

**MINUTES**  
**PLASA Stage Lifts Working Group**  
**Meeting #1 by Webex**  
Monday January 10th 2011  
3-5 pm Eastern

**Chairman:** Bill Conner; American Society of Theatre Consultants; P; DE

**Recording secretary:** Martin Moore; P; U

**Members participating:**

Bob Murphy; Occams Razor Technical Services; P; DE  
Chris Shaw; Gala Systems; P; CP  
Dan Culhane; Secoa; P; CP  
David Alexander; Teletec (Stage Sets); P CP  
Ed Condit; P; U  
Jeff Phillips; Society of Theatre Consultants; P; DE  
John Kaes; O; DE  
Josh Grossman; Schuler Shook Inc.; P; DE  
Tom Neville; Auerbach Pollock Friedlander; P; DE  
Kevin Auses; Auerbach Pollock Friedlander; A; DE  
Kurt Pragman; Pragman Associates; P; G  
Neil Darracott; Delstar Engineering Ltd.; P; CP  
Peter Scheu; Scheu Consulting; P; DE  
Phil Heid; Creative Stage Lighting; P; DR  
Richard Nix; Steven Schaefer Associates, Inc; P; DE  
Rick Rosas; Texas Scenic Company Inc.; P; DR  
Scott Fisher; Fisher Technical Services Inc.; P; CP  
Steve Walker; Steve Walker Associates; P; DE

**Visitor:** Karl Ruling; PLASA

**1 Opening remarks**

Bill Conner called the meeting to order at 3:00 pm.

Kurt Pragman offered advice on participating in Webex successfully:

- Webinars don't work on WIFI wireless links.
- If you can't get a good hardwired internet connection then upon joining, choose the TELEPHONE CALL IN option instead of the computer VOIP audio. A sustained data rate of at least 320 kbps is needed for computer audio and video. Speed tests can be found at:  
[http://support.vonage.com/doc/en\\_us/497.xml?](http://support.vonage.com/doc/en_us/497.xml?)  
<http://www.speedtest.net/index.php>
- People should have good headsets so we don't hear the clickety-clack of them typing.
- Always mute your microphone when you don't have the floor.

**2 Attendance & membership**

**2.1 Introduction of those present & roll call of attendees**

Those on the Webex meeting introduced themselves and roll was called.

**2.2 Determination of initial membership**

Bill Conner said that he was appointing the people who had applied so far as the initial membership. Future applications will be handled by the normal process, which requires a vote of the group.

### 2.3 Consensus body

The full consensus body, including those not present, was thus:

Name	Company	Representation (This is the primary sort field.)	Voting status	Int. cat.
Tom Neville	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	P	DE
Mike McMackin	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	A	DE
Kevin Auses	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	A	DE
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	P	DR
Edward R. Condit	Edward R. Condit	Edward R. Condit	I	U
Scott Fisher	Fisher Technical Services, Inc.	Fisher Technical Services, Inc.	P	CP
Chris Shaw	Gala Systems	Gala Systems	P	CP
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
John Gitzy	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Martin Moore	Martin Moore	Martin Moore	P	U
Bob Murphy	Occams Razor Technical Services	Occams Razor Technical Services	I	DE
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	Pragman Associates, LLC	P	G
Peter A. Scheu	Scheu Consulting Services, Inc.	Scheu Consulting Services, Inc.	P	DE
Joshua Grossman	Schuler Shook	Schuler Shook	P	DE
Dan Culhane	SECOA	SECOA	P	DR
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Jeff Phillips	Society of Theatre Consultants UK	Society of Theatre Consultants UK	P	DE
Neil Darracott	Delstar Engineering Limited	Stage Technologies Group	P	CP
Kevin Taylor	Stage Technologies, Inc.	Stage Technologies Group	A	CP
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
Richard J. Nix	Entertainment Structures Group	Steven Schaefer Associates	P	DE
David Alexander	Teletec de Mexico	Teletec de Mexico	P	CP
Rick Rosas	Texas Scenic Company	Texas Scenic Company	P	DR
Michael Nishball	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
		Total votes possible	22	
		Votes by interest categories	6	CP
			0	MP
			3	DR
			3	U
			1	G
			9	DE

### 2.4 Announcement of quorum

Martin Moore noted that there were 18 voters on line, so a quorum was present.

### **3 Approval of minutes from previous meeting**

Bill Conner said that the previous meeting #0 was an unofficial rehearsal, so there's no need to approve the minutes.

### **4 PLASA Anti-trust and Patent statements**

Bill Conner read the following statements aloud to the assembly:

#### **4.1 Anti-trust statement**

"The PLASA Board of Directors, the Technical Standards Council, 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 PLASA president immediately.

"PLASA 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 \$1,000,000 and imprisoned for up to ten years. An easy to read pamphlet describing restraint of trade issues is available from the Technical Standards Manager."

No restraint of trade issues were brought to the attention of the assembly.

#### **4.2 Call for patents**

"PLASA intends not to publish any standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that information can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. PLASA uses a process of open patent and copyright disclosures to implement its intent. PLASA does not conduct patent or copyright searches and does not warrant that its standards contain no protected intellectual property.

"In keeping with the open disclosures policy, I ask if anyone present wishes to notify this working group of the existence of a patent or copyright or other intellectual property that might protect material in a standard being developed by this working group. You need not be the holder of the patent or copyright to notify this working group of its existence."

No patents were revealed.

### **5 Approval of the agenda**

Dan Culhane made a motion to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and then approved with a voice vote.

### **6 Old business**

This was the first official meeting, so there was no old business

### **7 New business**

#### **7.1 Discussion of scope for BSR E1.42**

An extensive discussion was held regarding the scope of the standard, whether the lifts within the scope should be limited by speed, whether passengers would be allowed to ride on them or not, et cetera.

Chris Shaw from Gala pointed out that the vast majority of the lifts they sold were specifically not for riding. If it is said that if they were for riding, Gala designated them "performance" lifts and provided extra safetying.

Various members said that people would ride lifts regardless of whether the lifts were designed for that. There was a suggestion that non-riding lifts have motion detectors so they wouldn't move if a person attempted to ride.

Tom Neville reminded everybody that stage edges don't need handrails when the actors are on the stage, that choreography was used to keep the actors from falling over the edge. He suggested that as a compromise riders be allowed if they are choreographed.

Neville moved that the scope of the standard be for lifts designed to travel 25' or less per minute and carrying only performers or personnel who are choreographed to be on the lift. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved via a Webex vote, with 13 voting yes, none voted no, 4 voting abstained, and the no vote recorded for Kurt Pragman because the Webex software doesn't allow the host running the election the ability to vote.

Conner asked Peter Scheu, Tom Neville, and Neil Darracott to write a scope statement for the next meeting.

Jeff Philips volunteered to do headings for the next meeting.

### **7.2 Writing new or modifying a standard**

Bill Conner led a discussion as to whether we should be writing a standard from scratch or suggesting modifications to ASME 17.1 or 17.7 (similar to the way USITT offers changes to the National Electric Code).

The consensus was that we should modify ASME 17.7, but no motion was offered. The consensus was that we should wait to see what the outcome would be from Conners's meeting with ASME 17 committee leaders to see how they feel about it.

### **7.3 ASME 17.1 and 17.7**

Bill Conner hadn't had a chance yet to meet with his ASME contact to see if free copies for this working group's use would be available.

PLASA had bought Bill Conner a single copy of the suite of elevator standards. However, they are licensed as single-user. Conner said he hoped to be able to negotiate a multi-user license for the group from ASME. If we're going to modify ASME 17.7, everybody needs a copy of ASME 17.7.

There was an extensive discussion as to which states had adopted which parts of ASME 17.

Phil Heid volunteered to put together a spreadsheet that shows what each state references for code for the next meeting.

### **7.4 Pertinent European Standards**

Some members have copies of CWA 15902-1:2008; DIN 56950:2005; BS 7906-1:2005. There are copyright issues with sharing them within the group.

### **7.5 Testing**

Scott Fisher will offer a report on testing at the next meeting

### **7.6 Safetying**

There was a discussion about Class 0 versus Class 1 stops, with the consensus being in favor of Class 1.

Chris Shaw reminded us that we won't know the mass of the lift, therefore that standard can't specify "must stop within x inches."

### **7.7 Other new business**

None

## **8 Other business and announcements**

None

## **9 Schedule for future meetings**

People were reminded of the next four meetings:

#2 Monday, 14 February 2011

#3 Monday, 7 March 2011 (control from Charlotte NC, prior to USITT and PLASA meetings)

#4 Monday, 11 April 2011

#5 Monday, 9 May 2011

## **10 Adjournment**

Dan Culhane moved that the meeting adjourn. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved by acclamation. Bill Conner declared the meeting adjourned at 5:58 pm.

### Working Group Membership and Contact Information as of 11 February 2011

<b>Name</b>	<b>Company</b>	<b>Representing (This is the primary sort field.)</b>	<b>Voting status</b>	<b>Int. cat.</b>
William Conner	Bill Conner Associates LLC	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
Tom Neville	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	P	DE
Mike McMackin	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	A	DE
Kevin Auses	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	Auerbach Pollock Friedlander	A	DE
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	P	DR
Edward R. Condit	Edward R. Condit	Edward R. Condit	I	U
Scott Fisher	Fisher Technical Services, Inc.	Fisher Technical Services, Inc.	P	CP
Chris Shaw	Gala Systems	Gala Systems	P	CP
Edwin S. Kramer	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	I.A.T.S.E. Local 1	P	U
John Gitzy	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Jay O. Glerum	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	Jay O. Glerum & Associates, Inc.	O	DE
John Kaes	John Kaes	John Kaes	O	DE
Martin Moore	Martin Moore	Martin Moore	P	U
Bob Murphy	Occams Razor Technical Services	Occams Razor Technical Services	I	DE
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	Pragman Associates, LLC	P	G
Peter A. Scheu	Scheu Consulting Services, Inc.	Scheu Consulting Services, Inc.	P	DE
Joshua Grossman	Schuler Shook	Schuler Shook	P	DE
Dan Culhane	SECOA	SECOA	P	DR
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Jeff Phillips	Society of Theatre Consultants UK	Society of Theatre Consultants UK	P	DE
Neil Darracott	Delstar Engineering Limited	Stage Technologies Group	P	CP
Kevin Taylor	Stage Technologies, Inc.	Stage Technologies Group	A	CP
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
Richard J. Nix	Entertainment Structures Group	Steven Schaefer Associates	P	DE
David Alexander	Teletec de Mexico	Teletec de Mexico	P	CP
Rick Rosas	Texas Scenic Company	Texas Scenic Company	P	DR

Name	Company	Representing (This is the primary sort field.)	Voting status	Int. cat.
Michael Nishball	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE

**Key to codes:**

P principal voting member  
A alternate voting member  
I individual voting member  
O observer, non-voting

MP mass-market producer interest category  
CP custom-market producer interest category  
DR dealer or rental company interest category  
U user interest category

G general-interest interest category  
DE designer interest category