

Minutes
Fog & Smoke Working Group
Thursday, 20 July 2023
Marriott D/FW Westlake

Chairpersons:

Steve Vanciel; Steve Vanciel; I; DE (presiding)
Karl G. Ruling; Unit 12 Productions; I; CP

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

Clark James; Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO); P; U
Daniel Ayers; StageRight Services LLC; P; DE
Dean Wilson; Look Solutions, USA; P; MP
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; P; DE
Jeff Egan; NBC Universal; O; U
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P; G
Mike Skinner; Contract Services Administration Trust Fund; A; U
Mona Shum; Aura Health and Safety Corporation; I; U
Nathan Wilkinson; Actors' Equity Association; A; G
Robert Haycock; Robert Haycock; O; U

Visitors:

Red Walter; ADJ
Nick Saiki; Elation Lighting

1 Opening Remarks

Steve Vanciel called the meeting to order at 11:03 EDT, 10:03 CDT. He noted that it is very hot in Texas, so the hotel air conditioning is working overtime. He has his jacket on because it is cold in the hotel meeting room.

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 Nix held up a copy of the pamphlet for people in the room and on-line to see.

No restraint of trade 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 introduced themselves, starting with those in the room then moving to those on-line.

3.3 Determination of a quorum

A quorum is five voting members, a supermajority is seven voting members.

Richard Nix announced that a quorum was present. Steve Vanciel noted that there were five people attending in person.

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

There were none.

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:

There were none.

3.6 Consensus body before any 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 |
| Marco Robles | I.A.T.S.E. Local 80 | P | U |

| Name | Representing | Status | Int Cat |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| 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 |
| 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 FSmin04-2023_DRAFT.pdf]

Daniel Ayers moved to accept the draft minutes as written. The motion was seconded. The motion carried and the minutes were approved.

5 Approval of agenda

Karl Ruling moved to accept the draft agenda. The motion was seconded. The motion carried and 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)

There is one more meeting, after this meeting, to decide what action to take.

No news or action now. Steve Vanciel said this would be on the October agenda.

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

It's published! No other news or action now.

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

From the draft April meeting minutes:

Steve Vanciel asked if there was any further discussion about this document. Or 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.

Steve Vanciel noted that Karl Ruling had distributed a draft revision a few days ago (see *BSR E1.23_DRAFT_17JUL_2023.pdf*). Karl Ruling reported that the task group had made a lot of revisions, some editorial, some not. He made some other revisions. He summarized them all. He said the task group could continue working on it, or someone could make a motion to send it to a public review.

Clark James asked about a reference to a mysterious “Clause 5” reference in 15.1.1. Mona Shum asked about the placeholders in the Annex. There was discussion, then Karl Ruling revised the words, where questioned.

There was discussion about the intent of the “qualified person” where the term was used. Karl Ruling made slight changes. Steve Vanciel recalled that CO₂ fire extinguishers were discussed at the last meeting. Karl Ruling said they were now included. A clause numbering error was discovered—there was no clause 7.3—and fixed.

Karl asked how the group wanted to proceed. The majority of the task group members are all present. Aside from minor heading format issues, which can be easily fixed, everyone was happy. Keith Sklar moved to send it to first public review. The motion was seconded, and carried without discussion, objection or abstention. The motion will be forwarded to the TSC for consideration.

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*)

There is one more meeting, after this meeting, to decide what action to take.

No news or action now. Steve Vanciel said this too would be on the October agenda for action.

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 reported, some venues are getting creative about the products being used, and shows are trying to use odd materials. One recent production used “slag” on the stage floor. It was investigated by an industrial hygienist and this particular use was found not to be a problem. The performers are reassured that their health is being protected.

On an unrelated note, Richard Nix asked about smoke exposure standards due to wildfire smoke concentrations in outdoor areas. Keith Sklar said he’d recently been involved in discussions in New York.

Mona Shum said she’d just presented on heat and smoke exposure limits, and had referenced an HUHI-plus. [Mona will send the references].

Red Walter said CAL-OSHA 5141.1 establishes limitations. Mike Skinner also provided this link: <https://www.csatf.org/safety-and-health-awareness-sheet-protection-from-wildfire-smoke/>

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

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

Keith Sklar suggested we abandon the BSR E1.74 project. He moved to do this. The motion was seconded. The motion to abandon the project was approved unanimously. The working group at-large, the TSC, and ANSI will all be notified of this action.

6.7 Introduction to Modern Atmospheric Effects, 6th edition

No news or action.

7 New business

None.

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

9 Schedule for future meetings

The full meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The fall meetings will be in Westlake, TX, the week of 02 October. Winter meetings will return to Anaheim, CA in conjunction with the NAMM Show 2024, in late January.

Richard said it's the week of the 27th of January.

10 Adjournment

Having reached the end of the agenda, Steve Vanciel declared the meeting adjourned at 12:01 EDT. 11:01 CDT.

Fog & Smoke Working Group members as of 27 July 2023

| 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 |
| 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 |
| 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

Fog & Smoke Working Group members as of 27 July 2023

U = User

P = Principal voting member

A = Alternate voting member

I = Individual voting member

O = Observer non-voting member