

Minutes
Technical Standards Council
Wednesday, 19 November 2014
Westgate Las Vegas Resort & Casino
Las Vegas, NV

Presiding Chairpersons:

Mike Garl; Mike Garl Consulting LLC; P
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P

Recording Secretaries: Karl G. Ruling and Erin Grabe; PLASA NA; exf

Members in attendance:

Matthew Antonucci; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; P
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; USITT; P
Mitch Hefter; Mitch Hefter; P
A. Scott Hoyt; PLASA NA Treasurer; Heartland Scenic Studio; exf
Fred Kosiewski; Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment; Walt Disney Company; P
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P
Jules Lauve ; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P
David E. Miller; Walt Disney Parks & Creative Entertainment; Walt Disney Company; A
Eddie Raymond; IATSE Local 16 (PLASA NA Chairman); P
Alan M. Rowe; IATSE Local 728; IATSE Crafts Advancement Program ; P
Lori Rubinstein; PLASA NA; exf
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; P
Larry Schoeneman; DesignLab Chicago, Inc.; P
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P
Ken Vannice; P

Visitors present:

Randy L. Fox; Walt Disney Company
Paul Beasley; Walt Disney Company
William Greeley; InCord
Michael Lay; Philips
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company
Scott Taylor; Taylor & Taylor
Roger L. Lattin; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728
Kent Sorgensen; I.A.T.S.E.
David Saltiel; Golan & Christie LLP

1 Opening remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 2:11pm. He reminded everyone to speak up in such a large room, and he thanked everyone for taking time out of their schedules for this work. He then thanked the organizations behind the people, and lastly, he asked everyone to silence their electronic-communication devices.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Taking attendance

A bright yellow sheet was passed clockwise for all to sign.

2.2 Welcome to visitors

2.3 Introductions

Self-introductions took place counter-clockwise, while the sign-in sheet was being passed.

2.4 Call for quorum

Mike Garl announced a quorum present by a count of voters' raised hands.

2.5 Consensus body

The full consensus body of this group at the time of this meeting, including those not present, was:

Name	Representing	Voting Status
Jules Lauve	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P
Kimberly Corbett Oates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Eugene Leitermann	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
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
Louis Bradfield	USITT	A
Fred Kosiewski	Walt Disney Company	P
David E. Miller	Walt Disney Company	A
Total votes possible:		14
Key to Voting Status: P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter		

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

See *TSCmin07-2014.pdf*

Bill Sapsis moved to approve the minutes of the July meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by 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 Garl:

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.

Mike Garl noted that a patent issue will be handled as agenda item 8.2.

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

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

PLASA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws.

Therefore, during this meeting and during all PLASA 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 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 a PLASA meeting, please bring your concern to PLASA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the PLASA staff.

Erin Grabe held up the pamphlet for all to see. Nothing was reported or brought to light.

6 Approval of agenda

Steve Terry added an item under new business: Strengthening the P&P vis-a-vis patent issues.

Ken Vannice moved that the amended agenda be approved. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands.

7 Old business and standing reports

7.1 Financial reports

7.1.1 Treasurer's Report and Status of Contributions and Pledges

From the draft July minutes:

The Council then agreed to put together a task group that will consider how money is spent, and where there might be savings. The task group members appointed are: Steve Terry, Jules Lauve, Larry Schoeneman, and Eddie Kramer. It was agreed to begin these efforts the week of August 4.

Scott Hoyt noted that the financial report was sent out. He noted that the financial situation was bad in July, but is now looking better. He reminded the council that senior staff have taken a 10% pay cut, and that Karl Ruling's office is being sublet for \$800.00/month.

Lori Rubinstein reported that the budget has been cut and that a fund-raising committee was set up with a targeted list of donors and potential donors be contacted. Committee members have started to make calls, but the committee needs help, more people to make calls and ask for money. The larger council is needed to help. She announced that a brief task group meeting will be taking place after this meeting, and that they will contact people for more help.

David Saltiel reported that ANSI E1.21 was recently distributed to all attendees of an American Bar Association event.

Lori Rubinstein added that the Technical Standards Program is gaining exposure.

7.1.2 Accounting of TSP documents sold

See *Sales Report for TSC_11-2014.pdf* (forthcoming).

Mike Garl reported that the report states how many documents were sold, and Lori Rubinstein updated the group on the fact that as of this morning, just over 27,300 standards had been downloaded.

7.2 CEN committee update

No report directly from

Mike Garl mentioned that, at the Board meeting, it was reported that the CEN committee had met in Berlin and agreed to meet again. Lori Rubinstein added that Germany and the UK were the only ones to send full delegates to the meeting. She read from Ron Bonner's report, which concludes with the group committing to meet again.

7.3 Old Business

7.3.1 TSM's report

See *PrjctsSmmry2014-11.pdf*.

7.3.1.1 Report on status of documents: ones in process, ones stable, ones needing action or of concern

7.3.1.2 Working group documents for possible action by the TSC

7.3.1.2.1 Public reviews

All working groups, except Fog & Smoke, meet after the TSC. The F&S Working Group may consider a reaffirmation, which does not require TSC approval for the public review. Any motions to approve public reviews will be done by letter ballot after this meeting.

Karl Ruling reported that the Fog & Smoke Working Group moved to reaffirm E1.23, and that they're looking at revising the Introduction to Modern Atmospherics document.

7.3.1.2.2 New projects

7.3.1.2.2.1 Equity request for help with falling equipment

*See *Equity-EquipmentFallProtection.pdf*. Would the TSC like to direct this to a particular working group? It is on the Photometrics and Rigging agendas.*

Eddie Kramer stated his case for a project such as this to be handled within the Electrical Power Working Group. Mike Garl suggested that it should be added to the EPWG agenda, making a total of three working groups with this item on their agenda (CPWG, EPWG, and Photometrics).

7.3.1.2.2.2 Other new projects

None.

7.3.2 TSP Marketing

Erin Grabe spoke about Standards on Stage, taking place in the PLASA booth during the show.

7.3.3 Making the TSP be more international

The Fog and Smoke meeting was successful, Erin Grabe reported. There was discussion of meeting scheduling with regard to CPWG, Photometrics, and RWG having to be morning meetings.

7.3.4 Review of action items from last meeting not covered above

Stage scenery article for Dramatics. Was it an action item? See the minutes of the last TSC meeting.

Jules Lauve reported that ASTC would not be interested in pursuing this item. It will be removed from the TSC agenda.

8 New business

8.1 Should the TSC have to approve subsequent public reviews?

Mike Wood spoke about the possibility of removing TSC approval of subsequent public reviews from the P&P. The group discussed the reasoning for the approval.

Steve Terry spoke to the possibility of misguided documents, comments, and comment resolutions, which the TSC has a responsibility to protect.

Eddie Kramer spoke along lines similar to Steve Terry's comment. The consensus of the group is to continue to approve all public reviews from the working groups. The TSC will retain the right to approve public reviews, due to the nature of ensuring that comments are handled appropriately, which is largely what ANSI-auditors look for, added Karl Ruling.

8.2 Patenting PLASA standards

See US_Pat_8879924.pdf and E1-45_2013.pdf. The patent is for one use of E1.45 that is specifically identified in the standard. Three of the inventors listed on the patent are CPWG members, and one inventor has submitted an application to join at the November 20 meeting.

Steve Terry spoke. He noted that the patent is arguably invalid, and added that there is good US case law with similar actions (RAMBUS) which led to law suits. It was noted that our P&P doesn't address this. There was further discussion among the group as to the exact time-lines and events surrounding the proposed draft standard versus the patent application processes.

Steve Terry moved that the TSC direct the CPWG to begin the process of withdrawing E1.45, per section 16 of the P&P. The motion was seconded and approved by a unanimous show of hands. The exact reason for this TSC directive being that the named inventors who participated in the E1.45 process did not disclose that they had applied for patents in both Korea and the United States at any time during the process.

Eddie Kramer moved that the TSC direct the CPWG to cease work on BSR E1.37-3. The motion was seconded. The group discussed the fact that this draft standard has no value without E1.45. The motion was approved by a unanimous show of hands.

Steve Terry then moved that the ETRI members of the CPWG be censured and barred from participating in the Technical Standards Program. The motion was seconded and discussed. The group consensus is that the members be invited to appear before the TSC, to explain why they should not be censured and barred from participation. The motion passed by a unanimous show of hands.

8.3 P&P revisions to cover patents

Karl Ruling noted that there is need to revise our patent policy to conform to the new ANSI Essential Requirements beginning in January. They will be revised to include patents, patent applications, or intent to patent.

8.3 Other new business

9 Optional Reports

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

9.1.1 Control Protocols

Michael Lay noted that there is no additional information that the project report didn't cover.

9.1.2 Electrical Power

Mitch Hefter reported that E1.51 comment period closed and that there are 149 comments to resolve.

9.1.3 Floors

Jerry Gorrell addressed the group and noted that there is more work to be done in the stage-edges project and the consideration of the float-project by the working group.

9.1.4 Fog and Smoke

Larry Schoeneman reported. Vaping and e-cigarettes are the only issues being discussed. He reported that Karl Ruling and Matt DeLong are looking at possible changes to the Intro. to Modern Atmospheric.

9.1.5 Followspot Position

Erin Grabe reported that the group is in maintenance mode but will meet in March 2015 at USITT.

9.1.6 Photometrics

Jerry Gorrell reported that there are two active projects, BSR E1.55 Makeup Mirror Lighting & BSR E1.54 PLASA Color Specification Standard.

9.1.7 Rigging

Bill Sapsis reported that both BSR E1.39 PFAS, and BSR E1.43 Performer Flying, had come to the comment resolution stage.

Bill Sapsis then noted the problem of working group members not commenting until the public review period, which will be discussed at the meeting tonight (19 November).

9.1.8 Stage Lifts

Karl Ruling reported that the group has not met in several months, and they have yet to resolve teh comments from the last public review.

9.2 Reports of affiliated organizations and PLASA EU

9.2.1 ASTC

Jules Lauve reported on the ASTC's annual conference, held in L.A. this year, focusing on emerging technologies.

He then noted that the student mentoring with USITT was a very fulfilling experience, and that they will be taking part again.

9.2.2 NFPA

9.2.2.1 FDW-AAA committee

Jerry Gorrell reported that the ballot was yet pending and that no major changes were expected. Dan Culhane went to to second meeting at the end of September as an Alternate.

9.2.2.2 SPE-AAA

Karl Ruling reported on the last meeting, which took place online for much of one day.

9.2.2.3 SAF-AXM

Jerry Gorrell reported that the Life Safety Code received no public comments as of yet. If no public comments are received there may be no meetings. The changes to be made deal with deleting references.

9.2.2.4 NEC

Ken Vannice reported that the comment period had closed and that the resolution meeting would be in Hilton Head in January 2015. Many members of Code Panel 15 are on the TSC. Steve Terry suggested that PLASA could apply for representation. There was some discussion as to the need for that, and the consensus was probably not.

9.2.3 PLASA EU

Lori Rubinstein reported that Ron Bonner has spoken to BSI with regard to a wire rope ladder standard. If taken up, ANSI E1.1 Wire Rope Construction standard will be used as a base.

Lori Rubinstein also spoke to the CDM regulations, for which nearly half of all comments received were from the entertainment industry. These comments were labeled a "campaign" and removed entirely. The TSC will be updated when a decision has been made on the application of the CDM regulations to the entertainment industry.

Jerry Gorrell added that OSHA has always considered the putting in of a show as construction.

9.2.4 USITT

Jerry Gorrell reported that registration for the 2015 Conference is open and going well.

10 Other business

10.1 Rigging International Code of Practice

Lori Rubinstein reported that some volunteers have done quite a bit of work, and that some are a bit slower to contribute. The USA and Austral-Asia team have been working well.

10.2 UL 1088

Karl Ruling reported that he had applied and was accepted last week.

10.3 Council member attendance at CPWG

Mike Wood will attend the CPWG on behalf of the Council.

10.4 Above & Beyond Award

Michael Lay reported that word has gotten out about the award, and thanked all who contributed to that.

10.5 Jay Glerum event

Lori Rubinstein invited people to join in remembering Jay Glerum on Friday, 21 November.

11 Schedule for future meetings

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled to take place at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, 35 West Fifth Street, Cincinnati, Ohio, in conjunction with the USITT Conference and Stage Expo. It was noted that the weekend of July 23-25 was reserved for the summer meetings at the Marriott Solana.

Mike Garl added some dates and places of note, including October 23, 24, 25 for LDI next year, USITT 2016 in Salt Lake City, and 2016 NATEAC in New York.

12 Adjournment

Bill Sapsis moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded. Hearing no objections, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 16:48.

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	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	USITT	P
Erin Grabe	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf
Matthew Griffiths	PLASA EU	PLASA EU	exf
Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	Mitch Hefter	P
A. Scott Hoyt	PLASA NA Treasurer	Heartland Scenic Studio	exf
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	Nextstage Design	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A
Katie McCulloh	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf
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
Lori Rubinstein	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf
Karl G. Ruling	PLASA NA	PLASA NA	exf

Name	Company	Representing	Voting Status
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 voter

A = Alternate voter

exf = ex officio (staff), non-voting