

Minutes
Rigging Working Group

January 22, 1999
Marriott DFW Airport Hotel
Irving, Texas

Chairman: Mike Garl; James Thomas Engineering, Inc.; Principal; Producer

Recording secretary: Karl G. Ruling, ESTA

Members in attendance: Andrew Smith; Jeamar Winches Inc.; Principal; Producer
Andrew T. Martin; ATM Group, Inc.; Principal; Producer
Bill Sapsis; Sapsis Rigging, Inc.; Principal; User
Brad Dittmer; Associated Theatrical Contractors; Principal; User
Edwin S. Kramer; IATSE, Local 1; Principal; User (joined at this meeting)
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; Principal; General interest
Jim Fletcher; American Sling Company, Inc.; Observer; Producer
Keith Bohn; Tomcat USA, Inc.; Principal; Producer
Mark Herman; Lift-All Co., Inc.; Principal; Producer
Reid Neslage; H&H Specialties; Principal; Producer
Richard Nix; Sacramento Theatrical Lighting; Principal; General interest
Rodney F. Kaiser; J.R. Clancy Inc.; Principal; Producer
Teddy Van Bommel; PRG Lighting Division; Principal; User
Tim Cox; PLASA ; Principal; General interest
Tim Hansen; Oasis Stage Werks; Principal; User (joined as principal at this meeting)
Wally Blount; CM Lodestar; Principal; Producer

Visitor: Lee Bloch, Bloch Design Group

1. Opening Remarks

Mike Garl called the meeting to order and welcomed all at 7:10 p.m.

2. Attendance and Membership

2.1 Introduction of Those Present

Garl asked people to introduce themselves, which they did going around the table counter-clockwise.

2.2 Call for Quorum

Garl noted that we have 23 principals, thus requiring eight for a quorum. There were 14 voting members present at the beginning of the meeting, so Garl announced that we have a quorum.

2.3 Requirements for Membership

Mike Garl read the rule requiring attendance for voting members:

Attendance requirement: 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

Eddie Kramer, representing IATSE, Local 1; George Stengel, representing Kleege Industries; and Tim Hansen, representing Oasis Stage Werks had applied as principal voting representatives.

Brad Dittmer moved that all three be accepted. Richard Nix seconded the motion. Unanimous by show of hands. This brought the number of voting members present to 16.

4. Approval of Minutes from the Previous Meeting

Brad Dittmer moved that the minutes be accepted as written. Rodney Kaiser seconded the motion. Unanimous by show of hands.

5. ESTA Declarations

Mike Garl directed people to read the following anti-trust and patent declaration statements, and gave them time to do so:

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

Mike Garl asked if there were any additions or corrections to the draft minutes. None were offered. Bill Sapsis moved that the minutes be accepted as written. Richard Nix seconded the motion. It was passed with an unanimous show of hands.

7. Old Business

7.1 E1.1 - Wire Rope Ladder Standard – Status Report - Karl Ruling

Ruling reported that the draft standard was still in public review, and would be until 5:00 p.m. until Feb. 2, 1999. He noted that not many comments had been received yet.

7.2 E1.2 - Aluminum Truss Standard – Status report - Karl Ruling

Ruling reported that the TSC had approved its third public review. It will go to public review as soon as he can get the review materials prepared, which would probably be next week. The last day of the public

review would be 60 days after ANSI announces the review in Standards Action, but when that announcement would be was uncertain. However, it certainly would not be until after the USITT meeting.

7.3 E1.4 - Manual Counterweight Flying Systems Standard - Status Report - Karl Ruling

Ruling said that the comments from the review ending January 5 had been sent to the working group.

Rodney Kaiser said that the minor points in the comments would be taken care of by mail or e-mail in February, and that the more substantive points would be addressed by the task group at a meeting at USITT.

7.4 E1.6 - Powered Flying Systems – Comment Resolution - Jon Lagerquist / Rod Kaiser

Jon Lagerquist was not present. Rodney Kaiser had no report.

7.5 E1.7 - Recommended Practice for Flying Performers - Comment Resolution - Delbert Hall

Delbert Hall was not present. Ruling reported that Hall had sent him another draft of the document, but that Hall had written that it was not yet ready to be sent to the working group.

Mike Garl said that Peter Foy had contacted him and will address the working group at the next meeting.

7.6 E1.8 - Speaker Enclosures Rigging Standard

7.6.1 Comment Resolution - Andrew Martin

Andrew Martin had prepared resolutions to the comments received on E1.8, and had prepared a new version of the standard. The documents were distributed at the meeting, and Martin talked about what he had changed and why.

Brad Dittmer moved that we accept the resolutions and the new draft standard, and that we vote on accepting them by letter ballot. Rodney Kaiser seconded the motion. There was a unanimous show of support at the meeting for this when Garl called for a show of hands, however the official vote will be by letter ballot to allow people time to read the documents and consider each of the comment resolutions.

There was a discussion of whether balloting can be done by e-mail to expedite the process. Ruling said he will try to do this.

7.6.2 NSCA & UL 1480 – Garl / Ruling

Mike Garl reported that there was an ad hoc group from NSCA working with UL on UL 1480 that is very interested in the speaker standard. UL wants to put provisions in 1480 for the structural strength and integrity of the speakers. Their interest is in making sure that speakers, particularly PA speakers and ones that are part of alarm systems, do not fall. Garl said that they would be inclined to adopt E1.8, but do need our standard to be completed in a reasonable time.

7.7 E1.10 - Building Structural Requirements - Comment Resolution – Jerry Gorrell

Jerry Gorrell's resolutions to the comments received during the first public review of E1.10 (Rig/98-2047) had been mailed to the working group on December 21. Bill Sapsis moved that the working group accept the resolutions. Teddy Van Bommel seconded the motion. A roll call ballot of the voting members present was held:

Andrew Smith	Jeamar Winches Inc.	Abstain
Andrew T. Martin	ATM Group, Inc.	Accept
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	Accept
Brad Dittmer	Associated Theatrical Contractors	Accept
Edwin S. Kramer	IATSE, Local 1	Abstain
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Accept
Keith Bohn	Tomcat USA, Inc.	Accept
Mark Herman	Lift-All Co., Inc.	Accept
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	Accept
Reid Neslage	H&H Specialties	Accept
Richard Nix	Sacramento Theatrical Lighting	Accept
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	Accept
Teddy Van Bommel	PRG Lighting Division	Accept
Tim Cox	PLASA	Accept
Tim Hansen	Oasis Stage Werks	Accept
Wally Blount	CM Lodestar	Accept

Fourteen votes for "accept" with two abstentions. The motion passed with the required super-majority.

7.8 Update on British Rigging Standards - Tony Douglas-Beveridge / Tim Cox

No report at this time.

7.9 Arena Scoreboards and Speakers Task Group - Update - Wally Blount

Wally Blount asked the group for responses on the scope statement that had been sent to them. This statement is:

"This document covers the design, installation, inspection and maintenance of hoisting equipment used to lift and support permanently installed speaker clusters and scoreboards used in the entertainment industry."

There was a big discussion of what "permanent" means. The discussion did not have a clear resolution. The sense of the group is that this project is not meant to cover the speaker clusters that tour with shows, and that move from venue to venue on the tour. However, the language defining "permanent" should not be so tight that speaker clusters and scoreboards that move within a venue, for example, from one end of an arena to the other, are excluded. Those would be considered permanent for the purposes of this standard.

Andrew Martin and Teddy Van Bommel volunteered to be on the task group, too.

Wally Blount expects to have a draft document by LDI99.

8. New Business

None.

9. Other Business

Richard Nix reported that the boom base standard is being revised. He said he hopes to have something for Toronto meeting

10. Schedule for Future Meetings

Mike Garl announced that the next meeting would be held in conjunction with the USITT Conference in Toronto on Wednesday, March 24, 1994 at 7:00 p.m. The summer meeting would be either the weekend of July 16 or July 24 in Irving, Texas. [It has since been set as the weekend of the 16th.]

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

Mike Garl announced that Roland van Weensween's status would be changed to observer because of his lack of attendance. Van Weensween had last attended a meeting in March of 1998, and had now missed three consecutive meetings.

12. Adjournment

Richard Nix moved the meeting adjourn. Bill Sapsis seconded the motion. Unanimous. Mike Garl adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

Rigging Working Group Membership Contact Information as of the End of the January 22, 1999 Meeting

Name	Company	Vote Stat.	Int. Cat.
Steve Butner	Aerial Rigging & Leasing, Inc.	P	P
Jim Fletcher	American Sling Company, Inc.	O	P
Brad Dittmer	Associated Theatrical Contractors	P	U
Andrew T. Martin	ATM Group, Inc.	P	P
Eric Todd	BML Inc.	P	P
Paul Tardue	BML Inc.	A	P
Robert Mullett	Bose Corporation	O	P
Joachim Stoecker	CAMCO GmbH	O	P
Ted Jones	Chicago Spotlight, Inc.	O	U
Marty Lazarus	Chicago Spotlight, Inc.	O	U
Wally Blount	CM Lodestar	P	P
Jim Krull	CM Lodestar	A	P
Ron Fogel	Creative Realities, Inc.	P	G
Jason Friedman	Creative Realities, Inc.	A	G
Harry Donovan	Donovan Rigging, Inc.	O	U
Roland Van Wensveen	Doughty & Prolyte, Inc.	O	P
Wes Jenkins	Down Stage Right Industries	O	P
David M. Campbell	Geiger Engineers	O	G
Paul Brady	Grand Stage Company, Inc.	O	U
Reid Neslage	H & H Specialties Inc.	P	P
Delbert Hall	Hall Associates Inc.	O	U
Edwin S. Kramer	IATSE, Local 1	P	U

Name	Company	Vote Stat.	Int. Cat.
Jack Suesse	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	A	P
Rodney F. Kaiser	J.R. Clancy Inc.	P	P
Mike Garl	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	P	P
Tray Allen	James Thomas Engineering, Inc.	A	P
Mervyn Thomas	James Thomas Engineering Ltd.	A	P
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	P	U
Andrew Smith	Jeamar Winches Inc.	P	P
Chuck McClelland	Jeamar Winches Inc.	A	P
John Kaes	John Kaes	O	U
John R. Burgess	John R. Burgess	P	U
George Stingel	Kleege Industries	P	U
Gregory Babinchak	Lift-All Co., Inc.	A	P
Tim Gauss	Lift-All Co., Inc.	O	P
Mark Herman	Lift-All Co., Inc.	P	P
Ian J. Warhurst	Lite Structures (GB) Ltd.	O	P
Bill Webb	Martin Audio Ltd.	O	P
Charles E. Gorgen	Minnesota Crane Corp.	O	P
Ted Hickey	OAP Audio Products	O	P
Gary Justensen	Oasis Stage Werks	O	P
Tim Hansen	Oasis Stage Werks	P	U
Joseph Rapier	Parkhill, Smith & Cooper, Inc.	O	P

Name	Company	Vote Stat.	Int. Cat.
Patrick Stansfield	Patrick Stansfield Assoc., Inc.	O	U
Peter Letzelter-Smith	Peter Letzelter-Smith	O	U
Billy Phillips	Phillips Rigging	O	P
Tim Cox	PLASA	P	G
Tony Douglas-Beveridge	PLASA Standards Office	A	G
George Sabbi	PRG Lighting Division	A	U
Teddy Van Bemmel	PRG Lighting Division	P	U
Scott Mohr	R&R Cases and Cabinets	O	G
Mark Fitch	Renkus-Heinz, Inc.	O	P
Rikki Newman	Rikki Newman	O	U
Randall W. A. Davidson	Risk International & Associates, Inc.	O	U
Heinz Siller	RST Präsentationssysteme	O	G
Richard Nix	Sacramento Theatrical Lighting	P	G
Bill Sapsis	Sapsis Rigging, Inc.	P	U
Luigi Sbalzarini	Selvolina SNC	O	P
Michael Wood	Slick Systems International (UK)	O	P
Jon Lagerquist	South Coast Repertory	O	U
Jerrold S. Tiers	St. Louis Music Inc.	O	P
Rocky Paulson	Stage Rigging, Inc.	P	U

Name	Company	Vote Stat.	Int. Cat.
Bill Björkman	Stage Rigging, Inc.	A	U
Richard C. Mecke	Texas Scenic Company	O	P
Alan Broadhurst	The Broadhurst Partnership	O	P
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Ed Nicholas	Theatrical Lighting Systems, Inc.	O	U
F. Robert Bauer	Theatrix Inc.	O	U
Mitch Clark	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
Mark Newlin	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
John James	Tomcat USA, Inc.	A	P
Keith Bohn	Tomcat USA, Inc.	P	P
Peter Hind	Total Fabrications Ltd.	P	P
Ian Coles	Total Structures, Inc.	A	P
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

Categories of interest

- P Producer (manufacturer) of rigging equipment
- U User of rigging equipment
- G General interest in rigging equipment