

Minutes
Fog and Smoke Working Group
Friday, 21 March 2008
Hilton Americas Houston
Houston, TX

Presiding chairman: Larry Schoeneman; Designlab Chicago, Inc.; P; DR

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending: Eric Tishman; Rosco Laboratories; P; MP
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P; U
M. Brad Dittmer; Downhome Productions; P; U
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P; G
Wendy Holt; Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers; P; U (joined at this meeting)

Visitors: None.

1 Opening remarks

Larry Schoeneman called the meeting to order at 08:35.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Introductions of those present

Those present introduced themselves, proceeding in a clockwise direction around the conference table.

2.2 Determination of quorum

Schoeneman counted the voters present and noted that there were five, more than the minimum for a quorum, and business could be conducted.

2.3 Recognition of alternate voting members

There were none to recognize.

2.4 Requirements for membership

Larry Schoeneman directed the group to read the following statement, which was printed in the agenda:

Working group membership is open to all who are affected by the work of the group. Voting members must vote on letter ballots and attend meetings. A member's voting status will be changed to observer if he and his alternate miss three consecutive letter ballots or three consecutive meetings. Voting status change due to failure to vote will be done at the conclusion of the ballot period. Voting status change due to lack of attendance will be done at the beginning of the third meeting missed. Reinstatement of voting status may be requested at the next meeting attended.

2.5 Processing of new membership applications

The following applications had been received:

Marty Clausen; SHAPE (Safety & Health in Arts Production Entertainment); O; G
Wendy Holt; AMPTP (Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers); P; U

Mike Wood moved that the applications be accepted. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands.

2.6 Processing of changes to observer status if this meeting is missed

The following voting member missed at least the last two consecutive meetings and will be moved to observer status if this meeting is also missed:

Eddie Kramer; IATSE Local One

Eddie Kramer was present, so his voting status was not changed.

The complete voting body during the time of this meeting, including those not present, was:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Wendy Holt	AMPTP	Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers	P	U
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	P	DR
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Greg Meeh	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	P	DR
Patrick Boyd	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	A	DR
Adrian Segeren	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	P	MP
Don Phillips	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Marnie Styles	Le Maitre Special Effects (Canada)	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Mark Frihagen	Martin Professional A/S	Martin Professional A/S	P	MP
Ulrich Borup Hansen	Martin Professional A/S	Martin Professional A/S	A	MP
Martin Michaud	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	P	MP
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	G
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Eric Tishman	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	P	MP
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	G
		Total votes possible	12	
		Votes by interest category	4	MP
			0	CP
			2	DR
			3	U
			3	G

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting, the meeting of 17 November 2007

See F&S/2007-3006, file name FSmin11-2007.pdf.

Eddie Kramer moved that the draft minutes be accepted as written. The motion was seconded. There was no discussion. The motion was approved with a show of hands.

4 Approval of agenda

Eric Tishman moved that the draft agenda be accepted. The motion was seconded. There was no discussion. The motion was approved with a show of hands.

5 Reading of the call for patents

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by the chairman:

"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 protected intellectual property was brought to the attention of the assembly.

6 Reading of the anti-trust statement

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by the chairman:

"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 to show that they were available.

No restraint of trade issues were reported to the assembly.

7 Old Business

7.1 BSR E1.5 - 200x (a revision of ANSI E1.5 - 2003)

Karl Ruling reported that no comments were received during the 45-day public review, which ran from 1 February 2008 through 17 March 2008.

Mike Wood moved that we reaffirm ANSI E1.5 – 2003 as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded.

There was a brief discussion in which Mike Wood noted that there was a typographical error in the table of contents of the published standard. Ruling said he would take care of that. It was not a substantive issue; it added or changed no requirements.

The question shall be decided by letter ballot to give all voting members, not only those present, an opportunity to vote on the motion.

7.2 BSR E1.29 - 200x, fog equipment product safety standard

Karl Ruling reported that no comments were received during the 45-day public review, which ran from 1 February 2008 through 17 March 2008.

Eddie Kramer moved that we accept BSR E1.29 as an American National Standard. The motion was seconded. The question shall be decided by letter ballot to allow all voting members an opportunity to vote on the motion.

There was discussion of the purpose of the standard for the benefit of Wendy Holt.

8 New business—Promoting the use of ESTA standards to non-ESTA members.

There was discussion. It was pointed out that the P&P requires all press releases to go through the TSC or its staff. A solution was reached in which the working group can write press releases, forward them to the TSM as a gatekeeper, and he will issue them after vetting them.

9 Other business

9.1 Protocol goes online

Mike Wood noted that Protocol is going to be available online. He gave a demonstration with his laptop computer of how the publication would appear on the web.

9.2 "Clearing the Air" USITT session

There was a discussion of the "Clearing the Air" session that was given at the USITT Conference on the 20th, and the concerns that were expressed by the members of the audience. Most of the discussion at the session was about fog use in opera productions. There is widespread concern in opera for all atmospheric effects, but some fog technologies are permitted by some companies and union locals.

10 Liaison Reports

10.1 PLASA

Ron Bonner was not present. There was no report.

10.2 NFPA

Larry Schoeneman spoke on the NFPA SPE-AAA technical committee's look into all special effects, including firearms, fog, and lasers. The letter from the committee chairman notes that ESTA has written standards for fog.

Eddie Kramer noted that there has been some concern on Broadway about flammable artificial snow being a possible fuel for dust explosions. The use of potentially explosive snow is therefore forbidden.

10.3 VPLT

Neither Von Hofen nor Steffens were present. There was no report.

11 Schedule for future meetings

Ruling announced that the next meeting is scheduled to be in Las Vegas in conjunction with the LDI trade show, on Saturday, October 25, from 8:30 to 11:00. The consensus was that the meeting will be cancelled if there is no business to be done.

12 Adjournment

Eric Tishman moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous voice vote. Larry Schoeneman declared the meeting adjourned at 09:32.

Working Group Membership and Contact Information as of 16 April 2008

Name	Company	Representing (This is the sort field.)	Voting status	Int. cat.
Wendy Holt	AMPTP	Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers	P	U
Gary Crawford	C I T C	C I T C	O	MP
Julie Rogers	City of Phoenix Civic Plaza	City of Phoenix	O	G
Stephanie Kelly	Phoenix Stages/Convention Center	City of Phoenix	O	G
Gary Fails	City Theatrical, Inc.	City Theatrical, Inc.	O	MP
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	P	DR
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U
Norman Wright	Group One Ltd.	Group One	O	DR
Lowell Fowler	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	O	MP
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Kent H. Jorgensen	IATSE Local 80	IATSE Local 80	O	G
Greg Meeh	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	P	DR
Patrick Boyd	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	A	DR
Adrian Segeren	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	P	MP
Don Phillips	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Marnie Styles	Le Maitre Special Effects (Canada)	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Nathan Kahn	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	O	MP
Ulrich Borup Hansen	Martin Professional A/S	Martin Professional A/S	P	MP
Martin Michaud	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	P	MP
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	G
Monona Rossol	Arts, Crafts & Theater Safety	Monona Rossol	O	G
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Douglas Franz	OVC Network	OVC Network	O	U
Jim Gill	Reel EFX, Inc.	Reel EFX	O	MP
Eric Tishman	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	P	MP
Marty Clausen	SHAPE	Safety & Health in Arts Production Entertainment	O	G
Robert Barbagallo	Solotech Inc.	Solotech Inc.	O	U
Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	O	U
Reuben Goldberg	Technic Services	Technic Services	O	U
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	O	G
Colin Waters	TMB	TMB	O	G
Thomas V. Korder	Krannert Center for the Performing Arts	University of Illinois	O	U
Peggy Lee Martindale	University of Texas, Austin	University of Texas, Austin	O	G
Jim Cooper	Palomar College	USITT	O	U
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	G
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	O	G
Mark Elliott	Walt Disney Company	Walt Disney Company	O	U

Key to codes:

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

Explanations for membership changes:

Four days after this meeting Ulrich Hansen informed the Technical Standards Manager that Mark Frihagen was no longer with Martin. This news resulted in the removal of Mark Frihagen and the promotion of Ulrich Hansen to principal voting status, as shown in this membership table.

The representatives of Big Apple Lights were also removed with the closing of the company. The assets of the company were sold to 4Wall Entertainment effective 1 April 2008.