

**Minutes**  
**ESTA Stage Lifts Working Group**  
Saturday, 18 November 2017  
The Tropicana  
Las Vegas, NV

**Presiding co-chairs:**

Dan Culhane; J.R. Clancy, Inc.; Wenger Corp.; P; DR  
Richard J. Nix; P; DE

**Recording secretaries:** Karl Ruling and Erin Grabe; ESTA

**Members in attendance:**

Daniel Brinker; Michigan Opera Theatre; USITT; P; G  
Bruce Downer; SERAPID, Inc.; P; CP  
Sanford P. Gilzow; Shur-Rig LLC; P; DR  
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; G  
Joseph Jeremy; Niscon Inc.; Show Distribution Group, Inc.; P; CP  
Michael Nishball; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; P; DE  
Christopher B. Tilton; About the Stage, LLC; P; DE  
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE  
R. Duane Wilson; George C. Izenour Associates; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A; DE

**1 Opening remarks**

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m, by thanking everyone for taking time out of their schedules to be in attendance.

**2 Attendance & membership**

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

Karl Ruling checked off the names of people present from a mint colored sign-in sheet.

**2.2 Determination of a quorum**

Dan Culhane announced a supermajority present.

**2.3 Recognition of alternate voting members**

Duane Wilson was recognized as an Alternate voting as Principal.

**3 Membership**

**3.1 Requirements for membership**

The following was read aloud to the assembly by Dan Culhane:

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**

Dan Culhane announced that the following voter was being moved to Observer status due to lack of attendance:  
James Tomlinson; Team Tomlinson; I; G

**3.3 Processing of new applications**

*Dan Culhane noted that as of 18 November 2017, the following applications or status change requests have been received:*

Michael Nishball; Theatre Projects Consultants; P; DE (reinstate and move to Principal)  
Jim Niesel; Theatre Projects Consultants; A; DE (move to Alternate)

Steve Walker moved to accept these changes. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands and voice votes.

### 3.4 Consensus body

The full consensus body of this working group at the time of this meeting, including those not present, was:

Name	Representing	Voting status	Int cat
Christopher B. Tilton	About the Stage, LLC	P	DE
Peter A. Scheu	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Steven Serafin	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	P	G
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	P	DR
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	P	G
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	P	DE
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Joseph Jeremy	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	P	DR
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
Michael Nishball	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	A	DE
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Zachary Stevenson	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	P	U
Daniel Brinker	USITT	P	G
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	DR
<b>Total possible:</b>		15	
<b>Subtotals by interest category:</b>		2	<b>CP</b>
<b>Voting Status Key:</b> P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter, I = Individual voter, O = Observer member, exf = Ex Officio member (staff)		5	<b>DE</b>
<b>Interest Category Key:</b> CP = Custom-market producer, DE = Designer, DR = Dealer or rental company, G = General interest, MP = Mass-market producer, U = User		3	<b>DR</b>
		4	<b>G</b>
		1	<b>U</b>
		0	<b>MP</b>

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

See *SLmin07-2016.pdf*.

Sandy Gilzow moved to approve the minutes of the last meeting. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands and voice votes.

### 5 Reading of the call for patents

The following was read aloud to the assembly by Dan Culhane:

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.

No patent issues were raised.

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

The following was read aloud to the assembly by Dan Culhane:

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 a copy of the pamphlet. Nothing was revealed.

## **7 Approval of agenda**

Joe Jeremy moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands and voice votes.

## **8 Old business**

## **9 New Business**

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

*From the draft July minutes:*

*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.*

There was discussion on the need to revise this document. Karl explained the process and timeline for revision. The PINS for revision was preemptively filed with ANSI. Chris Tilton moved to revise the standard. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands and voice votes.

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

From the draft July minutes:

*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.*

Joseph Jeremy moved that we change the section in line with Michael Nishball's words. The motion was seconded. There was discussion of what the change should be. Erin Grabe modified the text. The change was approved with a unanimous show of hands and voice votes.

### **9.3 Controls section**

From the draft July minutes:

*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.*

The possible changes to E1.6-1 were discussed and how those might be significantly different from what is now in E1.42. Steve Walker said that our Figure 1 should match the sensor definitions figure in the current draft of E1.6-1. The consensus was that E1.6-1 should be changed, not E1.42.

Jerry Gorrell moved to offer the document for public review. The motion was seconded and approved by a show of hands and voice votes. The review will need to be approved by the TSC.

## **10 Other business and announcements**

### **11 Schedule for future meetings**

#### **11.1 January meetings**

Dan Culhane said that the January meetings will take place in conjunction with the NAMM Show at the Anaheim Convention Center, which is scheduled for 25-28 January 2018. The consensus of the group was that no meeting would be necessary, because the public review would not be over in time to take further action.

### **11.2 March meetings**

Dan Culhane said that the March meetings will take place in conjunction with USITT 2018 in Fort Lauderdale, FL. The show dates are 14-17 March 2018. The consensus of the group was that a meeting would definitely be needed. Dan mentioned that there will be a bus service.

### **11.3 July meetings**

Dan Culhane said that the July meetings are tentatively scheduled to be held at the D/FW Marriott Solana in Westlake, TX.

### **11.4 Fall meetings**

Karl Ruling polled the group for their opinions on how to do the fall meetings. The opinion of this group is that face-to-face meetings are important. Most of the group would still be amenable to meeting at LDI.

### **11.5 Future projects**

## **12 Adjournment**

Duane Wilson moved to adjourn. Hearing no objections, Dan Culhane declared the meeting adjourned at 10:34 a.m.

Stage Lifts Working Group Members as of 18 November 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	Niskon Inc.	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Edwin S. Kramer	1501	1501	O	U
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	A	DE
Michael Nishball	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	O	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	Ghost LX	Ghost LX	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