

Minutes
Rigging Working Group Meeting

Doubletree Hotel
March 19, 1997
Pittsburgh, PA

Mike Garl, Chair
Karl G. Ruling, Recording secretary

In attendance: Bill Sapsis, Sapsis Rigging, Inc.
 Brad Dittmer, Associated Theatrical Contractors
 Bruce Charlick, Sapsis Rigging, Inc.
 Jay O. Glerum, Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.
 Jerry Gorrell, Theatre Safety Programs
 John R. Burgess, Department of Theatre
 Mike Garl, James Thomas Engineering, Inc.
 Paul Tardue, BML Stage Lighting Co., Inc.
 Reid Neslage, H & H Specialties Inc.
 Richard Nix, Richard Nix
 Ron Fogel, BASH Theatrical Lighting
 Tony Douglas-Beveridge, PLASA

Visitors: Jack Noble, ATM Fly-Ware
 Tim Hansen, Oasis Stage Werks

- 1 Opening Remarks
 Mike Garl called the meeting to order at 7:08 PM
- 2 Attendance and Membership
 - 2.1 Introduction of Those Present
 Those present introduced themselves
 - 2.2 Requirements for Membership
- 3 Processing of New Membership Requests
 Bruce Charlick, Sapsis Rigging alternate
 Peter Hind, Total Fabrications alternate
 Richard Nix moved, Brad Dittmer seconded accepting Charlick and Hind.
 Unanimous.
- 4 Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting
 Nix moved, Glerum seconded. Unanimous

5 ESTA Disclaimers

5.1 Anti-Trust Statement read by Garl:

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.

5.2 Call for Patents read by Garl:

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 may be 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.

6 Approval of Agenda

Dittmer and Nix moved and seconded. Approved.

7 Old Business

7.1 ANSI update - Karl Ruling

PINS forms have been filed for the truss and tower, and the ladder standards

7.2 USITT Stage Rigging Task Group

Glerum presented the draft Section 5.1 Manual Counterweight Flying Systems standard, which is new document created by merging the previous Manual Counterweight Flying Systems draft standard and the Rope and Sandbag Flying Systems draft standard.

Nix moved, Ron Fogel seconded to move this standard (Rig 97-2002) to public review. The working group in attendance voted unanimously in support of the motion. The full, formal working group vote to send the draft document to public review will be by letter ballot.

7.3 Truss Standard - Mike Garl & Truss Team

Garl turned the meeting chair over to Jay Glerum.

Mike Garl pointed out the unresolved negative comments from Roland van Wensveen (Prolyte Products, Inc.) and Eric Todd (BML Stage Lighting). Van Wensveen feels that the standard is not comprehensive enough and that the "safety factor of 1.176 is absolutely to [sic] low." Todd calls for a general discussion of safety factors. After some discussion the group concluded that the standards referenced in the document put the "safety factor" ("design factor" is the preferred term) far above 1.176. A general discussion of safety factors was felt to be better addressed in a magazine article or monograph outside the standard.

Gorrell moved, Nix seconded to send the draft Standard For The Design, Manufacture, And Use Of Aluminum Trusses And Towers In The Entertainment Industry (Rig 97-2000) to public review. The working group in attendance voted unanimously in support of the motion. The full, formal working group vote to send the document to public review will be done by letter ballot.

7.4 Speaker Rigging Task Group

Andrew Martin was absent, so Jack Noble from ATM reported that several people have agreed to work on this task group. A draft document is being developed.

8 New Business

Garl suggested that an article about safety factors should run in *Protocol*, and that he had approached Dave Campbell (Geiger Engineering) and Peter Hind (Total Fabrications) about writing it. The consensus was that such an article would be good.

9 Other Business

None.

10 Schedule for Future Meetings

7:00 to 11:00 p.m., Friday, June 27 at the Dallas/Ft. Worth Marriott in Irving, Texas.

11 Adjournment

Dittmer moved. Meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM