

**Minutes**  
**RIGGING WORKING GROUP**  
13 July 2001  
Dallas/Ft. Worth Airport Marriott  
Irving, Texas

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

**Recording secretary:** Karl G. Ruling, ESTA

**Members attending:** Michael G. Wiener; Aerial Rigging & Leasing, Inc.; observer; user  
William Conner; Schuler & Shook Inc., representing the American Society of Theatre Consultants; principal; user (joined at this meeting)  
Don Dimitroff; Columbus McKinnon; principal; producer  
Wally Blount; Columbus McKinnon; alternate; producer  
Michael Sandman; CRS Technologies; principal; producer  
Ben Saltzman; CRS Technologies; alternate; producer (joined at this meeting)  
M. Brad Dittmer; Downhome Productions; principal; user  
Dean Hart; Stage Rigging, Inc., representing the Freeman Companies; principal; user  
Reid Neslage; H & H Specialties Inc.; principal; producer  
Jeffrey Hoffend; Hoffend & Sons, Inc.; observer; producer  
Edwin S. Kramer; IATSE, Local 1; principal; user  
Perry Langenstein; International Theatre Consultants; observer; gen. interest  
Rodney F. Kaiser; J.R. Clancy Inc.; principal; producer  
Thomas S. Young; J.R. Clancy Inc.; alternate; producer  
Nevin Kleege; Kleege Industries; principal; user  
Baer Long; MGM Grand Hotel Casino, representing MGM-Mirage Inc.; principal; user  
Kent H. Jorgensen; MPS Grips, Local 80; observer; gen. interest  
Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks; principal; user  
Richard J. Nix; On Location Lighting Systems Inc.; principal; gen. interest  
Michael Akrep; Polar Focus, Inc.; principal; producer  
Randall W. A. Davidson; Risk International & Associates, Inc.; observer; user  
Dan Culhane; SECOA; principal; producer  
Larry Lutz; Texas Scenic Company; principal; producer (joined at this meeting)  
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; principal; gen. interest  
Keith Bohn; Tomcat USA, Inc.; principal; producer

**1 Opening remarks**

Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 19:00 and welcomed all to bucolic Irving, TX. He thanked those attending for taking time to attend and work on standards.

**2 Attendance and membership**

A multi-colored attendance sheet was circulated and people were instructed to sign in with it.

**2.1 Introduction of those present**

Garl asked those attending to introduce themselves, which they did.

**2.2 Call for quorum**

Mike Garl asked for a show of hands of voting members. He announced the presence of a quorum.

### 2.3 Requirements for membership

Garl reminded the assembly of the attendance requirement:

"Every principal member of the working group is required to attend meetings. Any principal member and voting alternate who both miss three 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."

### 3 Processing of new membership requests

Applications had been received from:

Douglas Franz of QVC Network, applying as an observer, user

William Conner of Schuler & Shook, representing ASTC, applying as a principal, user

Ben Saltzman of CRS Technologies, alternate, producer

Larry Lutz of Texas Scenic Company, applying as principal, producer

Eddie Kramer moved that the applications be accepted. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a show of hands. The full consensus body was the following, with 18 present:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	U
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	CRS Technologies	CRS Technologies	P	P
Ben Saltzman	CRS Technologies	CRS Technologies	A	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
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. (NC)	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
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
Larry Lutz	Texas Scenic Company	Texas Scenic Company	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
			26 votes	13 P 10 U 3 G

#### **4 Approval of minutes from the previous meeting**

Dan Culhane moved that they be accepted as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous show of hands.

#### **5 ESTA declarations**

The following declarations (5.1 and 5.2) were read by Mike Garl.

##### **5.1 Anti-trust statement**

"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."

Karl Ruling waved some of the pamphlets above his head to show that they were available. No issues were identified by the assembly.

##### **5.2 Call for patents**

"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 issues were identified by the assembly.

#### **6 Approval of agenda**

Garl asked that we discuss the draft German truss standard under new business. Brad Dittmer moved that the agenda be accepted with this addition. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous show of hands.

#### **7 Old business**

##### **7.1 E1.4 - Manual Rigging Systems**

Richard Nix moved that the resolutions in "PROPOSED RESOLUTIONS TO UN-RESOLVED COMMENTS, 2ND PUBLIC REVIEW" (Rig/2001-2011) be accepted. The motion was seconded. By show of hands: 15 in favor, none opposed, three abstentions including chair. The motion was accepted. [Karl Ruling announced that he would change the name of the document to "APPROVED" and change the document number to Rig/2001-2011r1.](#)

Eddie Kramer moved that the BSR E1.4 document [\[E1-4\(1997-2002r5\)\]](#) containing the approved resolutions be sent to public review. The motion was seconded. By [roll call ballot \[Rig/2001-2013\]](#), the motion was approved with a supermajority of 17 "accept" with one abstention.

##### **7.2 E1.6 – Powered Rigging Systems**

Tom Young presented the new [BSR E1.6 document \[Rig/1997-2016r3\]](#) that has been rewritten to combine the scopes of E1.13 and E1.6.

Jerry Gorrell moved that [BSR E1.6 document \[Rig/1997-2016r3\]](#) be sent to public review. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted unanimously by [roll call ballot \[Rig/2001-2014\]](#).

Rodney Kaiser moved that we send the BSR E1.6 document to the previous commentors on E1.6 and E1.13 stating that this is our resolution of their comments and asking them to comment on this new document. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a show of hands with all in favor, except for the chairman, who abstained.

### **7.3 E1.7 - Recommended Practice for Flying Performers**

Eddie Kramer moved that we accept the proposed comment resolutions [Rig/2001-2000r1] except the resolution for comment 17. The appropriate resolution was not to remove the requirement but to amend the definitions section so that it does not have a specific value for proof-testing. The motion was seconded by Dan Culhane. The motion was approved by a show of hands with all in favor, except for the chairman, who abstained.

Ruling edited the document to make a [revised and accepted comment resolution document \[Rig/2001-2000r2\]](#). He also made the changes per the working group's instructions to version 8 of the draft standard, creating [BSR E1.7r9 \[Rig/1997-2004r9\]](#). This version has section 9.4 reinstated and the definition of proof testing gives no numerical value. In other respects, the document is the same as version 8, which was submitted by the task group to the working group for approval.

### **7.4 E1.8 - Speaker Enclosures Rigging Standard**

Karl G. Ruling reported that it is in public review, and will be until September 25. It is posted on the ESTA website. The TSP home page is at <http://www.esta.org/tsp/> and there is a link to the public review documents from there.

Michael Akrep appealed to the working group to require in BSR E1.8 that the working load limit be printed on the loudspeaker. He used the example of a cardboard box, which has its structural rating stamped on the cardboard. He asked rhetorically, if we require labeling on a cardboard box, shouldn't we require it on a speaker enclosure suspended over people's heads?

### **7.5 Abandoned E1.10 - Building Structural Requirements**

Harry Donovan's letter calling for something like the abandoned BSR E1.10 project was discussed. Ruling proposed that someone write an article addressing these concerns about what a rigger should do when load rating specifications for a venue are not available. Perry Langenstein, Nevin Kleege, and Jerry Gorrell agreed to meet to discuss working on an article.

Rodney Kaiser moved that Karl Ruling write a letter to Harry Donovan saying that, while we sympathize with him and understand the problem, we do not feel that we can respond to his plight at this time. The motion was seconded. The motion was accepted by a unanimous show of hands.

### **7.6 E1.15 – Boom & base standard**

Richard Nix handed Karl Ruling a chartreuse 90 mm computer disk with the [file on it \[Rig/1998-2032r5\]](#), stating that it contained the version he would like to have the working group consider for public review at the next opportunity. There was no further report or discussion.

### **7.7 Stage roofs proposal**

Keith Bohn reported that he had contacted interested people but that he did not have a scope yet. He said he hoped to have it for the next meeting.

## **8 New business**

### **8.1 Fire curtains**

William Conner spoke of the need for some kind of standard for the installation of fire curtains.

Wally Blount moved that we appoint a committee to study fire curtains and come back to the next meeting with a recommendation. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by a unanimous show of hands.

## **8.2 German truss standard**

Mike Garl reported that VPLT was circulating a draft German standard for the preparation and use of truss systems, VPLT SR 1.0. The document was written by VPLT, the Professional Lighting and Sound Association of Germany, in association with the VBG, which is the German Government Labor Protection Insurance body for the entertainment and events industry. It is in public review until July 31. It differs from ANSI E1.2 and BS 7905/6-2 in that it does not address the manufacture of truss components; it only says that all existing DIN standards shall be applied during manufacture. It focuses on the correct delivery and use of trussing systems, including regular inspections. The standard is in German, and is available on the VPLT website. An English translation is posted on the PLASA website for PLASA members.

## **9 Other business**

None

## **10 Schedule for future meetings**

Mike Garl stated that the next meeting will be Wednesday, October 31 at 19:00 at the Rosen Centre Hotel (9840 International Drive, Orlando, FL). There will be no January meeting. The following meeting will be at 19:00 on February 13, Ash Wednesday, at the USITT Conference in 2002 at the Hyatt Regency New Orleans at the Louisiana Superdome. There will then be two meetings in the DFW area: one on May 3 and then during the July 26 weekend.

## **11 Changes of membership status resulting from lack of attendance.**

Mike Garl announced that the following had failed to meet the attendance requirement for voting members, and were now observers:

Kevin Dallmeyer, Mandalay Resort Group  
Olaf Soot, Olaf Soot Associates  
Frederick L. Smith, Olaf Soot Associates

## **12 Adjournment**

With no further business to conduct, Mike Garl declared the meeting adjourned at 21:29.



### Rigging Working Group Membership at the End of the 13 July 2001 Meeting

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Michael G. Wiener	Aerial Rigging & Leasing, Inc.	Aerial Rigging & Leasing, Inc.	O	U
William Conner	Schuler & Shook Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	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	CRS Technologies	CRS Technologies	P	P
Ben Saltzman	CRS Technologies	CRS Technologies	A	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 & Sons, Inc.	Hoffend & 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
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	P	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
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.	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
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	O	U

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
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	O	P
Olaf Soot	Olaf Soot Associates	Olaf Soot Associates	O	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	PLASA	A	G
Tim Cox	PLASA	PLASA	P	G
Michael Akrep	Polar Focus, Inc.	Polar Focus, Inc.	P	P
Robert Barbagallo	Proximo Inc.	Proximo Inc.	O	U
Douglas Franz	QVC Network	QVC Network	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

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
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
Larry Lutz	Texas Scenic Company	Texas Scenic Company	P	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
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