

Minutes
RIGGING WORKING GROUP
21 March 2001
Westin Hotel
Long Beach, CA

Chair: Mike Garl; James Thomas Engineering, Inc.; principal; producer

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling, ESTA

Members attending: Andrew T. Martin; ATM Group, Inc. principal; producer
Don Dimitroff; CM Lodestar (Columbus McKinnon); principal; producer
Wally Blount; CM Lodestar (Columbus McKinnon); alternate; producer
M. Brad Dittmer; Downhome Productions; principal; user
Rocky Paulson; Stage Rigging, Inc. (Freeman Companies); alternate; user
Reid Neslage; H & H Specialties Inc.; principal; producer
Delbert Hall; Hall Associates Inc.; observer; user
Jeffrey Hoffend; Hoffend and Sons, Inc.; observer; producer
Rodney F. Kaiser; J.R. Clancy Inc.; principal; producer
Tray Allen; James Thomas Engineering, Inc.; alternate; producer
John R. Burgess; John R. Burgess; observer; user
Nevin Kleege; Kleege Industries; principal; user
Baer Long; MGM Grand Hotel Casino (MGM-Mirage Inc.); principal; user
Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks; principal; user
Richard J. Nix; On Location Lighting Systems Inc.; principal; gen. interest
Tim Cox; PLASA; principal; gen. interest
Michael Akrep; Polar Focus, Inc.; principal; producer
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; principal; user
Dan Culhane; SECOA; principal; producer
Thomas Paterson; Thomas Paterson; observer; gen. interest
Keith Bohn; Tomcat USA, Inc.; principal; producer
Doug Recher; Total Structures, Inc.; alternate; producer

Visitors: Charles "Meechie" Thomas, Total Structures Inc.
Tim Mills, Geiger Engineers

1 Opening remarks

Mike Garl welcomed all and called the meeting to order at 19:04. He thanked people for donating their time to work on standards.

2 Attendance and membership

2.1 Introduction of those present

Mike Garl asked those present to introduce themselves, which they did, proceeding clockwise around the hollow-square table.

2.2 Call for quorum

Garl noted that 17 voting members were present, which would allow a motion requiring a supermajority to be passed.

2.3 Requirements for membership

Mike Garl explained that every principal member of the working group is required to attend meetings. Any principal member and voting alternate who both miss 3 consecutive meetings will have their membership status changed to observer. This action will be taken as the last item of business at each meeting and recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

Membership in the working group is open to all who have a material interest in the work of the group. Membership in ESTA is not a requirement.

3 Processing of new membership requests

Karl Ruling reported that there were no membership applications to process.

The voting body was thus:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Interest cat.
Andrew T. Martin	ATM Group, Inc.	ATM Group, Inc.	P	P
Don Dimitroff	CM Lodestar	Columbus McKinnon	P	P
Wally Blount	CM Lodestar	Columbus McKinnon	A	P
Michael Sandman	Custom Rigging Systems	Custom Rigging Systems	P	P
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U
Dean Hart	Stage Rigging, Inc.	Freeman Companies	P	U
Rocky Paulson	Stage Rigging, Inc.	Freeman Companies	A	U
Reid Neslage	H & H Specialties Inc.	H & H Specialties Inc.	P	P
Edwin S. Kramer	IATSE, Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	P	P
Jack Suesse	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	A	P
Thomas S. Young	J.R. Clancy Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	A	P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	P	P
Mervyn Thomas	James Thomas Engineering Ltd.	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	A	P
Tray Allen	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	A	P
Andrew Smith	Jeamar Winches Inc.	Jeamar Winches Inc.	P	P
Nevin Kleege	Kleege Industries	Kleege Industries	P	U
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	I	U
Kevin Dallmeyer	Mandalay Resort Group	Mandalay Resort Group	P	U
Baer Long	MGM Grand Hotel Casino	MGM-Mirage Inc.	P	U
Tim Hansen	Oasis Stage Werks	Oasis Stage Werks	P	U
Frederick L. Smith	Olaf Soot Associates	Olaf Soot Associates	P	P
Olaf Soot	Olaf Soot Associates	Olaf Soot Associates	A	P
Richard J. Nix	On Location Lighting Systems Inc.	On Location Lighting Systems Inc.	P	G
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA	PLASA	A	G
Michael Akrep	Polar Focus, Inc.	Polar Focus, Inc.	P	P
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	U
Dan Culhane	SECOA	SECOA	P	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Keith Bohn	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	P	P
Mitch Clark	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
Mark Newlin	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
John James	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
Peter Johns	Total Structures, Inc.	Total Structures, Inc.	P	P
Ian Coles	Total Structures, Inc.	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P
Peter Hind	Total Fabrications Ltd.	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P
Doug Recher	Total Structures, Inc.	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P
			24 votes	12 P 9 U 3 G

4 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Garl noted that the table in item 3 showing the voting members had Rocky Paulson listed twice, once under Stage Rigging, and once under Freeman Companies. Stage Rigging is now owned by the Freeman Companies, so only that listing should be shown.

Ruling noted that several other voting members had been left off the item 3 table. The voting membership during the meeting was as was shown in the membership list at the end of the draft

minutes, with the addition of the representatives of Aerial Rigging, MPS Grips Local 80, and Walt Disney, who were moved to observer status at the end of the meeting as a result of the actions taken in item 11. He corrected the errors in the draft minutes.

Bill Sapsis move that the minutes be approved with the corrections to the table in item 3. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously by a show of hands.

5 ESTA declarations

5.1 Anti-trust statement

Mike Garl read the following statement:

"The ESTA Board of Directors, the Technical Standards Committee, and the leadership of this Working Group will reject or nullify any actions that restrain trade. Anyone who feels that an action restraining trade is being or has been taken is requested to bring the 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 any member of this working group maybe found individually liable for any action that restrains trade taken by this working group. An individual convicted of a violation of the Sherman Act may be fined as much as \$100,000 and be imprisoned for up to three years. An easy to read pamphlet describing restraint of trade is available from the Technical Standards Committee."

Karl Ruling held up one of the easy-to-read pamphlets. No anti-trust issues were brought to the attention of the chair.

5.2 Call for patents

Garl read the following statement:

"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 that might protect material in a standard being developed by the working group. You need not be the holder of the patent in order to notify the working group of its existence."

No intellectual property issues were identified.

6 Approval of agenda

Tim Cox offered to give a brief on some working at height legislation in Europe. Mike Garl put it under "9 Other business."

Rodney Kaiser moved that the amended agenda be accepted. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously by a show of hands.

7 Old business

7.1 E1.4 – Manual Counterweight Rigging Systems

Rod Kaiser reported that the task group had made progress on the revised comment resolutions via a flurry of email back and forth. Of 13 unresolved comments the task group is now down to two unresolved comments. On one of these the group is in agreement in principle, but the wording has not been agreed upon. The last, dealing with counterweight arbors, still needed to be discussed, and would be after the working group meeting.

7.2 E1.6 – Powered Rigging Systems

Wally Blount said that the task group had met and that homework assignments had been distributed. The group had met today and done some wordsmithing. A finished draft is expected by the summer.

7.3 E1.7 - Recommended Practice for Flying Performers

Ruling reported that the letter ballot to accept the proposed public review comments resolutions was still open.

Delbert Hall stated that he has found a draft of a British standard that covers flying performers, and that this may have information he would want to incorporate in a new version of the standard. Therefore, he is recommending that people accept his comment resolutions but that the draft document derived from those resolutions not be sent to public review at this time.

Ruling advised that the motion before the group was to accept the comments and to send the draft document to public review. If the group wishes to accept the comments but not send the draft document to public review, the appropriate vote would be "accept in part." This type of vote requires a supporting comment, and the supporting comment could be something as simple as, "A British standard for this exists. It should be studied, and possible additional changes to BSR E1.7 considered before this document is sent to public review again."

7.4 E1.8 - Speaker Enclosures Rigging Standard

There was a continuation of the discussion from the last meeting about the comment resolutions. Ruling read the motion that had been offered to the working group from the minutes of the January 2001 meeting:

"Michael Akrep moved that the proposed responses to the public review comments on E1.8 be rejected. The motion was seconded."

There was an extended discussion of the objections Michael Akrep had to the comment resolutions. During this discussion Andrew Martin explained the choices of design factors in the document. It also was established that the draft E1.8 standard does not apply to any of the products made by Michael Akrep's Polar Focus or Andrew Martin's ATM Flyware

By show of hands, there was one vote in favor of the motion and 15 opposed. The chair abstained. The motion to reject the proposed responses failed.

Andrew Martin moved that the proposed comment resolutions to the third public review comments (Rig/2000-2046) be accepted. The motion was seconded. By show of hands, 15 in favor, one opposed. The chair abstained. The motion to accept the proposed comment resolutions passed with a supermajority.

Andrew Martin moved that the revised BSR E1.8 document (Rig/1997-2021r6) be sent to another public review. The motion was seconded. By show of hands: 16 in favor. None opposed. Only the chair abstained. The motion carried with a supermajority.

7.5 E1.10 - Building Structural Requirements

Jerry Gorrell was not present to report on any progress that has been made to have members of the American Society of Theatre Consultants participate in revising the document. Mike Garl reported that there is still vocal opposition from the ASTC.

Rodney Kaiser moved that the BSR E1.10 project be abandoned. The motion was seconded. By roll call ballot the motion was accepted unanimously with 17 votes in favor of the motion to abandon the project.

Name	Company	Representing	Vote stat	Int cat	Accept	Accept in principle	Accept in part	Reject	Abstain
Andrew T. Martin	ATM Group, Inc.	ATM Group, Inc.	P	P	X				
Wally Blount	CM Lodestar	Columbus McKinnon	A	P	X				
Michael Sandman	Custom Rigging Systems	Custom Rigging Systems	P	P					
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions	Downhome Productions	P	U	X				
Dean Hart	Stage Rigging, Inc.	Freeman Companies	P	U					
Rocky Paulson	Stage Rigging, Inc.	Freeman Companies	A	U	X				
Reid Neslage	H & H Specialties Inc.	H & H Specialties Inc.	P	P	X				
Edwin S. Kramer	IATSE, Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U					
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.)	P	P	X				
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering	James Thomas Engineering	P	P	X				
Andrew Smith	Jeamar Winches Inc.	Jeamar Winches Inc.	P	P					
Nevin Kleege	Kleeege Industries	Kleeege Industries	P	U	X				
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	I	U					
Kevin Dallmeyer	Mandalay Resort Group	Mandalay Resort Group	P	U					
Baer Long	MGM Grand Hotel Casino	MGM-Mirage Inc.	P	U	X				
Tim Hansen	Oasis Stage Werks	Oasis Stage Werks	P	U	X				
Frederick L. Smith	Olaf Soot Associates	Olaf Soot Associates	P	P					
Olaf Soot	Olaf Soot Associates	Olaf Soot Associates	A	P					
Richard J. Nix	On Location Lighting Systems Inc.	On Location Lighting Systems Inc.	P	G	X				
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	G	X				
Michael Akrep	Polar Focus, Inc.	Polar Focus, Inc.	P	P	X				
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	U	X				
Dan Culhane	SECOA	SECOA	P	P	X				
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G					
Keith Bohn	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	P	P	X				
Doug Recher	Total Structures, Inc.	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P	X				
			24 votes	12 P 9 U 3 G	17	0	0	0	0

7.6 E1.15 – Boom & base standard

Richard Nix reported that he is about 70% finished with the rewrite. He is working on making it performance-based rather than construction-based, and thanked Thomas Peterson, an observer member from Australia who was present at this meeting, for his help on the project. Nix said that he hopes to have something to consider for public review for the next meeting. He also suggested that he might develop a second guidance document that can be sold at a very low price to get people in theatres to understand that they are manufacturers when they assemble boom and base systems.

7.7 Stage roofs proposal

Keith Bohn reported that he has found some interested parties for the project. He wants to gather some more information and to discuss a possible scope with the interested parties. He will then present the proposed scope to the working group. He said he needs a copy of the temporary demountable structures book.

8 New business

None.

9 Other business

Tim Cox gave an update on a draft European directive regarding working at heights. There is a draft of this directive available to the public. However, the document is before the European Parliament, so it is subject to amendment. This document is goal-setting rather than prescriptive, as are the other EEC directives, but it is much more specific in the types of equipment and practices it addresses than are most goal-setting standards. Of particular interest to our industry is that it deals with ladders, scaffolding, and access by rope (bosun's chairs, e.g.). The draft of the directive can be downloaded at <http://www.hse.gov.uk/spd/noframes/ecdir.pdf>.

Mike Garl extended an invitation for a working group member to serve with him as a co-chair of the rigging working group.

Mike Garl also advised the working group said that our standards are for sale at the USITT Stage Expo.

10 Schedule for future meetings

Mike Garl announced that the next meeting will be Friday, July 13, at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Marriott in Irving, Texas. The following meeting will be at LDI in early November. Garl pointed out that there will be no January meeting in 2002.

11 Changes of membership status resulting from lack of attendance.

Mike Garl reported that at this time there were no voting members that needed to be moved to observer status because of lack of attendance.

12 Adjournment

Dan Culhane moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously on a voice vote. Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 20:39.

Rigging Working Group Membership at the End of the 21 March 2001 Meeting

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Michael G. Wiener	Aerial Rigging & Leasing, Inc.	Aerial Rigging & Leasing, Inc.	O	U
Jim Fletcher	American Sling Company, Inc.	American Sling Company, Inc.	O	P
Andrew T. Martin	ATM Group, Inc.	ATM Group, Inc.	P	P
Lee J. Bloch	Bloch Design Group Inc.	Bloch Design Group Inc.	O	G
Eric Todd	BML Inc.	BML Inc.	O	P
Paul Tardue	BML Inc.	BML Inc.	O	P
Joachim Stoecker	CAMCO GmbH	CAMCO GmbH	O	P
Mark M. Witteveen	Chicago Flyhouse Inc.	Chicago Flyhouse Inc.	O	U
Ted Jones	Chicago Spotlight, Inc.	Chicago Spotlight, Inc.	O	U
Marty Lazarus	Chicago Spotlight, Inc.	Chicago Spotlight, Inc.	O	U
Wally Blount	CM Lodestar	Columbus McKinnon	A	P
Don Dimitroff	CM Lodestar	Columbus McKinnon	P	P
Ron Fogel	Creative Realities, Inc.	Creative Realities, Inc.	O	G
Jason Friedman	Creative Realities, Inc.	Creative Realities, Inc.	O	G
Michael Sandman	Custom Rigging Systems	Custom Rigging Systems	P	P
Harry Donovan	Donovan Rigging, Inc.	Donovan Rigging, Inc.	O	U
Wes Jenkins	Down Stage Right Industries	Down Stage Right Industries	O	P
M. Brad Dittmer	Downhome Productions - Springfield, MO	Downhome Productions	P	U
Dean Hart	Stage Rigging, Inc.	Freeman Companies	P	U
Rocky Paulson	Stage Rigging, Inc.	Freeman Companies	A	U

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
David M. Campbell	Geiger Engineers	Geiger Engineers	O	G
Paul Brady	Grand Stage Company, Inc.	Grand Stage Company, Inc.	O	U
Reid Neslage	H & H Specialties Inc.	H & H Specialties Inc.	P	P
Delbert Hall	Hall Associates Inc.	Hall Associates Inc.	O	U
Jeffrey Hoffend	Hoffend and Sons, Inc.	Hoffend and Sons, Inc.	O	P
Edwin S. Kramer	IATSE, Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
Perry Langenstein	International Theatre Consultants	International Theatre Consultants	O	G
Jack Suesse	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	A	P
Thomas S. Young	J.R. Clancy Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	A	P
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	P	P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	P	P
Mervyn Thomas	James Thomas Engineering Ltd.	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	A	P
Tray Allen	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	A	P
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc. (USITT on TSC)	O	U
Andrew Smith	Jeamar Winches Inc.	Jeamar Winches Inc.	P	P
Chuck McClelland	Jeamar Winches Inc.	Jeamar Winches Inc.	O	P
John Kaes	John Kaes	John Kaes	O	U
John R. Burgess	John R. Burgess	John R. Burgess	O	U
Edward Paget	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.	Jones & Phillips Associates, Inc.	O	G
Ray Robins	Kansas Stage Inc.	Kansas Stage Inc.	O	U

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Nevin Kleege	Kleege Industries	Kleege Industries	P	U
Ian J. Warhurst	Lite Structures (GB) Ltd.	Lite Structures (GB) Ltd.	O	P
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	I	U
Kevin Dallmeyer	Mandalay Resort Group	Mandalay Resort Group	P	U
Baer Long	MGM Grand Hotel Casino	MGM-Mirage Inc.	P	U
Charles E. Gorgen	Midwest Crane Corp.	Midwest Crane Corp.	O	P
Kent H. Jorgensen	MPS Grips, Local 80	MPS Grips, Local 80	O	G
Ted Hickey	OAP Audio Products	OAP Audio Products	O	P
Gary Justesen	Oasis Stage Werks	Oasis Stage Werks	O	P
Tim Hansen	Oasis Stage Werks	Oasis Stage Werks	P	U
Frederick L. Smith	Olaf Soot Associates	Olaf Soot Associates	P	P
Olaf Soot	Olaf Soot Associates	Olaf Soot Associates	A	P
Richard J. Nix	On Location Lighting Systems Inc.	On Location Lighting Systems Inc.	P	G
Joseph Rapier	Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc.	Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc.	O	P
Patrick Stansfield	Patrick Stansfield Assoc., Inc.	Patrick Stansfield Assoc., Inc.	O	U
Peter Letzelter-Smith	Peter Letzelter-Smith	Peter Letzelter-Smith	O	U
Billy Phillips	Phillips Rigging	Phillips Rigging	O	P
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA Standards Office	PLASA	A	G
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Michael Akrep	Polar Focus, Inc.	Polar Focus, Inc.	P	P

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Robert Barbagallo	Proximo Inc.	Proximo Inc.	O	U
Scott Mohr	R&R Cases and Cabinets	R&R Cases and Cabinets	O	G
Michael Reed	Reed Rigging, Inc.	Reed Rigging, Inc.	O	U
Mark Fitch	Renkus-Heinz, Inc.	Renkus-Heinz, Inc.	O	P
Rikki Newman	Rikki Newman	Rikki Newman	O	U
Randall W. A. Davidson	Risk International & Associates, Inc.	Risk International & Associates, Inc.	O	U
Roo Dunn	Pennsylvania Convention Center	Roo Dunn	O	U
Heinz Siller	RST Präsentationssysteme	RST Präsentationssysteme	O	G
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	U
Dan Culhane	SECOA	SECOA	P	P
Luigi Sbalzarini	Selvolina SNC	Selvolina SNC	O	P
Jon Lagerquist	South Coast Repertory	South Coast Repertory	O	U
Jerrold S. Tiers	St. Louis Music Inc.	St. Louis Music Inc.	O	P
Richard C. Mecke	Texas Scenic Company	Texas Scenic Company	O	P
Alan Broadhurst	The Broadhurst Partnership	The Broadhurst Partnership	O	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Ed Nicholas	Theatrical Lighting Systems, Inc.	Theatrical Lighting Systems, Inc.	O	U
F. Robert Bauer	Theatrix Inc.	Theatrix Inc.	O	U
Thomas Paterson	Thomas Paterson	Thomas Paterson	O	G

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Mitch Clark	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
Mark Newlin	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
John James	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
Keith Bohn	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Tomcat USA, Inc.	P	P
Ian Coles	Total Structures, Inc.	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P
Peter Hind	Total Fabrications Ltd.	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P
Peter Johns	Total Structures, Inc.	Total Structures, Inc.	P	P
Doug Recher	Total Structures, Inc.	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P
Eckart Steffens	SOUNDLIGHT	VPLT	O	G
Peter Happe	Walt Disney Imagineering	Walt Disney	O	U
Warren A. Bacon	Warren A. Bacon	Warren A. Bacon	O	U

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 rigging equipment
- U User of rigging equipment
- G General interest in rigging equipment