

Minutes
Fog & Smoke Working Group
Wednesday, 12 April 2023

Chairpersons: Karl Ruling (Unit 12 Productions) and Steve Vanciel. Vanciel presiding.

Recording Secretaries: Richard Nix and Karl Ruling, ESTA

Members attending:

Daniel Ayers; StageRight Services LLC; P; DE
Robert Haycock; Robert Haycock; O; U
Clark James; Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO); P; U
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P; DE
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
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
Stephen Vanciel; Stephen Vanciel; I; G
Nathan Wilkinson; Actors' Equity Association; A; G
Dean Wilson; Look Solutions, LLC. ; P; MP

Visitor: Hannah D'Amico; IATSE (ESTA Board member)

1 Opening Remarks

Steve Vanciel called the meeting to order at 9:02 PDT (12:02 EDT). He welcomed everyone, mentioning that it was sunny outside, although chilly for Anaheim.

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.

Karl Ruling displayed a copy of the pamphlet to his webcam.

No anti-trust concerns were raised.

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 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 the costs of running the Technical Standards Program. 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

Those present in the room introduced themselves. Then those on-line introduced themselves.

3.3 Determination of a quorum

Richard Nix said that we have enough voters present to pass a motion needing a supermajority.

3.4 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:

NBC Universal, Jeff Egan

Jeff Egan was not present. He was moved to observer status.

3.5 Processing of new membership and status change requests

One application:

Dean Wilson; Look Solutions, USA; P; MP

Eddie Kramer moved that the application be accepted. The motion was seconded, and then accepted unanimously without objection or abstention.

3.6 Consensus body during the meeting

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
Marco Robles	I.A.T.S.E. Local 80	P	U
Dean Wilson	Look Solutions, USA	P	MP

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Daniel Ayers	StageRight Services LLC	P	DE
Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	P	DE
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	I	CP
Joseph Kapp	WSP USA Corp.	I	G
Margaret Burke	Warner Brothers Discovery Park	P	U
	Total votes possible	12	
Custom market producer	Votes by interest category	1	CP
Designer		2	DE
Dealer/Rental company		0	DR
General interest		3	G
Mass marker producer		1	MP
User		5	U

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

[See FSmin01-2023_DRAFT.pdf]

Mike Skinner made the motion to approve the draft minutes as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved without objection or abstention.

5 Approval of agenda

Marco Robles moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention.

6 Old Business

6.1 ANSI E1.5 – 2009 (R2018), Entertainment Technology - Theatrical Fog Made with Aqueous Solutions of Di- and Trihydric Alcohols (Reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal by 29 November 2023)

No news or action now. Nix noted that we have two more meetings before we need to do something.

6.2 ANSI E1.14 – 2018 (R202x), Entertainment Technology—Recommendations for Inclusions in Fog Equipment Manuals (Revise, reaffirm, or withdraw by 27 February 2023).

By the time of this meeting, it will have completed its public review for reaffirmation. As of 25 March, no review comments have been received. If no comments are received by PR closing on 04 April, the letter ballot will have been issued.

Karl Ruling reported that no public review comments had been received. He'd issued the letter ballot, and all the votes returned so far are simple "Yes." votes. The ballot closes EOD 24 April.

6.3 BSR E1.23 - 202x, Entertainment Technology - Design and Execution of Theatrical Fog Effects

Keith Sklar reported that the ventilation task group met and suggested that the ventilation advice should be revised or the language in the two standards be harmonized. There was discussion. The ventilation standard would be mainly about fog and smoke—or the ventilation guidance could be part of this standard rather than a stand-alone standard. The E1.74 task group will consider what changes might be needed to the ventilation sections of this standard.

The safety assurance executive summary was discussed. Karl Ruling added the modifier "potable" to water so the water assumed to be used is drinkable. Margaret Burke moved to approve the revised draft executive safety summary. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention.

Steve Vanciel asked if there was any further discussion about this document. Of should we let it rest while E1.74 continues its development. The consensus was to let it rest until the next meeting, to see how E1.74 progresses.

6.4 ANSI E1.29 – 2009 (R2018), 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 (*Reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal by 06 November 2023*)

No news or action now. Action by November.

6.5 ANSI E1.40 – 2016 (R2021), Recommendations For the Planning of Theatrical Dust Effects (*Reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal by 9 September 2026*)

Keith Sklar said that theatre productions are using everything under the sun for dust effects. He said this standard has been very useful for Actors' Equity to help assure performer safety.

6.6 BSR E1.74 – 202x, Indoor Stage Ventilation

Task group: Keith Sklar (leader), Mona Shum, Mike Skinner, and Clark James.

Marco Robles said that he'd been added to the task group and this should be reflected in future agenda.

BSR E1.74 was covered under item 6.3. There was no further action or discussion at this meeting.

6.7 Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects, 6th edition

No news or action now.

7 New business

7.1 E-cigs mouse study

Clark James noted he has a small report critical of the the e-cigs toxicity report shared with the F&S WG at the last meeting at the request of Mona Rossol, *E-cigarettes and their lone constituents induce cardiac arrhythmia and conduction defects in mice*. He will send the critical response report to Richard or Karl for distribution to the working group.

7.2 CO₂ fire extinguishers and siphon CO₂ tanks for fog effects

Keith Sklar reported that some shows are using CO₂ fire extinguishers used for fog effects. Clark James said that CO₂ from extinguishers or siphon CO₂ tanks is used for motion picture effects. There was discussion.

Steve Vanciel suggested that these issues be addressed as part of the currently open E1.23 revisions. Keith Sklar agreed, this is a good idea. Clark James said he would take on this part of the task.

8 Other business and announcements

8.1 Above & Beyond Awards

Steve Vanciel pointed out that information about the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html.

8.2 Other announcements

None.

9 Schedule for future meetings

Steve Vanciel reported that the full meeting schedule will be posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The summer and fall meetings will be in Westlake, TX, the weeks of 17 July and 02 October, respectively.

10 Adjournment

Having completed the agenda, Steve Vanciel declared the meeting adjourned at 10:03 PDT (13:03 EDT).

Members as of 19 April 2023

Delegate	Representing	Voting 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	P	U
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	exf	
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
Nathan Kahn	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	O	MP
Joseph Kapp	WSP USA Corp.	I	G
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	DE
Tyler Mickley	Look Solutions, 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
Larry Schoeneman	Larry Schoeneman	O	G
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

Delegate	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
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

Key to codes

CP = Custom market producer

DE = Designer

DR = Dealer/Rental company

G = General interest

MP = Mass marker producer

U = User

P = Principal voting member

A = Alternate voting member

I = Individual voting member

O = Observer non-voting member