of the easy-to-read pamphlets. No restraint of trade issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

6 Approval of agenda

Steve Terry moved that the agenda be approved. The motion was seconded, and then accepted with a show of hands.

7 Reminder about ESTA committee contact information on the website

Mike Garl reminded people to check their contact information on the website.

8 Old business and standing reports

8.1 Financial reports

8.1.1 Treasurer's report

Contributions are down, Mike Wood reported. We will fall short of our projected income, but our expenditures are also down, so we should finish the year in a satisfactory financial condition. He said the decline in contributions is worrying, however, because expenses are sure to go up, so we will be about \$12,000 further in deficit, which ESTA must make up. That is, ESTA will need to contribute about \$12,000 more.

The largest expense is Karl Ruling's salary, but the second highest is insurance. The insurance must be high because of the risk.

Steve Terry said that he thinks the contributions are down because there are other ESTA projects that are asking for contributions. ESTA is asking the same people for contributions for multiple projects.

Terry then questioned how large the TSP can get. It seems to be an infinitely expanding program. The program was started to address the needs of companies that had specific needs. Now they are looking at what else they need done next. To the extent that their needs have been met, the pressure to contribute is lessened.

There was a discussion of how we need to reach out to those people and groups that benefit from our standards. The consensus was that this message needs to be carried back to the working groups.

Wood said that he was putting in the draft budget that was before the TSC to the ESTA Board.

There was a general discussion of the fiduciary responsibility that is owed to ESTA. Task groups can save money by being more frugal with meeting rooms and AV requests. Bill Sapsis asked for some numbers to communicate to his task groups so they understand what their meetings cost. This information is not needed for this meeting but for future ones.

There was a discussion of how much Karl Ruling can do without additional help.

Florian von Hofen described a device called "meeting cube." It displays a running total of what a meeting costs. He says he loves it. More information is available at meeting-cube.com or meeting-cube.de. He suggested that the meeting costs be included in all the meeting agendas.

8.1.2 Status of contributions and pledges

Lori Rubinstein reported no change in the report since the last meeting, other than the receipt of USITT's contribution. We will start dues renewal in early December, and there will be a check-off box for contributions. She will invoice those companies that like to be invoiced to make a contributions.

Rubinstein reported that the VAT refund is very much in doubt because of law changes in the UK. If we lose this, we will lose about \$10,000 to \$20,000 a year.

8.1.3 Accounting of TSP documents sold

Lori Rubinstein noted the disparity in sales between ANSI and the ESTA Foundation with some documents. E1.11 is a particularly notable example. This suggests that some standards are being bought by parties outside the industry, parties that are looking for an ANSI standard rather than an ESTA document.

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

See written report of projects, [TSP_ProjectsSummary2007-10.pdf](#) [Appended]

Steve Terry praised the report. There were no questions.

8.2.1.2 Documents or projects requiring action by the TSC

8.2.1.2.1 New project request

See [FlameRetardanceStandardRequest.pdf](#) and [VTcurtain.PDF](#). The latter document was offered for the entertainment of TSC members and to put the request in context.

Tom Andrews of Turning Star gave a presentation. He described the balkanized interpretations of the existing codes across the United States. He said that he and his colleagues (Roger Bardwell of Hudson Scenic Studio and Robert Bertrand of Rose Brand) wish to make a recommended practice, a set of guidelines that better reflect the risks of theatre productions in different situations, and that recommend field tests that are appropriate.

Steve Terry asked if this belongs in the ESTA TSP or should it be an NFPA project. Andrews said that he thought it would fit within ESTA because it is a theatrical issue. Terry said that he doubted that we have the expertise to address fire safety.

Bill Conner questioned how a new document would take care of the problem of inconsistency of application of the existing standards. Conner thought that the chances of whatever we write becoming "the law of the land" would be better if it is part of an NFPA standard.

There was further discussion, with a recurring theme being that the NFPA has greater expertise in this area than ESTA, and that modifying or adding material to an existing NFPA code should address the problem. Karl Ruling noted that NFPA 1 has reserved chapters that are open and that it is a loosely written document that points to other standards and that gives specific requirements.

Conner suggested that it would be good for a theatre person to join the technical committee for NFPA 701.

Steve Terry moved that we acknowledge that the project has merit, but that it is not suitable as an ESTA standard, and that we encourage the proposers to take the project to the NFPA. The motion was seconded. With a show of hands, the motion carried unanimously. The applicants left the room.

Mike Wood said that we had pushed them out preemptorily. We don't think their proposal should be an ANSI/ESTA standard, but it has merit, so we should do something to help the project.

Mike Wood moved that we form an ad hoc task group of the TSC to help the applicants to develop a proposal for an NFPA. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands.

There was a discussion of how to implement the task group and also to draw on the expertise of costumers within USITT, since the project also involves mitigating the risks of burning costumes.

The applicants were called on their mobile phones and invited to rejoin the meeting so the outcome of the decision could be explained. Karl Ruling was instructed to announce the project.

8.2.1.2.2 BSR E1.28 public review motion

The working group's ballot closed and the motion carried. The public review motion was therefore before the TSC. See E1-28Draft2007-09-16.pdf.

Steve Terry raised the question of whether this project should exist at all. Will it solve the problem? There was discussion of the mixed tone. It's a guidance document but it seems to come down too heavily on "shall."

Terry moved that the draft BSR E1.28, a guidance document for planning permanent followspot positions in places of assembly, be offered for public review. The motion was seconded, and then approved by all present.

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain	Not present
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	X			
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A				
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P	X			
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls		P	X			
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)		P	X			
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P				X
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P	X			
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P	X			
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P	X			
David Johnson	Live Design (Penton Media)		P				X
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA	PLASA	P				
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	A	X			
Bill Groener	PRG Systems Integration Group (PRG)		P	X			
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories		P	X			
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P	X			
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P				
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A	X			
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	X			

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Yes	No	Abstain	Not present
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A				
Possible votes			15	13	0	0	2

8.2.1.2.3 Other documents

8.2.2 Optional reports by working group leaders present on active projects 14:50

8.2.2.1 Camera Cranes

Karl Ruling reported that Kent Jorgensen had given him a note stating that the next meeting is scheduled for December 13 at 10:00 at the Local 80 union hall. The meeting that had been scheduled for Friday, August 24, had been cancelled at the last minute because of an emergency in Jorgensen's family.

8.2.2.2 Control Protocols

No further report.

8.2.2.3 Electrical Power

Mitch Hefter noted that there has been no real movement on E1.18 project. The last public review was over a year ago, and we still don't have a draft comment resolution document. The leadership of the working group has discussed what might be done to move the project forward.

Steve Terry said that this is a cautionary tale. The task group needs to be more than one person, more than one person with a fire in the belly to complete the work. The task group for this project is nominally more than one person, but only one person has control of the document, so the task group is in fact one man.

8.2.2.4 Floors

Tim Hansen noted there will be a demonstration of the slip measurement technique on the LDI trade show floor.

8.2.2.5 Fog and Smoke

No further report.

8.2.2.6 Followspot Position

No further report.

8.2.2.7 Photometrics

No further report.

8.2.2.8 Rigging

No further report.

8.3 Reports of affiliated organizations

8.3.1 ASTC

Bill Conner said that he had nothing to report.

8.3.2 PLASA

Ron Bonner reported that CWA 25 has been offered for public review. Fourteen responses were received, but they have not yet been looked at by the task groups. He will not be able to attend the next meeting, but will continue to keep us informed.

Lori Rubinstein asked for an update on the wireless microphone issue, the problem that selling the part of the spectrum used by the mics to the highest bidder is likely to result in the loss of access to the spectrum. Bonner said that there has been intense campaigning with parliament. Many MPs say they are willing to stand behind them and to support their cause. Ofcom says they will have statement about wireless microphones by December 13.

8.3.3 USITT

Lori Rubinstein reported that The ESTA Foundation is exploring creating a joint training program with USITT.

8.3.4 VPLT

Florian von Hofen reported that he regretted undertaking the ANSI E1.11 (DMX512A) translation project because it has cost so much. The document will be print on demand so changes can be made without minimal additional expenses.

Von Hofen reported that VPLT is becoming more active in European standards work. It has representatives involved with the CWA 25 project. They are not 100% happy with the draft documents, because the requirements are lower than what has been accepted in Germany, but so it goes.

Von Hofen reported that VPLT is working with the major trade associations in Germany, event hall owners, event planners, and theatre groups, et cetera on coordinated standards, so the can be used across the disciplines. This is faster and less expensive than trying to work through DIN.

8.4 Reports on liaisons and news from other industry groups

8.4.1 CANENA

Ken Vannice says they are still working, making progress.

8.4.2 ETCP

About 25 people will be taking tests at LDI, said Tim Hansen. Lori Rubinstein reported that we are working harder to market the program. We need more people to take the test and to become certified to support the program and have it be successful. We have found that it is possible to offer paper and pencil tests for groups as small as ten candidates, which she finds is encouraging.

The Toronto IATSE local has the most certificate holders, and Cirque du Soliel now has a direct representative on the Council.

8.4.3 ICC

No report.

8.4.4 NFPA

8.4.4.1 NFPA 101 (Life Safety Code) and 5000 (building code)

Bill Conner said there is nothing remarkable going on with these documents, but the issue of requiring voice alarms in addition to the existing high-quality sound systems in places of public assemblies doesn't go away. The fire alarm business interests have been pushing to require voice alarms in all venues, regardless of the existence of a better quality, higher power public address sound system, but so far their arguments have not prevailed. He also noted that the NFPA will offer courses in crowd management in 2009.

8.4.4.2 NFPA 1126 (proximate pyro) and 160 (flame effects)

No report.

8.4.4.3 NFPA 70 (NEC)

Mitch Hefter reported that the most recent edition had recently been published.

8.4.4.4 NFPA 80

No report.

8.4.5 SAE/FAA

See SAE HIL S10g Report 9-11 thru 13.pdf [Appended.]

8.4.6 Others

None.

8.5 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

None.

9 New Business

9.1 Appointment of new CPWG co-chair

Steve Terry has served as one of the chairs of the CPWG since its inception, and would now like to pursue other roles in the TSP. The working group has voted to recommend Michael Lay as his replacement. What is the TSC's will?

Mitch Hefter moved that Mike Lay be appointed as CPWG cochair. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands.

9.2 Voting in the TSC

Problem: Some TSC members habitually do not vote, thus lengthening the ballot period and endangering the passage of motions that need supermajority support. Solution: ?

There was discussion. The consensus was that the ESTA President shall set up an advisory committee for the TSC, who will essentially be non-voting observers. The initial membership shall be David Johnson, Marian Sandberg, and Mark Engel. By this time Florian von Hofen had left the TSC meeting to attend to a problem that one of his trade association members had, so Karl Ruling will ask him if he would prefer to stay on as a voting member and to vote regularly and in a timely fashion, or if he would like to join the advisory committee.

It was also decided that Bill Groener, the ESTA President, will ask Richard Cadena to join the TSC.

10 Other business

Lori Rubinstein described ESTA staff's exploration in engaging the help of companies that provide on-line, electronic voting services. She asked if we should continue to pursue this. The consensus was Yes.

11 Schedule for future meetings

It was announced that the next meeting will be Sunday, 27 January 2008, 09:00 to 13:00, at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott South in Ft. Worth, Texas. This is after the working group meetings, so the TSC will be able to act on anything that was passed at a meeting, rather than waiting for the next meeting cycle or approving things in anticipation of what a working group might do.

The USITT Conference will be in Houston, so that is where we will meet in March.

12 Adjournment

Bill Sapsis moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. There was no opposition. Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 16:39.

TSC Voting Membership and Contact Information as of Monday, 07 January 2008

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Eugene Leitermann	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.		P
Steve Terry	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.		P
Mitch Hefter	Entertainment Technology (Genlyte Group LLC)		P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1		P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.		P
Ken Vannice	Colortran (Leviton Manufacturing Co., Inc.)		P
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC		P
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA		P
Ron Bonner	PLASA		A
Bill Groener	PRG Systems Integration Group (PRG)		P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.		P
Richard Cadena	Projection, Light & Staging News (Timeless Communications Corp.)		P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A

TSC Advisory Board Membership and Contact Information

Name	Company	Voting status
David Johnson	Live Design (Penton Media)	O
Marian Sandberg	Live Design (Penton Media)	O
Mark Engel	Rosco Laboratories	O

**TSM's Report on TSP Projects
26 October 2007**

PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS WITH NO WORK NEEDED AT THIS TIME

Application Guide for ANSI E1.3 - 2001 Entertainment Technology Lighting Control Systems 0 to 10V Analog Control Specification (CPWG)

Camera crane operator's handbook (CCWG)

Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects, 4th edition (FSWG)

Nothing significant has happened in the field since this edition was published.

ANSI E1.1-2006, wire rope ladders revision (RWG)

ANSI E1.2-2006, aluminum towers and trusses revision (RWG)

ANSI E1.3 - 2001 (R2006), 0-10V analog control specification (CPWG)

ANSI E1.8-2005, speaker enclosures for rigging standard (RWG)

ANSI E1.9-2007, reporting photometric data revision (PHWG)

ANSI E1.14-2001 (R2007), Recommendations for Inclusions in Fog Equipment Manuals (FSWG)

ANSI E1.15-2006, boom & base assemblies (RWG)

ANSI E1.21-2006, portable roof systems (RWG)

ANSI E1.23-2006, general fog effect planning standard (FSWG)

ANSI E1.24-2006, pin connector intermatability standard (EPWG)

UL has proposed adding a reference to this standard in UL 498, Standard for Safety for Attachment Plugs and Receptacles, but the motion failed because the STP did not want to approve referencing the standard without having the standard be available for their review. On Monday, 22 October, I received an email that said:

"My name is Richard Olesen and work for Underwriter Laboratories, Inc. I am responsible for implementing and enforcing copyright policies on behalf of UL. I am writing to you seeking ESTA's authorization to use ANSI/ESTA E1.24 - 2006 for the purposes of distributing a draft of this document to our Standards development committee members of STP 498 for review purposes only."

So, I made a specially watermarked version of our \$40 standard that is watermarked "For STP 498 review purposes only" and sent it to him to distribute as needed to the folks working on UL's \$779 standard. I also asked for permission to distribute UL 998 to the eleven voting members of the Fog & Smoke Working Group for use in developing BSR E1.29. (See that project listed below.) On Thursday, October 25, I received a thank you and an assurance that a specially watermarked version of UL 998 would be sent to me in a few days. It arrived this morning.

ANSI E1.25-2006, flat-wall photometry basic conditions (PHWG)

ANSI E1.26-2006, floor energy absorption (FLWG)

ANSI E1.27-1-2006 (portable DMX512 cabling) (CPWG)

Appendix A

ANSI E1.35 - 2007, Lens Quality Measurements for Pattern Projecting Luminaires Intended for Entertainment Use (PHWG)

It was approved by ANSI on 10 October and it is now published. The download version includes EPS files of the test pattern in three popular sizes.

ANSI E1.36 - 2007, Model Procedure for Permitting the Use of Tungsten-Halogen Incandescent Lamps and Stage and Studio Luminaires in Vendor Exhibit Booths in Convention and Trade Show Exhibition Halls (PHWG)

It was approved by ANSI on 10 October and it is now published.

The completion of E1.35 and E1.36 leaves the Photometrics Working Group with no active projects.

PUBLISHED DOCUMENTS WITH WORK NEEDED

Recommended Practice for Ethernet Cabling Systems in Entertainment Lighting Applications and The Supplement to the Recommended Practice for Ethernet Cabling Systems in Entertainment Lighting Applications (CPWG)

These two documents are listed together because we now sell them bundled. The first is old and covers obsolete systems. The supplement builds on the first, so we haven't gotten rid of the first. The supplement also is old, and the working group has discussed revising it, but it's not obsolete yet for what it covers, which is 100 megabit/second systems. There are faster versions of Ethernet and wireless available now, and there are technical problems arising with the use of switches and broadcast messages, so there are issues that these documents do not address. We will need to do something soon, I think, but the CPWG is very busy with other projects now.

ANSI E1.5-2003, glycol and glycerin fog exposure standard (FSWG)

It's fifth anniversary will be in June 2008, so it is on the working group's agenda for reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal. The first choice is the most likely.

ANSI E1.17-2006, ACN (CPWG)

The portions of the document created by Philip Nye are not searchable on most computers. The fonts he used are two-byte Unicode fonts, and most people's Acrobat applications use one-byte ASCII in the search field. He's working on a solution.

Dan Antonuk says he has found some errors and is creating a list of errata.

ANSI E1.20-2006, Remote Device Management (CPWG)

Scott Blair has reported that a few problems have been found in the document, mainly with the examples in that the examples do not match the actual requirements. The consensus of the working group has been that a full list of errata should be developed.

ACTIVE PROJECTS

BSR E1.4, manual rigging systems (RWG)

The task group has drafted resolutions to the issues raised by the James L. Read, Jr. letter and considering them is on the RWG meeting agenda. The resolutions would require small but substantive changes to the BSR E1.4 document, so another public review would be needed.

BSR E1.6-1, powered winch hoist systems (RWG)

The last public review ran from 10 November 2006 through the end of the day UTC 25 December 2006. The task group is working on draft resolutions.

BSR E1.6-2, powered serially produced chain hoist systems (RWG)

The was is in public review through August 27 and garnered 11 comments. No comment resolution document has been drafted yet.

BSR E1.6-3, safe use of serial manufactured electric chain hoists in the entertainment industry (RWG)

The first draft is still being developed. It's been underway for less than a year, and the topic is fairly complex.

BSR E1.6-4, Control of Serially Manufactured Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry (RWG)

This project was created at the last RWG meeting. Peter Herrmann of Motion Labs is the task group leader. They have yet to have their first meeting.

ANSI E1.11-2004, DMX512-A recommended practice (CPWG)

PLASA's proposal to get this project done ran into trouble at the CPWG meeting. Bonner's plan to have James Eade be paid to write it was not well received by those who had volunteered to work on the project, although the volunteers apparently had done no work on the project. Eade's draft was sent to a task group of interested parties, who found it seriously wanting and predicted much work and a long process to get it right. I do not know if they are correct about the "seriously wanting," but their opposition guarantees the long process.

Steve Terry has suggested to me another way forward with this project that might work, and he is exploring this. It would result in two documents coming onto the market: a guide for the end-user, and a guide for the product developer. My opinion is that both would be useful. Clearly end-users need guidance, but product developers need it too. At the PLASA Control Protocols breakfast there was grumbling about new products that are not E1.11-compliant. DMX512 is a mature technology, so there is little excuse for people not understanding it, but they still don't.

BSR E1.11-20xx, DMX512-A revision (CPWG)

The revision process has started to correct errors in the document and to rework some confusing bits. I have proposed adding a means of sending messages in Unicode so that non-English messages can be supported. An Italian company has proposed expanding the protocol by adding "OpenDMX" to one of the Alternate START Codes. This ASC is registered to them now, since they are using it on their LED products. I don't think this proposal will be accepted. I hope that mine will.

ANSI E1.11-2004, DMX512-A in German (CPWG)

I have asked for an update on this project. It is still not published, and the revision project will make the existing translation obsolete soon.

Nothing has happened with DIN regarding their publication of a German recommended practice that references ANSI E1.11. The three DIN stage technology committee members who were supposed to join the CPWG as observer members have not done so yet. Hans Leiter of ETC, one of the DIN people with whom I met, is an observer member of the CPWG, but he seems to be unaware of the CPWG's work.

Chinese standard based on ANSI E1.11-2004, a project of CETA

CETA proposed a royalty payment schedule based on paying 2 yuan for each copy sold, with a projected sales in the first printing of 1000 copies at 20 yuan a copy. I don't think they will sell that many copies, and the payment over time would be an accounting nightmare. I proposed 250 yuan payable within 60 days of publication. They agreed.

ASC and manufacturer ID registration was a problem because any Chinese standard has to be administered by a Chinese organization. We agreed that ESTA will keep the database, but that CETA will be the clearing house for companies in the People's Republic of China. I avoided discussing Taiwanese companies, although I have discovered that many Taiwanese companies have partnerships with ROC companies; that is, the Taiwanese companies are outsourcing their manufacturing to mainland China.

BSR E1.12 camera crane standard (CCWG)

Work continues on this slowly, however, the plan that came out of the last working group meeting seems reasonable to me. A professional writer was hired by one of the crane companies to write a manual, and she will be working with Kent Jorgensen on the draft standard. They are essentially the task group. The next CCWG meeting needs to be scheduled. The group last met in early March. Another meeting was scheduled, but called off because Kent Jorgensen needed to spend time with his family due to an emergency there.

ANSI E1.16-2002, Configuration Standard for Metal Halide Ballast Power Cables (EPWG)

You approved the reaffirmation. The ESTA Board is voting by letter ballot on the motion to reaffirm the standard. The vote closes EOD October 31. Everyone has voted except David Taylor. When reminded, David Taylor wrote that he didn't have his ballot, so I resent the voting materials to him on October 25.

BSR E1.18, Recommended practice for selection, installation, and use of portable feeder cable (EPWG)

The last public review ended 28 August 2006. The task group has been working on possible comment resolutions, but the job isn't done yet. Progress is slow. Schedules have been set, but not followed.

BSR E1.19, Recommended practice for use of Class A GFCIs (EPWG)

It's public review ended July 30 and garnered 18 comments. The task group plans to work on drafting resolutions. Bob Luther said in an email that he didn't see any big problems in the comments.

BSR E1.22, fire safety curtain systems (RWG)

The last public review ran until the end of the day Monday, 12 March. The task group has drafted some proposed resolutions and a revised draft standard. The RWG will consider the resolutions and the revised draft standard at the next meeting.

BSR E1.27-2, permanent DMX512 cabling (CPWG)

The document is in public review through November 19.

BSR E1.28, followspot position planning guidance document (FPWG)

The working group is voting by letter ballot on the first review of the document. The ballot closes EOD November 13. I am scheduled to send out a voting reminder on October 29. Eight days into the voting period, only two people out of nine had voted, so I sent out an early reminder telling them that they need to vote; the motion will fail if less than a majority vote Yes. That netted one more vote, so now three out of nine have voted.

BSR E1.29, fog equipment product safety standard (FSWG)

The working group is making progress on this. The project had been to rewrite UL 998, Humidifiers, into a fog machine standard, but this has proven to be very slow and tedious. UL 998 is long and poorly written. The task group (me) abandoned that approach and wrote a nine-page document that references UL 998 - 2006 and then adds or modifies specific requirements. The working group now has a complete standard to consider at its next meeting. Also, the voters now have a copy of UL 998 - 2006, thanks to Richard Olesen at UL.

BSR E1.30, Application level equipment interoperability for control of commonly encountered entertainment technology devices using E1.17 (CPWG)

This is moving slowly, with the main author, Dan Antonuk, questioning whether we should be putting our effort into this right now. Some feel that ACN is useful now without additional interoperability profiles. There is no consensus on tabling or killing this project.

BSR E1.31, Lightweight streaming protocol for transport of DMX512 using ACN (CPWG)

The most recent public review ended EOD, March 19. Eight people commented, and offered 115 comments. The working group needs to resolve those comments, but I do not have a draft comment resolution document yet to send to the working group.

BSR E1.32, luminaire maintenance guidance (EPWG)

It was in public review through July 30. It received a total of 51 comments from three people.

BSR E1.33, RDM over ACN (CPWG)

Progress is slow, virtually non-existent. Effort has been focused on BSR E1.31.

BSR E1.34-200x, Entertainment Technology-Measuring and Specifying the Slipperiness of Floors Used in Live Performance Venues (FLWG)

The group has a draft document that is fundamentally in good shape, but the description of the drag sled to be used when shoe sole material is tested on a floor needs to be modified. There is a description in the draft standard, but it doesn't match the sled now being used. Also, the working group has been thinking about specifying the relative humidity for tests, but so far no text has been written for this requirement. Bob Scales has been doing most of the practical work, trying to figure out a simple way to drag the sled along the floor at a fairly constant speed and get force readings at various points along the path.

BSR E1.37, Additional Message Sets for ANSI E1.20, Remote Device Management (CPWG)

Work continues, but the same group that is working on this is working on BSR E1.31, so there is competition for resources.

OTHER THINGS OF NOTE

Steve Terry's two-year term leading the CPWG ends with this meeting cycle, and he has opted to not serve again. The working group has voted to recommend to the TSC that Michael Lay be appointed to serve as cochair with Tracy Underhill.

We have a proposal to start work on a standard with the working title "Recommended Practices and Tests for Fire Retardancy in Theatrical Productions." It comes from Tom Andrews of Turning Star, who has assembled a small working group consisting of himself, a representative from a fabric supplier, and a scenic construction house. He has submitted a standards request form (most people who contact me with an idea never follow through with the form) and he plans to be at the TSC meeting to present it and to answer questions. It looks like a good project to me. I plan to send the TSC an article from *ACTS FACTS* that Monona Rossol sent out to a diverse distribution list with the subject line "Unretarded theater curtains hung in 80 venues!" It shows that there is an issue here, and, in any case, it's interesting reading.

UL has started a Standards Technical Panel for LED light sources. I am on the panel. They have called a meeting for Tuesday, October 30, in Northbrook, Illinois. I plan to be there.

Respectfully submitted,



Karl G. Ruling
Technical Standards Manager

Appendix B

Report on SAE S10g HIL (High Intensity Light) Sub Committee Meeting, at the Civil Aerospace Medical Institute, Oklahoma City, September 11 thru 13, 2007

- Steve Rohring demonstrated the automated laser assessment program that is being developed. The projected laser beams can be plotted on aeronautical charts with this program, which is scheduled to be available for use in January 2008. The program will reduce the administrative time for completing laser aeronautical study assessments, which has been a source of complaints by laser proponents.
- Terry Lyons presented a review of the light measurements on several HIL sources during the off-quarter meeting for the HIL WG, which was held at Brooks-City Base in San Antonio, TX (November 2006) and at Sky-View Company in San Antonio (February 2007).
- Reviewed overflight of San Antonio April, 25, 2007 to measure impact of ground based searchlights provided by Sky-View.
- Reviewed videos taken during April 25, 2007 over flight.
- Worked on reporting requirements and set 250,000 as minimum reporting level for HIL's
- Worked on recommendations and revised document

Significant progress was made on the document. While as it exists after the meeting it still seems disorganized and has much unrelated material in it agreement has been reached on the recommendations all that remains is to clean it up and make a final review of the recommendations.

It was also agreed that there is no health hazard from HILs to normal aircraft operations as tests indicate that no health risks, for the HILs studied, existed beyond approximately 100 meters.

A significant amount of material is being moved to the Appendix.

Besides the lower reporting limit the major recommendations are:

RECOMMENDATIONS TO REGULATORY AGENCIES ON HIL DEVICES FOR IMPROVED AVIATION SAFETY:

1. Factors for consideration in an aeronautical study:
 - Stationary lights are difficult to see, especially in urban environments with traditional city lights
 - Small reflector HIL are more difficult to see
 - Higher power units are easier to see than lower power units
 - Rotating HILs have a short dwell time on aircraft
 - Tracking an aircraft can have significant visual effects
2. Training for HIL operator, including a list of concerns to aviation. (appendix XX)
3. Training is recommended for pilots so that they can differentiate between HIL and laser lights. This would also define mitigating factors that can diminish the risk from exposure. (Appendix XX on this training)

Appendix B

4. Timely reporting is needed to mitigate risk factors
5. Rulemaking on someone purposely shines a light (On an aircraft) needs to be prosecuted
6. HIL operations in the laser-free zone, as defined by SAE AS4970 should be avoided unless sufficient control measures are employed to mitigate any potential hazard.

The document as it exists today is included with this report as are some other documents that will be added as appendices.

The green background is sections that are complete except for final review. Yellow designates sections being worked on and committee members assigned to the work.

Note: The Jerry listed is the Jerry Wayne who is the owner of Sky-View, not I.

Except the description of the laser free zone most, if not all, of the laser material will be deleted.

An off-quarter meeting for the HIL Working Group is being planned for the beginning of the year in either Washington, DC, or San Antonio, TX. The winter meeting of the SAE G-10 is scheduled for February 4-8, 2008, in Melbourne Beach, FL.

Jerry Gorrell