

Minutes
Followspot Position Working Group Meeting
Thursday, 13 July 2006
Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott South
Ft. Worth, Texas

Presiding chairman: Robin Crews; Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.; P; G

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending: Chip Purchase; Jones Hall (Foundation for Jones Hall); P; U
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P; U
Fred Lindauer; Robert Juliat USA (Robert Juliat SA); P; MP
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; O; U
William L. Maiman; I; G

Visitors: None

1 Opening remarks

Robin Crews banged a tumbler on the table and called the meeting to order at 19:04.

2 Patent and Anti-Trust statements

2.1 Patent statement

Robin Crews 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 or copyright or other 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."

No patent or copyright issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

2.2 Anti-trust statement

Robin Crews read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

"The ESTA Board of Directors, the Technical Standards Committee, and the leadership of this working group 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 TSC chair or 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 some of the easy-to-read pamphlets. No restraint of trade issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

3 Attendance & membership

3.1 Introductions

3.2 Taking attendance

A green attendance sign-in sheet was circulated.

3.3 Requirements for membership

Crews reminded those present that membership in the working group is open to all who are affected by the work of the group. Voting members are required to attend meetings and to vote on letter ballots. Voting members and their alternates may not miss three consecutive meetings without a loss of voting status.

3.4 Determination of quorum

Crews noted that five voting members were present, which constituted a quorum. Business could be conducted.

3.5 Processing of new membership requests

There was none to process.

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

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Jack Schmidt	Special Lighting Solutions	Ballantyne of Omaha, Inc.	P	MP
Chip Purchase	Jones Hall	Foundation for Jones Hall	P	U
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Richard Logothetis	Lycian Stage Lighting	Lycian Stage Lighting	P	MP
Fred Lindauer	Robert Juliat USA	Robert Juliat SA	P	MP
Steve Rust	Sachs Morgan Studio	Sachs Morgan Studio	P	G
Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	I	U
Shawn Nolan	Entertainment Structures Group	Steven Schaefer Associates	P	G
William L. Maiman	William L. Maiman	William L. Maiman	I	G
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	P	G
		Total votes possible	10	
		Votes by interest category	3	MP
			0	CP
			0	DR
			3	U
			4	G

4 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Fred Lindauer moved that the minutes of the previous meeting (FP/2006-9003) be approved as written. The motion was seconded and then approved with a voice vote.

5 Approval of agenda

Fred Lindauer moved that the draft agenda be accepted. The motion was seconded and then approved with a voice vote.

6 Old Business—Task group reports

There was a quick review of the task group reports (architectural, structural, electrical, ventilation), but there was no significant news in these task group reports. Instead, Crews circulated the draft document as it exists now (Outline revision 2-06 DRAFT 1.doc) and an earlier discussion document

(FSPWG-O-12 05 03 6 w-rc.doc). He said that he did not want to completely review or rewrite what has been done, but he asked that the working group consider if the current document is adequately solving the problem or problems that were originally identified.

The group expressed a desire to keep the document simple. However, the problems we are trying address should be blindingly obvious, but people in the market do not seem to be able to see them. Therefore, a bit more detail, but not numbing detail, is warranted, since the need for guidance has been demonstrated.

There was a long discussion of access for people with disabilities. The group felt that access designed to serve people in wheelchairs would facilitate moving equipment into place and the movement of able-bodied workers carrying tools. However, it was asked if our document should spell out the details of ADA-compliant design, simply suggest that ADA compliance is desirable, or spell out what is needed for equipment and laden-worker movement and perhaps add the note that a followspot operator may be a person with reduced mobility? It was suggested that the document should simply reference ICC/ANSI A117.1, Standard on Accessible and Usable Buildings and Facilities.

The names of the types of followspot booths was discussed. "Type one" et cetera is not very descriptive. Are there layman's terms that can be used? There was a long discussion, with the conclusion being we should think about some way to make the rationale for the type classifications clear.

There was a discussion of the angles section in 3.1. Some wording needs to be added to explain what the angle is. The vector is the center of the followspot beam, but where is the point that the followspot beam is lighting? It has been said that the default focus point is five feet off the floor, 10' upstage from the proscenium line, but this definition is not very clear when dealing with an arena or some other venue that does not have proscenium line.

There was discussion of equipment access and it was decided that the minimum should be 42" wide on catwalk and 72" vertical clearance. Karl Ruling strongly suggested that wire rope ladders should not be used at all for access to permanent positions. Chip Purchase suggested that ladders of any type are inappropriate. Stairs and ramps, supplemented with elevators (if funding allows), are the way to go.

There was a brief discussion of the recommendations on booth windows. The opening needs to be large enough to not obstruct the beam. The window material, if used, also needs to be positioned so that reflection does not blind the operator and the material does not distort the light beam or create secondary light beams that might distract the audience. Working group members said that they thought a section warning against the use of projector ports is not needed. We also then don't need a definition of "port."

There was a discussion of the electrical section and the connector specification.

Most of the heat load section needs to be turned into informative annex. The body of the document should briefly state what needs to be considered as the heat load.

A recurring topic of discussion was the need for a good wordsmith to organize the document and to refine the language. Much of the grammar is not good, and the tone is inconsistent.

7 New Business

The working group tentatively identified Richard Nix as the wordsmith for the document. Robin Crews will discuss the project with him.

8 Other Business

None.

9 Schedule of future meetings

Karl Ruling stated that he had figured, working from a past meeting schedule, that the next meeting would be 18:00 to 21:00 on Saturday, 21 October 2006, at the Las Vegas Hilton hotel next to the Las Vegas Convention Center, and so he had put that on the agenda as an announcement. However, in fact, no meeting has been scheduled.

The consensus was that there should be no meeting at LDI. The document is hard to read at this point, so it really needs to be rewritten to be critiqued further. The group felt that this probably would not be done until January, and if it is done before LDI, the task groups could meet informally to go over their respective sections.

Fred Lindauer moved that the next formal meeting of the working group be in January 2007. The motion was seconded and then approved with a voice vote

10 Changes of voting status

The following voting member has missed more than two of the previous consecutive meetings, and will be moved to observer status if this meeting is also missed.

None.

11 Adjournment

Eddie Kramer moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded and then approved with a voice vote. Robin Crews announced that the meeting was adjourned at 21:56.

Working Group Membership and Contact Information as of 27 July 2006

Name	Company	Representing (The primary sort field.)	Voting status	Int. cat.
Jack Schmidt	Special Lighting Solutions	Ballantyne of Omaha, Inc.	P	MP
Chip Purchase	Jones Hall	Foundation for Jones Hall	P	U
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Edward Paget	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.	O	G
Richard Logothetis	Lycian Stage Lighting	Lycian Stage Lighting	P	MP
Richard J. Nix	Performance Systems Integration	Performance Systems Integration	O	G
Fred Lindauer	Robert Juliat USA	Robert Juliat SA	P	MP
Steve Rust	Sachs Morgan Studio	Sachs Morgan Studio	P	G
Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	I	U
Shawn Nolan	Entertainment Structures Group	Steven Schaefer Associates	P	G
John Tedesco	The Phoebus Company, Inc.	The Phoebus Company, Inc.	O	MP
Curtis Kasefang	Theatre Consultants Collaborative, LLC	Theatre Consultants Collaborative, LLC	O	CP
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	O	U
Richard D. Thompson	Thompson Associates	Thompson Associates	O	G
William L. Maiman	William L. Maiman	William L. Maiman	I	G
Robin Crews	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	Wrightson, Johnson, Haddon & Williams, Inc.	P	G

Key to codes:

P	principal	MP	mass-market producer
A	alternate	CP	custom-market producer
I	individual	DR	dealer or rental company
O	observer	U	user
		G	general interest