

Minutes
Fog and Smoke Working Group
3 November 2001
Rosen Centre Hotel
Orlando, FL

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

Recording Secretary: Karl G. Ruling, ESTA

Members attending: F. Lee Iwanski; Big Apple Lights; principal; user (joined at this meeting)
Gary Crawford; C.I.T.C.; observer; producer
Gary Fails; City Theatrical, Inc.; principal; producer (voting status changed from observer at this meeting)
M. Brad Dittmer; Downhome Productions; principal; user (arrived late)
Edwin S. Kramer; IATSE, Local 1; principal; user
Greg Meeh; Jauchem & Meeh, Inc.; principal; user (voting status changed from observer at this meeting)
Adrian Segeren; Le Maitre Special Effects; principal; producer
Marc Gingras; MDG Fog Generators Ltd.; principal; producer
Tim Cox; PLASA; principal; gen. interest
Martin Becker; Reel EFX, Inc.; principal; producer (voting status change at this meeting)
Eric Tishman; Rosco Laboratories; principal; producer

Visitors: Steve Vanciel; Walt Disney Entertainment

1 Opening remarks

Karl Ruling called the meeting to order at 18:45 and welcomed all to windy, rainy, overcast Florida. Larry Schoeneman arrived at 19:00 and took over chairing the meeting at that time.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Introductions of those present

2.2 Determination of quorum

Ruling noted that five voting members were present at the beginning of the meeting, exceeding the minimum quorum requirement for this group at that time, which was four. He announced that the meeting could proceed with the power to take binding votes.

2.3 Recognition of alternate voting members

Ruling noted that only principal voting members and observers were present.

2.4 Requirements for membership

Ruling reminded the attendees that working group membership is open to all who are affected by the standards-making activities of the group, but that voting membership has some responsibilities. One of those is to respond to letter ballots. The other responsibility is to attend meetings. Except for organizational members, a member's voting status will be changed to observer if both he and his alternate (if he has one) miss two consecutive meetings. The member may be returned to full voting status when meeting attendance is resumed.

2.5 Processing of new membership applications

Greg Meeh asked to be returned to voting status. Eric Tishman moved that Greg Meeh be voted in as a principal. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

Martin Becker submitted an application to have his voting status changed from observer to principal. F. Lee Iwanski, formerly a representative for the now defunct Four Star, applied for membership as a principal for Big Apple Lights in the user category. Eddie Kramer moved that the applications of Becker and Iwanski be accepted. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously on a voice vote.

Gary Fails asked to be returned to voting status from observer. Eddie Kramer move that Gary Fails be accepted as a principal voting member. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

2.6 Processing of changes to observer status

Ruling noted that the attendance records did not show anyone who needed to be moved to observer status because of lack of attendance.

After the membership changes of agenda items 2.5 and 2.6, the working group's full voting body (present and absent) was:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
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	IATSE, 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
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
			15 votes	7 P 4 G 4 U

3 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Brad Dittmer moved that the draft minutes of the previous meeting be accepted as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously on a voice vote.

4 Approval of Agenda

Eddie Kramer moved that the agenda be accepted with the addition of a report from Tim Cox about a proposal for a British standard about pyrotechnic controls under New Business. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote.

5 Call for patents

The following was read aloud by Larry Schoeneman, who was now chairing the meeting:

"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 issues were brought to the attention of the group.

6 Anti-Trust Statement

The following was read aloud 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 \$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 issues were brought to the attention of the chairman.

7 Task Group and Committee Reports

7.1 TSC

Larry Schoeneman reported that the development of a fog-specific product stewardship program, the pending first public review of BSR E1.5, and the development by ESTA (not the Technical Standards Program) of an educational campaign about theatrical fog were discussed at the TSC meeting.

7.2 Fog standard E1.5

Ruling reported that we're waiting for one vote from VPLT to send the BSR E1.5 document to public review. All others had voted in favor of the motion, and had not offered any comments.

7.3 Data collection task group

Ruling reported that the USITT contact list had not proved very useful. Only a few of those who had said that they were willing to do some sampling responded when they were contacted for specific dates when they would do so. Of those that responded then, even fewer would follow through and actually do the sampling when the equipment was sent to them. In any case, at the July F&S Working Group meeting the working group's consensus was that this project can be put on hold. Peak levels seem to be the issue with fog, not TWA levels, and the sampling only determines TWA levels.

8 Old Business

8.1 Product stewardship forms

The draft product stewardship forms (KGR-Fog_Distributor_Check_List, KGR-Fog_Manufacturer_Check_List, and KGR-Fog_User_Check_List) were discussed. Greg Meeh moved that the documents be accepted as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously with a show of hands. Ruling said that he will forward the documents to the TSC for its approval of their publication and distribution.

8.1 Dust effects

Kent Jorgensen was not present, so there was no report.

9 Liaison Reports

9.1 PLASA

Tim Cox reported that there had been no new controversies about fog in the UK.

Cox reported that there has been a proposal from a PLASA member for a British standard for pyrotechnic fire control devices. Adrian Segeren suggested that NFPA 1126 would be a good model. Of course, it would simplify trade between the US and the UK if BSI adopts a standard that is essentially the same as NFPA 1126.

9.2VPLT

Neither Florian von Hofen nor Eckart Steffens were present, so there was no report.

9.3The Kramer and Fails Report

Gary Fails said that he had called Local 1 to ask about any news, and there was none.

9.4NFPA

Schoeneman reported that the head of the 1126 committee had died, and that a new chairman is needed. Jules Lauve has been suggested. Lauve had served as Director of Operations at Treasure Island, where the Buccaneer Bay attraction includes a very large pyrotechnic show.

10 New business

The item that Tim Cox was to have discussed under new business was covered in his PLASA liaison report.

11 Other business

There was a discussion of complaints about the perceived high amount of fog on the LDI show floor. The consensus was that Larry Schoeneman should take the temperature of show management and see if this is an issue with them. Adrian shall do the same with his contacts.

No sampling was being done this year, but next year we'll sample for both glycol and mineral oil. The glycol samples will tell us if more or less fog is present than was present at LDI 2000 in Las Vegas.

12 Schedule for future meetings

Schoeneman announced that the next meeting is scheduled for February 15 at 7:00 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans at the Louisiana Superdome (500 Poydras Plaza, New Orleans, Louisiana). The superdome is the site of the concurrent USITT Conference and Stage Expo.

Marc Gingras made a pitch for the meeting being at 7:00 a.m., when we are all fresh. He said he'd supply breakfast. The group agreed to try this. Schoeneman agreed to check with Lori Rubinstein to see if the meeting time can be changed. **[It has been changed. We will meet at 07:00 in the morning.]**

Schoeneman announced that the following meeting would be on May 4 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Marriott South (4151 Centrepoint Drive, Ft. Worth, Texas). This is a different Marriott Hotel than had been used in the past when meetings were held in the Dallas/Ft. Worth area.

13 Adjournment

Lee Iwanski moved that we adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved unanimously by a voice vote. Schoeneman declared the meeting adjourned at 20:01.

Fog & Smoke Working Group Membership at the End of the 3 November 2001 Meeting

Name	Company	Representing	Vote status	Int. cat.
Murray Gellatly	A.C. Lighting Ltd.	A.C. Lighting Ltd.	P	G
F. Lee Iwanski	Big Apple Lights	Big Apple Lights	P	U
Patrick O'Rourke	Big Apple Lights	Big Apple Lights	O	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 - Springfield, MO	Downhome Productions	P	U
Norman Wright	Group One	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	IATSE, 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

Name	Company	Representing	Vote status	Int. cat.
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A	G
Robert Barbagallo	Proximo Inc.	Proximo Inc.	O	U
Douglas Franz	OVC Network	OVC Network	O	U
Martin Becker	Reel EFX, Inc.	Reel EFX	P	P
Jim Gill	Reel EFX, Inc.	Reel EFX	O	P
Eric Tishman	Rosco Laboratories	Rosco Laboratories	P	P
Heinz Siller	RST Presentations-systeme	RST Presentations-systeme	O	G
Beverly Huggins	SFX Design, Inc.	SFX Design, Inc.	O	P
Nathan Kahn	Theatre Effects, Inc.	Theatre Effects, Inc.	O	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	O	G
Thomas Costello	TJC and Associates	TJC and Associates	O	G
Colin Waters	TMB Associates	TMB Associates	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
				17 P
				9 U
				15 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