

Minutes
Fog & Smoke Working Group
Friday 26 January 2024
Wyndham Anaheim

Chairpersons:

Stephen Vanciel; Stephen Vanciel; I; G (Presiding)
Karl G. Ruling; Unit 12 Productions; I; CP

Recording secretaries:

Richard Nix and Karl Ruling (ESTA)

Attendees:

Jeff Egan; NBC Universal; O; U
Clark James; Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO); P; U
Chris Moulton; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; A; U
Margaret Burke, MPH; Warner Brothers Discovery; P; U
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P; G
Nathan Wilkinson; Actors' Equity Association; A; G

1 Opening Remarks

Steve Vanciel called the meeting to order at 10:05. He noted that there were three people in the room and all the rest on line.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Steve Vanciel 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 or will not 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 an 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 held up the pamphlet.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

Steve Vanciel 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

Steve Vanciel read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

Membership in ESTA is not a requirement, but there is a \$100/person/year participation fee to help fund the costs of running the Technical Standards Program. New applications shall not be processed until the

participation fee is paid. Voting members are required to attend meetings and vote on letter ballots. 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. 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 5 January is eleven. A quorum is four voting members, a supermajority is six voting members.

Richard Nix announced that we have majority of the voters present.

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

Chris Markgraf, Froggy’s Fog LLC, P, (was not present so approved as Observer)

Karl Ruling moved to approve his application as Observer, because he was not present. Seconded. Carried.

3.5 Changes to observer status for inactivity

The following voting entities’ representatives have missed two consecutive meetings. Their status will be changed to Observer if they are not present at this meeting:

Marco Robles; IATSE Local 80; User

He was not present, so his status was changed accordingly.

3.6 Consensus body after all changes resulting from meeting action.

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Keith Sklar	Actors’ Equity Association	P	G
M. Nathan Wilkinson	Actors’ Equity Association	A	G
Clark James	Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO)	P	U
Mona Shum	Aura Health and Safety Corporation	I	U
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	U
Chris Moulton	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	U
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	U
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	DE
Dean Wilson	Look Solutions, USA	P	MP
Daniel Ayers	StageRight Services LLC	P	DE
Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	P	DE
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	I	CP
Margaret Burke	Warner Brothers Discovery Park	P	U
Total votes possible		10	
Custom market producer	Votes by interest category	1	CP
Designer		2	DE
Dealer/Rental company		0	DR
General interest		2	G
Mass marker producer		1	MP
User		4	U

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

See *FSmin10-2023_DRAFT.pdf*

Clark James moved to approve the draft minutes. Seconded. Carried without objection or abstention.

5 Approval of agenda

Keith Sklar moved to approve the agenda. Seconded. Carried without objection or abstentions

6 Old Business

6.1 BSR E1.5 – 2009 (reaffirmation), Entertainment Technology - Theatrical Fog Made with Aqueous Solutions of Di- and Trihydric Alcohols

Progress report on the reaffirmation process. No comments had been received during the public review, so the motion moved to letter ballot.

Karl Ruling reported. The PR and Ballot are complete. The motion carried; it's now before the TSC for consideration.

6.2 ANSI E1.14 – 2018 (R2023), Entertainment Technology—Recommendations for Inclusions in Fog Equipment Manuals (Revise, reaffirm, or withdraw by 16 May 2028).

No news or action.

6.3 ANSI E1.23 - 2023, Entertainment Technology - Design and Execution of Theatrical Fog Effects

(Revise, reaffirm, or withdraw by 12 December 2028).

No news or action.

6.4 BSR E1.29 – 2009 (reaffirmation), Product Safety Standard for Theatrical Fog Generators that Create Aerosols of Water, Aqueous Solutions of Glycol or Glycerin, or Aerosols of Highly Refined Alkane Mineral Oil

Progress report on the reaffirmation process. No comments had been received during the public review, so the motion moved to letter ballot.

Karl Ruling reported. The PR and Ballot are complete. The motion carried; it's now before the TSC for consideration.

6.5 ANSI E1.40 – 2016 (R2021), Recommendations For the Planning of Theatrical Dust Effects

(Reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal by 9 September 2026)

No news or action.

6.6 Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects, 6th edition

There was a brief discussion of the number of downloads, where it is available, and why it was written.

7 New business

There was general discussion about the NAMM Show, and educational sessions. Keith Sklar asked if there were any fog training sessions. No, but it might be interesting to propose. Keith asked if there might be interest. Yes, Someone needs to submit a proposal.

8 Other business and announcements

8.1 Above & Beyond Awards

Information about the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html.

8.2 Other announcements

9 Schedule for future meetings

The full meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. Spring meetings will be held in conjunction with the USITT Conference, in Seattle, WA during the week of 18 March 2024. Summer meetings will co-locate with NATEAC, in New York City during the week of 08 July of 2024. Fall meetings will likely return to Westlake, TX.

10 Adjournment

Having reached the end of the agenda, Steve Vanciel adjourned the meeting at 10:42.

Working Group roster as of 27 January 2024

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	U
Daniel Ayers	StageRight Services LLC	P	DE
Robert Barbagallo	Solotech Inc.	O	U
Paul Beasley	Walt Disney Company	O	U
Justin Bennett	University of the Incarnate Word	O	U
Brad Dittmer	Stage Labor of the Ozarks	O	U
Jeff Egan	NBC Universal	O	U
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	O	G
Robert Haycock	Robert Haycock	O	U
Clark James	Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO)	P	U
Joseph Kapp	WSP USA Corp.	O	G
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	DE
Chris Markgraf	Froggy's Fog LLC	O	MP
Chris Moulton	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	U
Margaret Burke, MPH	Warner Brothers Discovery	P	U
Marco Robles	I.A.T.S.E. Local 80	P	U
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	I	CP
Ford Sellers	Chauvet Lighting	O	MP
Mona Shum	Aura Health and Safety Corporation	I	U
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	U
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P	G
Marnie Styles	Ultratec Special Effects Inc.	O	MP
Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	I	G
Colin Waters	TMB	O	G
Nathan Wilkinson	Actors' Equity Association	A	G
Dean Wilson	Look Solutions, USA	P	MP