

**Minutes**  
**ESTA Stage Lifts Working Group**  
**via Webex**  
**Thursday 13 July 2017**  
**3-5 pm EDT**

**Chairpersons presiding:**

Dan Culhane; Wenger Corp.; P; DR  
Richard J. Nix; P; DE

**Members attending:**

Sanford P. Gilzow; Shur-Rig LLC; P; DR  
Phil Heid; Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.; P; DR  
Steven Serafin; Chubb Group of Insurance Companies; P; G  
Zachary Stevenson; University of North Carolina School of the Arts; P; U  
Christopher B. Tilton; About the Stage, LLC; P; DE  
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE

**Recording secretaries:**

Erin Grabe & Karl G. Ruling, ESTA

**1 Opening remarks**

Richard Nix at 3:03 pm

He welcomed all to the meeting and thanked them for joining.

**2 Attendance & membership**

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

**2.2 Determination of a quorum**

*There are currently 13 votes possible. A quorum is 5; supermajority is 7.*  
Nix announced that a quorum was present.

**2.3 Recognition of alternate voting members**

**3 Membership**

**3.1 Requirements for membership**

The following was read aloud to the assembly by Richard Nix:

Membership is open to all who are affected by the work of the group. Voting members are required to attend meetings and to vote on letter ballots. Voting members and their alternates may not miss three consecutive meetings without a loss of voting status.

**3.2 Changes to observer status due to lack of attendance**

*There are currently no voting members in jeopardy of a change to Observer status due to lack of attendance.*

**3.3 Processing of new applications**

*As of 29 June 2017, the following applications or status change requests have been received:*

Chris Tilton; About the Stage; P; DE (Change in representation)  
Dan Culhane; J.R. Clancy; Wenger; P; DR (Change in representation)  
Richard Nix, Richard Nix. P; DE (Change in representation)

Jeong Sik Yoo, Korea Testing Laboratory / Theatre Safety Center, P, DE

Jeong Sik Yoo was not present.

Steve Serafin moved to accept the applications, with the exception that Yoo would be accepted as an observer. The motion was seconded, and then approved on a voice vote, with no abstentions or objections.

**3.4 Consensus body**

The full consensus body during the meeting, including those not present, was:

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
Christopher B. Tilton	About the Stage, LLC	About the Stage, LLC	P	DE
Peter A. Scheu	Scheu Consulting Services, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	George C. Izenour Associates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Steven Serafin	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	P	G
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	P	DR
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	Pragman Associates, LLC	P	G
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	P	DE
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Joseph Jeremy	Niscon Inc.	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	Shur-Rig LLC	P	DR
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
James Tomlinson	Team Tomlinson	Team Tomlinson	I	G
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Zachary Stevenson	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	P	U
Daniel Brinker	Michigan Opera Theatre	USITT	P	G
Dan Culhane	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	Wenger Corp.	P	DR
		<b>Total votes possible</b>	<b>16</b>	
		<b>Votes by interest categories</b>	2	CP
			5	DE
			3	DR
			5	G
			0	MP
			1	U

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

See *SLmin06-2016.pdf*.

Steve Walker moved that the draft minutes be accepted as written. The motion was seconded. The motion was approved on a voice vote, with no abstentions or objections.

#### **5 Reading of the call for patents**

The following statement was read aloud to the assembly by Richard Nix:

ESTA intends not to publish any standard that contains protected intellectual property, unless that information can be licensed by anyone for a reasonable fee. ESTA uses a process of open patent and copyright disclosures to implement its intent. ESTA 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.

Nothing was revealed.

#### **6 Reading of the modified anti-trust statement**

Richard Nix noted that In May, ASAE issued a new version of the Antitrust Guide. The most significant change is regarding boycotts. He then read the following statement aloud to the assembly:

ESTA and its members take seriously their obligation to comply with all applicable antitrust laws. Therefore, during this meeting and during all ESTA events, all discussions will be limited to those subjects that are permitted by the antitrust laws. All members should refrain from any discussion or mention of competitively sensitive subjects such as the current or future prices charged for any member product or services, current or future marketing plans or strategies, and current or future costs, including employee salaries. There also must be no agreement on the suppliers or customers that members will or will not do business with or the markets in which members will conduct business.

Violations of the antitrust laws can have serious consequences. If you have any questions or concerns about anything that is discussed at a ESTA meeting, please bring your concern to ESTA management. An easy to read pamphlet describing the antitrust laws is available from the ESTA staff.

Karl Ruling held up one of the new guides to the webcam for all to see.

#### **7 Approval of agenda**

Sandy Gilzow moved that the minutes be approved as written. The motion was seconded and then approved on a voice vote, with no objections or abstentions.

#### **8 Old business**

None.

#### **9 New Business**

##### **9.1 Error found in current E1.42 document appendix**

The last sentence of the appendix note A6.3.1.3 states, "See related section 4.5 Skirts." However there is no such section 4.5 for skirts (Section 4.5 addresses welding). We must decide to delete this wording, or if there is another more relevant section that should be referred. It is important to see where the term "skirt" is used within the document, and if this is an appropriate term to use since there are no normative requirements for them – only a definition for the term, and a few places where skirts are mentioned as components for consideration.

There was discussion.

Steve Walker said that this was not a big problem, since it is not in a mandatory section of the standard. The consensus was that this is indeed not enough for a revision by itself.

Karl Ruling said that he'd anticipated the working group planning to revise the standard, so he had filed a revision PINS with ANSI. That does not mean that the working group must revise it now, but that there would be no delay if they did. He noted that a supermajority would be needed to start a formal revision project.

Chris Tilton moved that we revise the current E1.42 standard. The motion was seconded. There was discussion. It was noted that a supermajority was not present at the meeting, so the vote would have to be by letter ballot. Chris Tilton withdrew his motion.

### **9.2 A6.3.1.3 wording (other)**

There was a question about the A6.3.1.3 wording, which "...seems to suggest that this beveled edge nosing is on the lift side of the shear condition; we often find this nosing on the fixed edges, to allow smoother finish out of the stage/audience edges....I believe that 6.3.1.3 applies to both cases, but perhaps the addendum note could be clarified?"

In response to this, Michael Nishball in an earlier email had made these suggestions:  
use beveled millwork on the lift and on the fixed edges to:

- Cap or end the lift table flooring
- Cap or end the fixed edge buildout for railing sockets etc.
- Hold a ¼" operational tolerance between bevels at all landings that are solid hardwood and not prone to expansion
- Allow for a greater gap at and below the bevel nosing to the facias during travel so anything caught in there can fall away

The question for the working group was then, "Do we need to clarify or revise any wording, either in the document or in the appendix, regarding this topic?"

The consensus was that there was no need clarify or revise any wording about this at this time. The consensus of the group was to roll these improvements into the future revision.

### **9.3 Controls section**

Richard Nix had a recollection from one of our last meetings about the possibility of revisiting "E-Stop conditions" relative to "Fault states", and the possibility of opening up the requirements to permit a wider range of limits/sensors in certain applications. This was a recollection only, and admittedly may have occurred onstage during the dream sequence. Does anyone else remember this, or have any comment about it? The E1.6-1 controls section is being updated. Some of our work has been used as a model for their updates. The latest Task Group proposed changes from Bruce Darden are attached, for your keen eyes to glean any comments or issues, see E1.6-1 Section 7 Controls - Compiled BWD 05.30.2017.pdf.

There was discussion of whether the E1.6-1 project is far enough along to glean anything from it. Steve Walker said that the E1.6-1 project will probably need another couple months before a document is formally presented to the Rigging Working Group.

## **10 Other business and announcements**

### **10.1 INNOVA**

*USITT and ESTA have partnered up to bring you INNOVA, an online learning platform for the entertainment technology industry. Check it out at <http://innova.usitt.org>. Content and content providers are being sought. If you are interested, email [standards@esta.org](mailto:standards@esta.org) to be put in touch with someone.*

Erin Grabe spoke a bit about the program and the need for content. There was further discussion as to what type of education credits would be available and what type of content is being sought.

## **10.2 Please Direct People to ESTA's Website for Standards**

Richard Nix directed people to read the statement and argument printed in the agenda, which reads:

*When you want people to be aware of our standards, or to put a copy in front of them, please direct them to [http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/documents/published\\_docs.php](http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/documents/published_docs.php) rather than providing copies on your own website or direct links to the published standards. There are several reasons for this.*

*1. The free downloads are sponsored by ProSight Specialty Insurance, which benefits from the promotion and from the opportunity people have to click on "Please send me more information about entertainment insurance." We need to earn their continued support by helping their sponsorship to return some value to them.*

*2. Some of the websites offering our standards are not up to date and list superseded standards as though they are the latest version. This could cause problems for the host company and our industry, because requirements in an old standard may not be the same as the requirements in a later version of that standard. Superseded standards are still available from ESTA, but they are watermarked, "Superseded," so people can get them if they need them, but it is clear that the old standards are not the current editions.*

*3. If you direct people to ESTA's site, they might also see the plea to help support the TSP as an Investor in Innovation. We need continuing support from the industry, and the broader that support is, the more secure we are and the less the burden is on any individual donor.*

*4. If you direct people to ESTA's site, they might see some other standards that will help them in their work. At a minimum, they will see the depth of the offerings and understand that there is standards work being done in a number of areas affecting our industry.*

*Please, promote your work with the TSP on your website. List all of the standards for this working group, that you've personally worked on, or that are pertinent to your business, but, please, direct people to [http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/documents/published\\_docs.php](http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/documents/published_docs.php) to download the standards. If nothing else, doing so would lessen your workload, because you wouldn't have to update the page every time a standard is reaffirmed or revised. That saves you time and money and perhaps makes a little money for the TSP.*

## **11 Schedule for future meetings**

*The November ESTA meetings are being held at the Tropicana Hotel in Las Vegas during LDI. When does this group feel they need to meet again?*

There was considerable discussion as to when the group could meet. Karl Ruling said that he would ask Frances Thompson for a few meeting time possibilities for a two-hour meeting, and then we can Doodle Poll the working group to see what time works best.

## **12 Adjournment**

Richard Nix announced that we had reached the end of the agenda. Unless he hears any objections, he will declare the meeting adjourned. Hearing no objections, Richard Nix declared the meeting adjourned at 15:53.

Stage Lifts Working Group Members as of 13 July 2017

Name	Company	Representing	Voting status	Int. cat.
William Bradburn	Aerial Arts, Inc.	Aerial Arts, Inc.	O	U
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	O	U
Daniel Brinker	Michigan Opera Theatre	USITT	P	G
Dan Culhane	J.R. Clancy, Inc.	Wenger Corp.	P	DR
Jim Digby	Event Safety Alliance	Event Safety Alliance	O	U
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	Shur-Rig LLC	P	DR
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Erin Grabe	ESTA	ESTA	exf	G
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	P	DR
Joseph Jeremy	Niscon Inc.	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Edwin S. Kramer	1501	1501	O	U
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	P	DE
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	Pragman Associates, LLC	P	G
Karl G. Ruling	ESTA	ESTA	exf	G
Peter A. Scheu	Scheu Consulting Services, Inc.	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
Steven Serafin	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	P	G
Zachary Stevenson	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	P	U
Kevin Taylor	Tait Towers	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	O	CP
Christopher B. Tilton	About the Stage, LLC	About the Stage, LLC	P	DE
James Tomlinson	Team Tomlinson	Team Tomlinson	I	G
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	George C. Izenour Associates	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Jeong Sik Yoo	Korea Testing Laboratory	Korea Testing Laboratory / Theatre Safety Center	O	DE

**Voting Status Key:** P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter, I = Individual voter, O = Observer member, exf = Ex Officio member (staff)

**Interest Category Key:** CP = Custom-market producer, DE = Designer, DR = Dealer or rental company, G = General interest, MP = Mass-market producer, U = User