

Minutes
Rigging Working Group
Wednesday, October 22, 1997
Rio Suites Hotel
Las Vegas, NV

Committee chair: Mike Garl, James Thomas Engineering, Inc.

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling

In attendance: Brad Dittmer, Associated Theatrical Contractors, Principal
Andrew T. Martin, ATM Group, Inc., Principal
Eric Todd, BML Stage Lighting Co., Inc., Principal
Joachim Stoecker, CAMCO GmbH, Observer (voted in at this meeting)
Wally Blount, CM Lodestar , Principal
John R. Burgess, Department of Theatre, Principal
Reid Neslage, H & H Specialties Inc., Principal
Rodney F. Kaiser, J.R. Clancy Inc., Alternate
Jay O. Glerum, Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc., Principal
Tony Douglas-Beveridge, PLASA, Principal
Bill Sapsis, Sapsis Rigging, Inc., Principal
Rocky Paulson, Stage Rigging, Inc., Principal
Richard Pantel, Tectonic Engineering, Visitor
Jerry Gorrell, Theatre Safety Programs, Principal
Jay Edwards, Tomcat USA, Inc., Principal
Peter Hind, Total Fabrications (UK), Principal

1. Opening remarks

The meeting was called to order at 7:06 PM by Mike Garl

2. Attendance and membership

2.1 Introduction of those present

The group introduced themselves.
With 15 voting members present, the minimum number for a quorum (10) was surpassed.

2.2 New requirements for membership

Mike Garl read the new requirements to the working group:

"In order to conduct the business of this work group in a timely manner it has become necessary to revise the membership requirements. Most of the principal members of this group or the organizations they represent have made a serious financial and time commitment to the development of standards for our industry. Since a quorum is required to conduct any business and some business requires a Super-majority it is vitally important that we have as many members as possible present at every meeting. In fairness to the members who have made the commitment and in order to continue moving the work of the group forward it is necessary to revise the membership requirements. Effective with our next meeting, the first meeting of 1998 the following membership requirements will be in effect.

"Every principal member of the working group is required to attend meetings. Any principal member or voting alternate who misses 3 consecutive meetings will have their membership status changed from principal member 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

Joachim Stoecker of Camco GmbH was unanimously voted in as observer.

4. Approval of minutes from the previous meeting

Brad Dittmer moved the minutes be accepted as written. Wally Blount seconded. Unanimous.

5. ESTA disclaimers

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 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.

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.

6. Approval of agenda

Garl added a point 9.2 regarding SI units. Dittmer moved that the amended agenda be accepted. Hind seconded. Unanimous.

7. Old business

7.1 Wire rope ladder / ANSI review - Karl Ruling

Ruling reported that the draft standard is now available for public review. The review period started October 10, 1997 and ends December 9, 1997. Review materials are available from the ESTA office and can be downloaded from the ESTA website.

7.2 Status of aluminum truss standard - Mike Garl

Mike Garl reported that there were 61 comments to resolve. The TSC has directed the working group to prepare for a second public review. The aluminum truss and tower task group will resolve the comments.

7.3 USITT stage rigging task group - Rod Kaiser

7.3.1 Status of manual counterweight flying systems standard - Rod Kaiser

Rodney Kaiser reported that there are 351 comments to resolve. The TSC has also directed the working group prepare for a second public review. The counterweight flying system task group will attempt to resolve all the comments in the next two months so they can be reviewed by the working group and action taken on them at the next meeting.

7.3.2 Flying performers - recommended practice - progress report

Glerum moved that the document needs to be reformatted to look like the others and needs a foreword or preface. Sapsis seconded. Unanimous.

7.3.3 Motorized flying systems - progress report

Glerum moved that the document be sent to public review. Sapsis seconded. Unanimous show of hands. Per the P&P, the official vote will be by letter ballot.

7.4 Speaker rigging task group - progress report - Andrew Martin

Glerum moved to send it to public review. Dittmer seconded it. Unanimous affirmation. Per the P&P, the official vote will be by letter ballot.

8. New business

8.1 Creation of task group for building structural requirements - Jay Glerum

Jerry Gorrell has been working on a document that could be a standard. Wally Blount moved that an official task group be formed to develop this document. Glerum seconded. Unanimous. Gorrell will be the task group chair.

8.2 British standards update (MHE313)- Tony Douglas-Beveridge

Tony Douglas-Beveridge reported that he is still talking to BSI. He has gotten a positive reaction, but that's all. The project had not been assigned to a committee yet.

9. Other business

9.1 LDI session re: wire rope ladder and other standards we are working on.

It was noted that there is a public session about our various rigging standards projects on Saturday, October 25, from 9:30 am until 10:30 am

9.2 SI units

Mike Garl notified the group of ESTA's metric policy. We will use SI units. IEEE/ASTM SI 10-97 will be our guide for how to use them and how to convert from inch/pound to SI.

Paulson and Ruling had a disagreement about whether weight in SI was expressed in newtons or kilograms. The disagreement was resolved after the meeting by consulting the SI 10-1997 standard.

10. Schedule for future meetings

The next meeting will be January 23 , 1998 at 7:00 p.m. at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Marriott in Irving, Texas. The following meeting will be March 18, 1998, at 7:00 p.m. in Long Beach, CA.

11. Adjournment

Jay Glerum moved, Jerry Gorrell seconded. Adjourned at 8:20 PM