

Minutes
Fog & Smoke Working Group
Friday 23 July 2021
via WebEx

Presiding chairperson: Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC

Recording secretaries: Richard J. Nix & Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending:

Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P; DE
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P; G
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P; G
Karl G. Ruling; Unit 12 Productions; I; CP
Stephen Vanciel; IATSE Local 631; P; U
Mona Shum; Aura Health and Safety Corporation; I; U
Mike Skinner; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; A; U
Joseph Kapp; WSP USA Corp.; O; G

1 Opening Remarks

The meeting was called to order at 11:00 by Mike Wood. He welcomed everyone on-line to the meeting.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Mike Wood 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 held a copy of the pamphlet in front of his camera so it could be seen.

No antitrust concerns were raised.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

Mike Wood 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.

No antitrust concerns were raised.

3 Attendance and Membership

3.1 Requirements for membership

Mike Wood 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

3.3 Determination of a quorum

There are eleven voting entities. Four voters are the minimum for a quorum; six is the minimum to pass a motion needing a supermajority.

3.4 Changes to observer status for inactivity

The draft agenda noted that Cedric Jackson (SAG-AFTRA) had missed the last two meetings, and would be moved to observer if this meeting is also missed. However, a few days after the draft agenda was issued, ESTA staff received notice that Cedric Jackson had passed away. SAG-AFTRA now has with no representation on any TSP working group.

During this meeting, Keith Sklar wrote to the SAG-AFTRA contact in the New York City area. The response was that Jackson's passing has left a hole in the organization SAG-AFTRA will work to fill.

3.5 Processing of new membership and status change requests

None.

3.5 Consensus body

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P	G
Clark James	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
Michael Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	U
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	DE
Stephen Vanciel	IATSE Local 631	P	U
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	G
Brad Dittmer	Stage Labor of the Ozarks	P	U
Marnie Styles	Ultratec Special Effects Inc.	P	MP
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	I	CP
	Total votes possible	10	
Custom market producer	Votes by interest category	1	CP
Designer		1	DE
Dealer/Rental company		0	DR

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
General interest		2	G
Mass marker producer		1	MP
User		5	U

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

See FSmin04-2021_DRAFT.pdf

Steve Vanciel moved to approve the minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted by a show of hands and voice votes. The minutes were approved.

5 Approval of agenda

Steve Vanciel moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted by a show of hands and voice votes. The agenda was approved.

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.

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

No news or action now.

6.3 ANSI E1.23 - 2020, Entertainment Technology - Design and Execution of Theatrical Fog Effects

(Revise, reaffirm, or withdraw by 2025)

No news or action now.

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.

6.5 ANSI E1.40 – 2016, Recommendations For the Planning of Theatrical Dust Effects (Reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal by 16 September 2021)

[See E1-40_RevwSummary.pdf]

The public review returned no comments. A letter ballot with the reaffirmation motion was issued on July 6 to time-out on July 27, unless comments or objections lengthen the ballot.

Karl Ruling reported that the letter ballot motion carried, and said it was queued up for action at the TSC meeting.

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

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

Keith Sklar asked for advice on how to get started, what documents are available. Karl Ruling said he would look at the documents sent to the working group by Keith Sklar (Ventilation Verification for Theatrical Facilities - with logos.pdf and Ventilation-Appendices.pdf), and assess how they might be incorporated into a draft standards document.

There was general discussion about what could and could not be included in a standards document because of restrictions on citing particular commercial services. (You can't require that the services or products of a particular company must or should be used.) There was a general discussion about Monona Rossol's ventilation

presentation, given the previous day at NATEAC, and some of the standards referenced in it. There was discussion about various organization's standards and requirements, such as ASHRAE, ACGHI, Cal-OSHA, or other (local) AHJ requirements, that could be used as reference material, particularly when the concerns are workplace related. Mona Shum and Keith Sklar agreed to start scheduling task group meetings.

6.7 Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects, 6th edition

No news or action.

6.8 Fog exposure and minors—follow up

From the April 2021 meeting minutes:

Clark James asked if there was intent to address this information in an ANSI standard. Karl Ruling explained that there was discussion about it, but the working group agreed to take no action until the research study data could be vetted. Cedric Jackson had previously said he would try to get the data, but has not yet provided it.

Clark James said there were studies available from the EPA for certain specific glycols. Mike Wood said that the movie industry has adopted a precautionary (but arbitrary) practice of halving the exposure levels when minors are on-set. He also said that there is a valid concern for haunted houses and similar amusement environments.

Nathan Kahn asked if Clark would be interested in trying to assemble useful data. Clark said he would be interested, and will see what information he can gather. He said he knew of a Marvel Production going into Georgia, where the star is 16 years old, and production is having difficulty managing this issue.

Mona Shum asked if we could consider doing an observational study, something involving children filling out questionnaires about exposure and symptoms. Keith Sklar described how some of their early studies of atmospheric effects on Broadway began this way, but there were too few children performing on Broadway when the Equity/League study was done in the late 1990s. Only six children responded, too few, so the study specifically omitted them from the later stages of the medical examination and the published recommendations.

There was consensus that the exposure conditions in the movie industry are different than in the theatre environment.

Mike Wood said we do need more data, and he will keep the agenda item open.

Cedric Jackson had been given the task of gathering this information. The working group consensus was that we should find out who has taken over his position, and try to recruit their participation.

7 New business

Eddie Kramer reported that New York City has passed a code change that directs the fire department to draft requirements for filing plans for staging, special effects, and fire control for motion picture productions. It also empowers the fire department to stop a production if it is deemed unsafe. The new code requirements do not include theatres, but Kramer said that the fire code officials tend to take an expansive view of the scope of their authority. Eddie Kramer was asked to follow up on this.

8 Other business and announcements

8.1 Above & Beyond Awards

Information on 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

The full meeting schedule may be found at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The meetings will be via

WebEx. The full meeting schedule has not been finalized, but is anticipated to occur sometime within the time frame of the last week in September and the first week in October.

10 Adjournment

Having reached the end of the agenda, and there being no further business, Mike Wood declared the meeting adjourned at 12:07.

Fog & Smoke Working Group members as of 6 August 2021

Delegate	Representation	Voting status	Int. cat.
Matthew Antonucci	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	P	U
Daniel Ayers	StageRight Services LLC	O	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	P	U
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	exf	
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	O	G
Erin Grabe	ESTA	exf	G
Robert Haycock	UC Berkeley	O	U
Clark James	Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO)	P	U
Paul Jordan	NBC Universal	O	U
Nathan Kahn	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	O	MP
Joseph Kapp	WSP USA Corp.	O	G
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	DE
Tyler Mickley	Look Solutions, LLC.	O	CP
Chris Moulton	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	U
Richard J. Nix	ESTA	exf	G
Karl G. Ruling	Unit 12 Productions	I	CP
Karl G. Ruling	ESTA	exf	G
Larry Schoeneman	Larry Schoeneman	O	G
Ford Sellers	Chauvet Lighting	O	MP
Mona Shum	Aura Health and Safety Corporation	I	U

Fog & Smoke Working Group members as of 6 August 2021

Delegate	Representation	Voting status	Int. cat.
Mike Skinner	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	U
Keith Sklar	Actors' Equity Association	P	G
Marnie Styles	Ultratec Special Effects Inc.	P	MP
Stephen Vaniel	IATSE Local 631	P	U
Colin Waters	TMB	O	G
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	G

Membership Table Rosetta Stone:

P	Principal voter	CP	Custom-market producer
A	Alternate voter	DE	Designer
I	Individual voter	DR	Dealer/Rental company
O	Observer, non-voter	G	General interest
exf	Ex officio, staff	MP	Mass-market producer
		U	User