

Minutes
Fog and Smoke Working Group
4 May 2002
Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott South
Ft. Worth, TX

Chairman: Larry Schoeneman; Interesting Products, Inc.; principal; producer

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling, ESTA

Members attending: M. Brad Dittmer; Downhome Productions; principal; user
Mike Wood; High End Systems Inc.; principal; producer
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; principal; user
Adrian Segeren; Le Maitre Special Effects; principal; producer
Tim Cox; PLASA; principal; general interest
Eric Tishman; Rosco Laboratories; principal; producer
Bill Hektner; USITT ; principal; general interest

1 Opening remarks

Larry Schoeneman called the meeting to order at 19:05.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Introductions of those present

Schoeneman asked those present to introduce themselves, which they did.

2.2 Determination of quorum

Schoeneman noted that we have a quorum present, but not a majority of the voting members of the working group.

2.3 Recognition of alternate voting members

None present.

2.4 Requirements for membership

Schoeneman reminded those present that membership is open to all who are affected by the work of the committee and that membership in ESTA is not a requirement. However, there is an attendance requirement for voting members. Except for organizational members, a member's voting status will be changed to observer if he and his alternate miss two consecutive meetings, pending attendance at another meeting.

2.5 Processing of new membership applications

None.

2.6 Processing of changes to observer status

None.

The voting membership of the working group, including those not attending the meeting, was thus:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Interest category
Murray Gellatly	A.C. Lighting Ltd.	A.C. Lighting Ltd.	P	G
F. Lee Iwanski	Big Apple Lights	Big Apple Lights	P	U
Gary Fails	City Theatrical, Inc.	City Theatrical, Inc.	P	P
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U
Mike Wood	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	P	P
Lowell Fowler	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	A	P
Byron Ziegler	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	A	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E., Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Larry Schoeneman	Interesting Products, Inc.	Interesting Products, Inc.	P	P
Greg Meeh	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	P	U
Adrian Segeren	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	P	P
Marc Gingras	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	P	P
Martin Michaud	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	A	P
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A	G
Martin Becker	Reel EFX, Inc.	Reel EFX	P	P
Eric Tishman	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	P	P
Nathan Kahn	Theatre Effects, Inc.	Theatre Effects, Inc.	P	P
Bill Hektner	USITT	USITT	P	G
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	G
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A	G
Gunther Schaidt	Safex Chemie	VPLT	A	G
		general interest		4
		user		4
		producer		8
		total		16

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Brad Dittmer moved that the minutes be accepted as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by a show of hands.

4 Approval of Agenda

Eddie Kramer moved that the agenda be accepted as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved on a voice vote unanimously.

5 Call for patents

Larry Schoeneman read the following call for patents aloud:

"ESTA intends to publish no standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that property can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. ESTA uses a process of open patent disclosures to implement this intent. ESTA does not conduct patent searches and does not warrant that its standards contain no protected intellectual property.

"In keeping with the open disclosure policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify the working group of the existence of a patent or copyright that might protect material in a standard being developed by the working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright in order to notify the working group of its existence."

No protected intellectual property issues were brought to the attention of the working group.

6 Anti-trust statement

Schoeneman read the following anti-trust statement aloud:

"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 \$100,000 and imprisoned for up to three years. An easy to read pamphlet describing restraint of trade issues is available from the Technical Standards Manager."

No anti-trust issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

7 Task group and committee reports

7.1 TSC

Larry Schoeneman reported on the change of chairmanship. Bill Groener has resigned to lighten his workload. Steve Terry and Paul Vincent are the new heads of the TSC.

The TSC has approved the draft standard for HMI ballast power cable connections. The document will now go to the ESTA Board for approval.

The TSC has decided to run a series of articles about ACN. The intent will be to explain why the project is taking so long and why it is still worth doing.

7.2 Fog standard E1.5

There was a discussion of the draft public review comment resolution document (F&S/2002-3004) and the revised draft standard (F&S/1997-3017r6). The Post-It Note technique was used to identify items that needed to be discussed. There was a short discussion.

Mike Wood moved that the resolutions be accepted and the revised document sent to another public review. The motion was seconded. Due to the lack of a majority of the voting body being present, the vote will be determined by letter ballot.

7.3 Data collection task group

There was a discussion of the ESTA fog testing campaign, "A Test Is Worth a Thousand Words."

8 Old Business

8.1 Continuation of the discussion on the motion to write a cryogenic fog standard

There was a discussion of the advisability of writing a standard for the design and execution of cryogenic fog effects or for the design and execution of fog effects in general. The consensus was that a more general standard would be useful and would not be much more work than writing one for cryogenic effects alone.

Larry Schoeneman volunteered to create a table of contents and a scope statement for a possible general fog effects standard.

There was a discussion of the need for the document to be structured like an NFPA document.

There was discussion of the problem with fog effects triggering false fire alarms. Larry Schoeneman agreed to write to the appropriate NFPA person to describe our problem and to ask for suggestions on how the problem might be addressed.

8.2 Dust effects

Kent Jorgensen, the head of the project was not present to give a report about dust effects and what action we should take, if any, to offer guidance on their creation or use.

In view of the lack of progress on this project, Eric Tishman moved that this project be removed from future agendas. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

8.3 Product stewardship

Karl Ruling said that the fog product stewardship documents had been approved and posted on the ESTA website. They can be accessed from the Fog & Smoke Working Group page at <http://www.esta.org/tsp/fswg.html> or from the general ESTA product stewardship page at <http://www.esta.org/productstewardship.html>. Of course, one can also jump right to the fog product stewardship page at <http://www.esta.org/ProdStew/fog.html>, but that page is mainly a list of links and is not too informative by itself.

9 Liaison Reports

9.1 PLASA

Tim Cox reported that there was little new. He found Monona Rossol's reference in an ACTS Facts article to the Royal Opera House person's testimony interesting. He said he will find out more about this, and about the CDI group, as he was not aware of any particular problems with fog effects at the Opera House.

9.2 VPLT

No report.

9.3 The Kramer and Fails Report

No report.

9.4 NFPA

No news, reported Schoeneman.

10 New business

None.

11 Other business

None.

12 Schedule for future meetings

Larry Schoeneman reported that the next meeting will be on Saturday, July 27 at 19:00 in this hotel. The following meeting will be Saturday, October 19 at 7:00 in the morning. This should allow everyone to get to the LDI trade show floor on time for the opening.

13 Adjournment

Brad Dittmer moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously. Schoeneman declared the meeting adjourned at 21:00.

Fog & Smoke Working Group Membership and Contact Information as of 21 June 2002

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Murray Gellatly	A.C. Lighting Ltd.	A.C. Lighting Ltd.	P	G
Patrick O'Rourke	Big Apple Lights	Big Apple Lights	O	U
F. Lee Iwanski	Big Apple Lights	Big Apple Lights	P	U
Gary Crawford	C.I.T.C.	C.I.T.C.	O	P
Gary Fails	City Theatrical, Inc.	City Theatrical, Inc.	P	P
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U
Norman Wright	Group One Ltd.	Group One	O	P
Mike Wood	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	P	P
Lowell Fowler	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	A	P
Byron Ziegler	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	A	P
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E, Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Larry Schoeneman	Interesting Products, Inc.	Interesting Products, Inc.	P	P
Jack Suesse	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	O	G
Greg Meeh	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	P	U
Patrick Boyd	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	O	U
Adrian Segeren	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	P	P
Jon Petts	Jem Smoke Machine Co, Ltd.	Martin Professional A/S	O	P
Marc Gingras	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	P	P
Martin Michaud	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	A	P
Monona Rossol	Monona Rossol	Monona Rossol	O	G
Kent H. Jorgensen	MPS Grips, Local 80	MPS Grips, Local 80	O	G
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A	G
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Robert Barbagallo	Proximo Inc.	Proximo Inc.	O	U
Douglas Franz	QVC Network	QVC Network	O	U
Jim Gill	Reel EFX, Inc.	Reel EFX	O	P
Martin Becker	Reel EFX, Inc.	Reel EFX	P	P
Eric Tishman	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	P	P
Heinz Siller	RST Präsentionssysteme	RST Präsentionssysteme	O	G
Beverly Huggins	SFX Design, Inc.	SFX Design, Inc.	O	P
Nathan Kahn	Theatre Effects, Inc.	Theatre Effects, Inc.	P	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	O	G
Thomas Costello	TJC and Associates	TJC and Associates	O	G
Colin Waters	TMB	TMB	O	G
James F. Foley	UCISCO, Inc.	UCISCO, Inc.	O	P
Bill Hektner	USITT	USITT	P	G
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	G
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	A	G
Gunther Schaidt	Safex Chemie	VPLT	A	G
Mark Elliott	Walt Disney Company	Walt Disney Company	O	U
Michael Zilz	Zilz International GmbH	Zilz International GmbH	O	G
			Voting members	8 P 4 U 4 G
			Non-voting members	6 P 5 U 8 G

Voting Status

- P Principal voting representative for a company or organization
- A Alternate voting representative for a company or organization
- I Individual representing no organization other than himself or herself
- O Observer; non-voting

Interest Categories

- P Producer (manufacturer) of fog or smoke effects
- U User of fog or smoke effects
- G General interest