

Minutes
**Floors Working Group
via WebEx**
Tuesday 18 January 2022
15:00 – 17:00 EST (UTC -5 hours)

Chairpersons:

Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks; P; MP (presiding)
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; U

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P; G
Michael Skinner; AMPTP; P; U
Bruce Darden; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; P; MP
Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks; P; MP
Stephen Spendiff; Rosco Laboratories; P; MP
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; P; U
Karl G. Ruling; Unit 12 Productions; I; DE
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; U

Visitors:

Eddie Kramer

1 Opening remarks

Tim Hansen called the meeting to order at 15:04, welcoming everyone to the meeting, and thanking them for attending.

2 ESTA declarations

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Tim Hansen 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 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 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 the pamphlet in front of his camera, for all video-enabled attendees to see.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

Tim Hansen 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.

Bruce Darden reminded everyone that the company he represents owns patents on certain tension grid elements, which he had openly disclosed in the original new project request. He stated that there were no conflicts between those patents and the draft standard currently in development.

3 Attendance and Membership

3.1 Requirements for membership

Tim Hansen read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

Membership is open to all parties who are affected by the work of the group; membership in ESTA is not a requirement, but there is a \$100/person/year participation fee to help fund running the Technical Standards Program. Voting members are required to attend meetings. Any principal member and alternate that both miss three consecutive meetings or that miss three consecutive letter ballots will have their membership status changed to observer; either class of inaction shall result in a loss of voting status. This action will be taken at the beginning of the first meeting after such inaction and will be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

3.2 Introduction of attendees

3.3 Determination of a quorum

Karl Ruling confirmed that the requirements for both a quorum and a supermajority were met.

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

There were none.

3.5 Changes to observer status due to lack of participation

None.

3.6 Consensus body

Delegate	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P	G
Michael Skinner	AMPTP	P	U
Steve Gough	Harlequin Corporation	P	MP
Kasper Nyboe	Harlequin Corporation	A	MP
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	MP
Tim Hansen	Oasis Stage Werks	P	MP
Stephen Spendiff	Rosco Laboratories	P	MP
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	U
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	I	DE
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	P	U
Total votes possible:		10	
Votes by interest category	Custom market producer (CP):		0
	Designer (DE):		1
	Dealer or rental company (DR):		0
	General interest (G):		2

	Mass-market producer (MP):	4
	User (U):	3

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

See FLmin09-2021_DRAFT.pdf

Bruce Darden moved to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstentions.

5 Approval of agenda

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

6 Old business

6.1 ANSI E1.26 - 2006 (R2017), shock absorption of floors

Any news or action now? Action needed by 23 February 2022—and that's soon!

Karl Ruling of Unit 12 productions moved to reaffirm the existing standard. The motion was seconded and will be decided by letter ballot, which will be issued after the prerequisite public review. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI.

6.2 ANSI E1.34 - 2009 (R2019) floor slipperiness

No news or action.

6.3 ANSI E1.46 - 2018, Recommended Practice for the Prevention Of Falls from Theatrical Stages and Raised Performance Platforms

No news or action.

6.4 ANSI E1.57 – 2016 (R2021), Recommendations to prevent performer and technician falls on or off movable parade floats, movable stages, and similar moving platforms (reaffirmation of 2016 edition)

No news or action.

6.5 ANSI E1.60 - 2018, Guidelines for the use of raked stages in live performance environments

No news or action.

6.6 ANSI E1.62 - 2021, Minimum specifications for mass-produced portable platforms, ramps, stairs, and choral risers for live performance events

No news or action.

6.7 BSR E1.76, Wire rope tension grids

First draft progress update. How's it going?

A progress draft was sent to the working group five days prior to the meeting. Bruce Darden reported that more than half of the draft contains language from the E1.62 portable platform standard, which he had used as a template for this draft, so some of it will look familiar, though some of it also may not be applicable. The parts that were clearly not applicable were deleted. He had decided to keep the rest intact for the group to decide what to do with, suggesting that it was easier to delete than to try and rewrite them back into the draft afterwards.

He said he had already received a few informal comments from Richard Nix, and had a few of his own thoughts and questions, all of which which he reviewed with the group in great detail. His report addressed both his thought process and reasoning behind why some things were present in the document, and brought forward questions he had for the group to answer, as a whole. He said he had never seen a tension wire step unit before, so perhaps the wording about step units, taken from the portable platforms standard, should be removed. He noted that he had a bias towards 1/8" wire rope, but suggested that the standard be open to other wire rope sizes, if they are appropriate.

He asked for help from Jerry Gorrell (his other task group member) and from other working group members. He asked that all feedback from the group be returned to him by no later than 01 February, so it can be incorporated into a new draft before the March meeting.

7 New business

None.

8 Other business & announcements

8.1 Above & Beyond Award

People were reminded that the nomination form is at https://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_nomination.html. Past recipients are listed at https://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html.

8.2 Other other business & announcements

None.

9 Schedule for future meetings

The full meeting schedule may be found at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. (It's also available at <https://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings2.php>, and that version adjusts for your time zone.)

The next meeting is planned to be face-to-face, but will have WebEx access, starting at 14:00 Eastern Time on Wednesday 02 March, in conjunction with USITT in Baltimore MD. The exact location of the face-to-face meeting is to be determined. The ESTA meeting web-page says it will be at the Hilton Baltimore Inner Harbor, but USITT's contract with that hotel has been cancelled, so we will have no meetings there.

The Summer meetings will occur in conjunction with the 2022 NAMMShow, the week of 30 May 2022, back in Anaheim, CA. The schedule has not yet been set.

10 Adjournment

All agenda business complete and with no further business brought forth, Tim Hansen declared the meeting adjourned at 15:36.

Members as 18 January 2022

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Robert Barbagallo	Solotech Inc.	O	DR
Patricia Basileo	Harlequin Corporation	O	MP
Justin Bennett	University of the Incarnate Word	O	U
Bob Dagger	Harlequin Corporation	O	MP
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	MP
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	P	U
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	U
Steve Gough	Harlequin Corporation	P	MP
Tim Hansen	Oasis Stage Werks	P	MP
Robert Haycock	UC Berkeley	O	U
Pete Menzel	Wenger Corp.	O	MP
Kasper Nyboe	Harlequin Corporation	A	MP
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	I	DE
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Mike Skinner	Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers	P	U
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P	G
Stephen Spendiff	Rosco Laboratories	P	MP
Jeong Sik Yoo	Ghost LX	O	DE

Key to codes:

P	Principal voter	CP	Custom-market producer
A	Alternate voter	DE	Designer
I	Individual voter	DR	Dealer/Rental company
O	Observer, non-voter	G	General interest
		MP	Mass-market producer
exf	ex officio, staff	U	User