

**Minutes**  
**Floors Working Group**  
Friday 06 October 2023  
Marriott D/FW Westlake, Westlake, TX

**Chairpersons:**

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

**Recording secretary:**

Richard Nix (ESTA)

**Attendees:**

Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P; G  
William Gillett; Walt Disney Company; P; U  
Steven Serafin; The Hartford Group; P; G  
Mike Skinner; Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers; P; U  
Nathan Wilkinson; Actors' Equity Association; A; G  
Nathaniel Conlin; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; A; DR  
Michael Freeman; Texas Scenic Company; P; MP  
Jane Harrington, ARM; The Hartford Group; O; G

**1 Opening remarks**

Tim Hansen called the meeting to order at 13:03, welcoming everyone and thanking them for taking time to attend.

**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.*

Richard Nix held up the pamphlet for all 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.*

Nothing was revealed.

**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. Now applications shall not be processed until after the participation fee has been paid. 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

The voting body as of today's meeting is 12. A quorum is five. A supermajority vote requires at least seven.

Richard Nix confirmed that both requirements had been met.

### 3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

As of today's meeting, the following applications have been received:

Marcos Perez; Marcos Perez; O; U

Steve Serafin moved to approve the application. The motion was seconded and carried without objection.

### 3.5 Changes to observer status due to lack of participation

The following voting members have missed the last two meetings, so their status will be changed to Observer if not present at this meeting:

~~Texas Scenic Company: Michael Freeman~~  
Unit 12 Productions: Karl Ruling

Karl Ruling was not present, so his status was changed as noted.

### 3.6 Consensus body

This is the consensus body after today's meeting actions:

Delegate	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P	G
M. Nathan Wilkinson	Actors' Equity Association	A	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
Shannon Nickerson	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	DR
Nathaniel Conlin	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	DR
Michael Freeman	Texas Scenic Company	P	MP
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Jane Harrington, ARM	The Hartford Group	A	G
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	U
William Gillett	Walt Disney Company	P	U
<b>Total votes possible:</b>		<b>11</b>	

<b>Votes by interest category</b>	Custom market producer (CP):	0
	Designer (DE):	0
	Dealer or rental company (DR):	1
	General interest (G):	2
	Mass-market producer (MP):	5
	User (U):	3

#### **4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting**

See *FLmin07-2023\_DRAFT.pdf*

Bill Gillett moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried without objection.

#### **5 Approval of agenda**

Mike Skinner moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried without objections.

#### **6 Old business**

**6.1 ANSI E1.26 - 2006 (R2022), shock absorption of floors** (action due in 2027)

**6.2 ANSI E1.34 - 2009 (R2019) floor slipperiness** (action due in March of 2024)

*The working group has two meetings, including today, to decide which action to take.*

Mike Skinner moved to reaffirm. The motion was seconded. A BSR8 will be filed, with the public review following soon thereafter. The letter ballot will follow the public review provided there are no actionable comments to address.

**6.3 ANSI E1.46 – 2018 (R202x), Recommended Practice for the Prevention Of Falls from Theatrical Stages and Raised Performance Platforms** (reaffirmation)

*It's published!*

Jerry Gorrell said he's had three consecutive cases that were all settled without trial, by using this standard.

**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. Action needed in 2026.)

**6.5 BSR E1.60 - 202x, Guidelines for the use of raked stages in live performance environments**

*It's open for revision. Any news or action?*

Steve Serafin said they have not met yet, but will have something to report by the next meeting.

**6.6 ANSI E1.62 - 2021, Minimum specifications for mass-produced portable platforms, ramps, stairs, and choral risers for live performance events** (action needed in 2026)

**6.7 BSR E1.76, Wire rope tension grids**

*By the time this working group meets, the public review will have ended on 26 September.*

Tim Hansen said that there were no public review comments.

Steve Serafin moved to approve as an ANS. The motion was seconded. A letter ballot will be issued.

#### **7 New business**

## **8 Other business & announcements**

### **8.1 Above & Beyond Award**

Attendees are reminded that the nomination form is at [https://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award\\_nomination.html](https://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_nomination.html). Past recipients are listed at [https://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award\\_recipients.html](https://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html).

### **8.2 Other other business & announcements**

### **9 Schedule for future meetings**

The full meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The winter meetings will return to Anaheim, CA, in conjunction with the NAMM Show 2024, the week of 22 January 2024. Spring meetings will be held in Seattle, WA in conjunction with USITT during the week of 18 March 2024. The Summer meetings will be held just prior to the NATEAC convention in NYC, during the week of 08 July 2024. The Fall meetings will likely return to Westlake, TX.

Tim Hansen said we will schedule a working group meeting for January.

Richard Nix said that the NATEAC planning committee is actively seeking presentation ideas for the July conference. Those interested in submitting a presentation proposal can do so by going to the ESTA home page and clicking on the NATEAC icon, which is a direct link to the proposal submittal form.

### **10 Adjournment**

The agenda business being complete, no further business brought forth, Tim Hansen declared the meeting adjourned at 13:22

Floors Working Group Members as of 06 October 2023

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Robert Barbagallo	Solotech Inc.	O	DR
Justin Bennett	University of the Incarnate Word	O	U
Nathaniel Conlin#	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	DR
Bob Dagger	Harlequin Corporation	O	MP
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	MP
Michael Freeman	Texas Scenic Company	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
Jane Harrington, ARM	The Hartford Group	O	G
Robert Haycock	Robert Haycock	O	U
Shannon Nickerson	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	DR
Kasper Nyboe	Harlequin Corporation	A	MP
Marcos Vicente Perez	Marcos Perez	O	U
Marco Robles	I.A.T.S.E. Local 80	O	G
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	O	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
Nathan Wilkinson	Actors' Equity Association	A	G
Jeong Sik Yoo	Ghost LX	O	DE