

Minutes
Fog & Smoke Working Group
Thursday 15 September 2022
Marriott Westlake and WebEx

Presiding chairperson: Steve Vanciel

Recording secretaries: Richard Nix and Karl Ruling; ESTA

Members attending:

Clark James; Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO); P; U
Karl G. Ruling; Unit 12 Productions; I; CP
Keith Sklar; Actors' Equity Association; P; G
Larry Schoeneman; Larry Schoeneman; O; 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
Stephen Vanciel; Stephen Vanciel; I; G

1 Opening Remarks

Karl Ruling (as Unit 12 Productions and co-chair) called the meeting to order at 14:03 CDT (15:03 EDT). He noted that he is the recording secretary and parliamentarian as well as working group co-chair, so he has asked Steve Vanciel to run the meeting.

Steve Vanciel welcomed everyone to the meeting. He noted that he and Richard Nix are the two people in the room. The rest are on line.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Steve Vanciel:

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 in front of his webcam so it could be seen. No antitrust concerns were

raised.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Steve Vanciel:

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 protected intellectual property was reported.

3 Attendance and Membership

3.1 Requirements for membership

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Steve Vanciel:

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.

3.3 Determination of a quorum

As of 26 August, the consensus body is 10. A quorum would be four. Six would be needed to pass a motion needing a supermajority.

Both requirements were met, reported Vanciel and Nix. Business can be conducted.

3.4 Changes to observer status for inactivity

The following voting members are at risk of losing voting status due to inattendance. The missed the last two meetings and will become observers if this meeting is missed as well.

- Clark James; Alliance of Special Effects and Pyrotechnic Operators (ASEPO)
- Mona Shum; Aura Health and Safety Corporation

Both were present, so there was no change in voting status.

3.5 Processing of new membership and status change requests

None.

3.6 Consensus body

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
Jeff Egan	NBC Universal	P	U
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
	Total votes possible	10	
Custom market producer	Votes by interest category	1	CP
Designer		3	DE
Dealer/Rental company		0	DR
General interest		2	G
Mass marker producer		0	MP
User		4	U

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

[See *FSmin06-2022_DRAFT.pdf*]

Mike Skinner moved to accept the minutes as drafted. The motion was seconded. The motion passed with no opposition and no abstentions. The minutes were approved.

5 Approval of agenda

Clark James moved to accept the draft agenda. The motion was seconded. The motion passed with no opposition and no abstentions.

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.

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

Discussion of distilled water as an alternative haze fluid in water-based haze machines. At the last meeting Karl Ruling was asked to make a recommendation at the next about where guidance could or should be offered on doing this safely while demonstrating standards compliance.

Karl Ruling recommended that using different fluids is covered in E1.23. There is no way any manufacturer is likely to add advice to a manual saying that the manufacturer's fluid need not be used and that water would be acceptable.

6.3 ANSI E1.23 - 2020, Entertainment Technology - Design and Execution of Theatrical Fog Effects (Revise, reaffirm, or withdraw by 2025)

Any news or action?

There was discussion. For the next meeting, Karl Ruling shall make recommendations to clarify the requirements for custom fog effects. The use of distilled water in a water-based fog machine is clearly okay from a health perspective. The fog is simply water vapor.

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 (R2021), Recommendations For the Planning of Theatrical Dust Effects (Reaffirmation, revision, or withdrawal by 9 September 2026)

No news or action now.

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

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

Progress report.

FYI, see RLTA_DTHG-Prüfreglement_Teil1_V2_final.pdf and RLTA_DTHG-Prüfreglement_Teil1_V2_final_en.docx, which is a machine translation.

Keith Sklar reported that the task group has not had time to meet, or to discuss this further, due to workloads.

He said that the discussions between Broadway producers and Actors Equity were very close to producing results of their collaboration, which he thinks may be useful to the task group's work, so he has been focusing more on moving the Broadway discussions to conclusion,

instead of putting too much effort into other things.

There was a lot of discussion about the current evolving trends in recommended ventilation practices with venues trying to improve or update ventilation systems. Mona Shum has a checklist she is using for evaluating ventilation and will send to the other task group members.

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

Information on the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html.

8.2 Other announcements

Mona Shum said that IATSE 891 in BC has funded a study to analyze the hazards presented by other environments, such as makeup trailers, costume rooms, etc, and then identify industrial (less specialized) solutions for mitigating those hazards. The study also notes local suppliers and relative costs of the hazard mitigation tools. The idea is to try make solutions obvious and achievable.

9 Schedule for future meetings

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

The January 2023 meetings will be via WebEx during the week of 16 January.

Karl Ruling said that the 2023 schedule past January had yet to be decided. USITT's conference is in March, which is close to our January meetings. NAMM is in April, but he will not be at NAMM. [Subsequent to this meeting, the Spring meetings were pegged to be around NAMM. ESTA will have only one meeting at USITT's Conference and Stage Expo.]

10 Adjournment

Having reached the end of the agenda, Steve Vanciel declared the meeting adjourned at 14:51 CDT (15:51 EDT).

Fog & Smoke Working Group contact list as of 12 October 2022

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
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	CP
Chris Moulton	Contract Services Administration Trust Fund	A	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

Fog & Smoke Working Group contact list as of 12 October 2022

Delegate	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Colin Waters	TMB	O	G
Nathan Wilkinson	Actors' Equity Association	A	G

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