

Minutes
Fog and Smoke Working Group
Saturday, 21 October 2006
Las Vegas Hilton
Las Vegas, Nevada

Presiding chairman: Larry Schoeneman; Designlab Chicago, Inc.; P; DR

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending: M. Brad Dittmer; Downhome Productions; P; U
Timothy Wade; IATSE Local 600; P; U
Greg Meeh; Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.; P; DR
Adrian Segeren; Le Maitre Special Effects; P; MP
Martin Michaud; MDG Fog Generators Ltd.; P; MP
Mike Wood; Mike Wood Consulting LLC; P; G
Florian von Hofen; VPLT; P; G (moved to voting status from observer at this meeting)

Visitor: Allison Aaron; Jauchem & Meeh Inc.

1 Opening remarks

Larry Schoeneman called the meeting to order at 9:00 and thanked all those present for attending.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Introductions of those present

Those present introduced themselves, proceeding in a clockwise direction around the table.

2.2 Determination of quorum

Larry Schoeneman counted the number of voters present (seven out of a voting body of eleven at this point), and announced that a quorum was present.

2.3 Recognition of alternate voting members

There were none to recognize. There were seven principals in attendance at the start of the meeting.

2.4 Requirements for membership

Schoeneman reminded the assembly that working group membership is open to all who are affected by the work of the group. At this time, people who would represent dealer/rental companies are particularly encouraged to apply for membership.

Voting members must vote on letter ballots and attend meetings. A member's voting status will be changed to observer if he and his alternate miss three consecutive letter ballots or three consecutive meetings. Voting status change due to failure to vote will be done at the conclusion of the ballot period. Voting status change due to lack of attendance will be done at the beginning of the third meeting missed. Reinstatement of voting status may be requested at the next meeting attended.

2.5 Processing of new membership applications

There were no new membership applications, but there was a discussion of Florian von Hofen's non-voting status. Brad Dittmer moved that Florian von be readmitted as a voting member. The motion was seconded and then approved with a unanimous show of hands.

The consensus body during this meeting, including those not present, was therefore:

Name	Company	Representing (This is the sort field.)	Voting status	Int. cat.
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	P	DR
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Timothy Wade	IATSE Local 600	IATSE Local 600	P	U
Greg Meeh	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	P	DR
Patrick Boyd	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	A	DR
Adrian Segeren	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	P	MP
Don Phillips	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Marnie Styles	Le Maitre Special Effects (Canada)	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Nathan Kahn	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	P	MP
Martin Michaud	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	P	MP
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	G
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Eric Tishman	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	P	MP
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	G
		Total votes	12	
		Votes by interest category	0	CP
			4	MP
			2	DR
			3	U
			3	G

2.6 Processing of changes to observer status if this meeting is missed

The following voting member (or members) missed at least the last two consecutive meetings and will be moved to observer status if this meeting is also missed:

None

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting (FSmin07-2006.pdf)

Martin Michaud moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted with a show of hands.

4 Approval of agenda

Mike Wood moved that the draft agenda be approved. The motion was seconded, and then approved with a show of hands.

5 Reading of the call for patents

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Larry Schoeneman:

"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 or copyright or other 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 issues protected intellectual property issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

6 Reading of the anti-trust statement

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Larry Schoeneman:

"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 \$1,000,000 and imprisoned for up to ten years. An easy to read pamphlet describing restraint of trade issues is available from the Technical Standards Manager."

Karl Ruling, the Technical Standards Manager, held up one of the pamphlets to show it to the assembly. No restraint of trade issues were brought to the attention of the group.

7 Task group and committee reports and business

7.1 TSC

Larry Schoeneman reported that the sheer volume of standards is impressive. Ten have been published so far this year and another couple will be approved soon by ANSI. He noted that our work, besides providing standards and other guidance documents to the industry, is also helping to tie the unions together.

Larry Schoeneman reported that he had applied for time to do a demo at the next NFPA convention in Boston, which is scheduled for June of 2007. He has been told we will most likely get the space and time, but doesn't have confirmation. Schoeneman said this should allow us to pitch the standards subscription plan and should allow us to gain more credibility with the NFPA and its constituency.

7.2 Reaffirmation of ANSI E1.14-2001

See the report of working group vote, E1-14WG_ReafBallot_Summary.pdf. Karl Ruling reported that the TSC had voted to reaffirm the standard.

7.3 ANSI E1.23-2006, generic fog effect guidance

Schoeneman reminded people that it's published, so we don't have to work on it for awhile.

7.3 BSR E1.29, fog equipment product safety standard

There was a discussion of what needs to be done on the document and how we can proceed. Ruling reminded people of the fog technology-based assignments given out by Larry Schoeneman, but pointed out that the document is not structured per fog-making technologies. That is, there isn't a "dry ice" section, or a "heated glycol fog" section. Each part of the document contains requirements that could be applied to all technologies.

It was agreed that Ruling will send out the draft standard as a Word document and people should review all of it with their products' technologies in mind and send comments back to him on any changes that would be needed. The deadline for the responses will be the end of this year.

8 Old Business

Greg Meeh updated the working group on CO₂ monitoring. The commercial monitors that are readily available emit a warning at the 0.5% limit for eight-hour TWA. This is too low a limit for our applications, given the limited exposure time and the levels of carbon dioxide present in some fog effects, and the alarms are annoying at best and disruptive. He reported that one show he has worked on is now installing a monitor that has adjustable trip points, so they should be able to be moved up, so the alarm sounds only when something truly is going wrong.

9 New business

None.

10 Other business

None.

10.1 ESTA regional sessions with IATSE Local 2 concerning certification and the ESTA TSP

Larry Schoeneman talked about the supervising stage electrician situation in Chicago. Only licensed electricians may file for a permit to do a temporary electrical hook-up for a show lighting system. The City now has a test to license supervising theatre electricians, but no one takes it, so no one is qualified to file for a permit. He discussed this with some Chicago city officials, who so far are willing to investigate accepting the ETCP certification as a qualification for stage electricians to allow them to apply for permits for power tie-ins. Schoeneman said that he needs to explain to the IBEW how this deal would not hurt them.

Tim Wade said that members of the IBEW should take the ETCP exam, since they often work in theatrical and studio venues.

10.2 Other other business

Mike Wood asked if anybody is doing real-time monitoring of glycol fogs. There was a brief discussion of low-cost ways to do this.

11 Liaison Reports

11.1 PLASA

Ron Bonner was not present. There was no report.

11.2 NFPA

11.2.1 NFPA Training session, June 2007

Schoeneman had talked about the training session as part of his 7.1 TSC report. He offered no further information.

11.2.2 Other NFPA news

None.

11.3 VPLT

No news, reported von Hofen.

12 Schedule for future meetings

It was announced that the next meeting is scheduled for Saturday, 20 January 2007, from 19:00 to 23:00 at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott South in beautiful Ft. Worth, Texas.

13 Adjournment

Brad Dittmer moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved with a voice vote. Larry Schoeneman declared the meeting adjourned at 09:53.

Working Group Membership and Contact Information as of 06 November 2006

Name	Company	Representing (This is the sort field.)	Vote status	Int. cat.
Patrick O'Rourke	Big Apple Lights	Big Apple Lights	O	DR
F. Lee Iwanski	Big Apple Lights	Big Apple Lights	O	DR
Gary Crawford	C I T C	C I T C	O	MP
Julie Rogers	City of Phoenix Civic Plaza	City of Phoenix	O	G
Stephanie Kelly	Phoenix Stages/Convention Center	City of Phoenix	O	G
Gary Falls	City Theatrical, Inc.	City Theatrical, Inc.	O	MP
Larry Schoeneman	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	Designlab Chicago, Inc.	P	DR
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U
Norman Wright	Group One Ltd.	Group One	O	DR
Lowell Fowler	High End Systems Inc.	High End Systems Inc.	O	MP
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Timothy Wade	IATSE Local 600	IATSE Local 600	P	U
Kent H. Jorgensen	IATSE Local 80	IATSE Local 80	O	G
Greg Meeh	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	P	DR
Patrick Boyd	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.	A	DR
Adrian Segeren	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	P	MP
Don Phillips	Le Maitre Special Effects	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Marnie Styles	Le Maitre Special Effects (Canada)	Le Maitre Special Effects	A	MP
Nathan Kahn	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	Look Solutions USA Ltd.	P	MP
Martin Michaud	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	MDG Fog Generators Ltd.	P	MP
Mike Wood	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	Mike Wood Consulting LLC	P	G
Monona Rossol	Arts, Crafts & Theater Safety	Monona Rossol	O	G
Ron Bonner	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Douglas Franz	QVC Network	QVC Network	O	U
Jim Gill	Reel EFX, Inc.	Reel EFX	O	MP
Eric Tishman	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	P	MP
Heinz Siller	RST Presentations-systeme	RST Presentations-systeme	O	G
Beverly Huggins	SFX Design, Inc.	SFX Design, Inc.	O	MP
Robert Barbagallo	Solotech Inc.	Solotech Inc.	O	U
Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	Stephen Vanciel	O	U
Reuben Goldberg	Technic Services	Technic Services	O	U
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
Thomas V. Korder	Krannert Center for the Performing Arts	University of Illinois	O	U
Peggy Lee Martindale	University of Texas, Austin	University of Texas, Austin	O	G
Jim Cooper	Palomar College	USITT	O	U
Florian von Hofen	VPLT	VPLT	P	G
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	O	G
Gunther Schaidt	Safex Chemie	VPLT	O	G
Mark Elliott	Walt Disney Company	Walt Disney Company	O	U

Key to codes:

P	principal voting member	MP	mass-market producer interest category
A	alternate voting member	CP	custom-market producer interest category
I	individual voting member	DR	dealer or rental company interest category
O	observer, non-voting	U	user interest category
		G	general-interest interest category