

Minutes
Stage Machinery Working Group
Friday, 25 January 2019
Wyndham Garden Anaheim
Anaheim, CA

Chairpersons:

Dan Culhane; Wenger Corp.; P; MP (presiding)
Joe Jeremy; Show Distribution Group, Inc.; P; CP

Recording secretaries: Richard Nix, Karl G. Ruling; ESTA

Members attending:

Nils Becker; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P; MP
David Bond; Kinesys; P; MP
Gareth Conner; Creative Conners, Inc.; P; MP
Bruce Darden; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; P; CP
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; G
Jeremy Hodgson; Cirque Du Soleil, Inc.; P; U
Bill McIntyre; Show Distribution Group, Inc.; A; CP
Jim Niesel; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; A; DE
Steven Serafin; Chubb Group of Insurance Companies; P; G
Zachary Stevenson; University of North Carolina School of the Arts; P; U
Peter V. Svitavsky; Wenger Corp.; A; MP
Christopher B. Tilton; About the Stage, LLC; P; DE
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE
R. Duane Wilson; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A; DE
Andrew Young; Andrew Young; I; U

Visitors:

Mike Brubaker; Associated Controls & Design

1 Opening Remarks

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 15:07, welcoming everyone to Anaheim and thanking everyone – both in the room and online – for taking time to attend this meeting.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

The following statement 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 an 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 said that he had an electronic PDF version of the booklet, available upon request.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

The following statement 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, patent application, copyright, or other protected 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

3 Attendance and Membership

3.1 Requirements for membership

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

Membership is open to all parties who are affected by the work of the group; membership in ESTA is not a requirement, but there is a \$100/person/year participation fee to help fund the costs of running the Technical Standards Program. Voting members are required to attend meetings and vote on letter ballots. Any principal member and alternate that both miss three consecutive meetings or that miss three consecutive letter ballots will have their membership status changed to observer. This action will be taken at the beginning of the first meeting after such inaction and will be recorded in the minutes of that meeting.

3.2 Introduction of attendees

3.3 Determination of a quorum

[There are currently 22 votes possible. A quorum is 8; a supermajority is 12]

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

As of 02 January 2019, the following applications and status change requests have been received:

Andrew Young; Andrew Young, I; U

Steve Walker moved to approve the application as submitted. The motion was seconded and carried without discussion or objection.

3.5 Changes to observer status

3.5.1 Changes due to attendance

The following voters have missed the last two meetings and are in jeopardy of being moved to Observer status if this meeting is also missed:

*Bruce Downer; Serapid; P; CP
Dan Brinker; USITT; P; G*

Neither were present, so their status has been changed to that of Observer

3.5.2 Changes due to missed letter ballots

The following voters have missed the last two letter ballots and will be moved to Observer status if the next letter ballot is also missed:

There are none!

3.6 Consensus body

The full consensus voting body as of 25 January 2019, after all changes occurring at this meeting, is as follows. Check the list carefully.

Name	Representing	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
Jeremy Hodgson	Cirque Du Soleil, Inc.	P	U
Gareth Conner	Creative Conners, Inc.	P	MP
Steve Hnath	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Michael Wade	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Nils Becker	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Joseph Champelli	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	P	DE
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
David Bond	Kinesys	P	MP
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Joseph Jeremy	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Bill McIntyre	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	A	CP
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP
James Tomlinson	Team Tomlinson	P	G
Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	CP
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
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	MP
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Andrew Young	Andrew Young	I	U
Total possible votes:			21
Votes by interest category	Custom market producer	CP	4
	Designer	DE	5
	Dealer rental company	DR	0
	General interest	G	4
	Mass-market producer	MP	5
	User	U	3
Voting status key: P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter, I = Individual voter			

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

[See SMWG_Minutes10-2018_Draft.pdf]

Jerry Gorrell moved approval of the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried.

5 Approval of agenda

The agenda must be approved, either as drafted or with modifications, by a vote of the working group. Motion to approve the agenda, seconded, Jerry asked to have an item added to new business or other

business.

Jerry Gorrell asked to add a topic to section 8, under *Other business and announcements*. His subsequent motion to approve the amended agenda was seconded and carried.

6 Old Business

6.1 ANSI E1.42-2018, *Entertainment Technology—Design, Installation, and Use of Orchestra Pit Lifts* (Reaffirm, revise, or withdrawal before 06 November 2023.)

It's published! What's next?

Steve Serafin asked if it had been downloaded. Richard Nix reported that the latest version had been downloaded 37 times since publication, and that the prior document had been downloaded 380 times.

Steve Walker reminded everyone that we had discussed reopening the standard for revision, at the last meeting, and moved to open it for revision. The motion was seconded, and discussion followed. The motion carried with an objection from Bruce Darden, who explained that he thought a separate standard would be less confusing. He also thinks that we should avoid putting too much in one standard, and also feels that an expanded portfolio of standards helps grow our standards portfolio in a positive way.

Jim Niesel moved that an ad hoc task group be appointed to refine the scope of this project, and to bring a more formally worded proposal to this working group for the next meeting. The motion was seconded and carried unanimously.

Karl Ruling reminded everyone that the original standard was written to address the AHJ, and to consider if this was still the intent.

The appointed ad hoc task group members are Steve Walker, Steve Serafin, Michael Nishball, Pete Svitavsky, and Chris Tilton.

6.2 ANSI E1.44 – 2014, *Common Show File Exchange Format for Entertainment Industry Automation Control Systems -- Stage Machinery* (revision, reaffirmation, or withdrawal by 6 February 2019)

*A Rigging Working Group motion to transfer stewardship of this standard from the Rigging Working Group to this working group was passed at the October meetings. The Technical Standards Council approved the reassignment. **The SMWG must act on this standard, at this meeting.***

A motion, made by Pete Svitavsky, for the working group to accept stewardship of the standard, was seconded and carried.

Steve Walker moved to reaffirm this standard. The motion was seconded, and the question will be answered by letter ballot with concurrent public review.

6.3 BSR E1.64, *Stage Machinery Motion Control*

Task group members are: JT Tomlinson, Joe Jeremy (Chair), Rick Montgomery, Jem Hodgson, Wendy Manson, Gareth Conner, Bruce Darden, Nils Becker, Duane Wilson.

Any news or updates from the task group?

Joe Jeremy reported that the task group had met before Christmas, will have another meeting on the following morning, and that progress is being made.

7 New business

7.1 Possible new project

See *ProjectRequest - Stage Performance Wagons and Turntables.pdf*

From the October minutes:

Jim Niesel suggested that we should investigate further with an outline of a document. He volunteered to craft an outline. Chris Tilton and Jerry Gorrell agreed to work with him. This is an ad hoc committee to explore the possible path forward.

Any news, progress, or updates to report?

Jerry Gorrell reported that there is no compelling reason to pursue the project. *[TS note: This topic will be set aside and removed from the agenda.]*

7.2 Risk assessment

Any new findings or developments to report?

Jerry reported that a group has been formed within USITT, and they are working on a scope. He said the [partial] list of members includes Anna Glover, Kim Corbett-Oates, Joe Champelli, Jeremy Hodgson and Pete Svitavsky.

8 Other business and announcements

8.1 “Theatre of the future” report by Jerry Gorrell

Jerry Gorrell reported that he had recently attended a regional meeting of USITT, which was held at a facility he considered to represent the current state of the art. He described some of the system features he noticed, including a characterization that no mid-20th century technology was used. There’s no manual rigging system; it is all automated. The audio system runs over Ethernet, with devices such as microphone inputs all having unique IP addresses. The lighting control console automatically takes control over the architectural lighting system. The venue is called the Madison Center for the Arts, and is part of the Madison School District in Phoenix, AZ.

8.2 Above & Beyond Awards

Information on the Above & Beyond Awards may be found at http://tsp.esta.org/tsp/news/award_recipients.html. The nomination site is open year round, and the award is designed for members to highlight the work of their peers.

9 Schedule for future meetings

The full and current meeting schedule may be found at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>.

9.1 Spring 2019 meetings (USITT)

The Spring 2019 meetings will be held in Louisville, KY, in conjunction with the USITT conference and Stage Expo. The SMWG is currently scheduled to meet from 14:00 – 17:00 Eastern time, on 21 March 2019, at the Hyatt Regency Louisville.

9.2 Summer 2019 meetings (Westlake, TX)

The Summer 2019 meetings will return to the D/FW Marriott Solana, in Westlake, Texas, 18-22 July. The full meeting schedule has not yet been confirmed.

10 Adjournment

The agenda being complete, and there being no further business brought forth, Dan Culhane declared the meeting adjourned at 16:19.

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 13 February 2019

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Nils Becker	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
David Bond	Kinesys	P	MP
William Bradburn	Aerial Arts, Inc.	O	U
Louis Bradfield	Louis Bradfield	O	U
Daniel Brinker	USITT	O	G
Joseph Champelli	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	P	DE
Gareth Conner	Creative Conners, Inc.	P	MP
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	MP
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Jim Digby	Event Safety Alliance	O	U
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	O	CP
Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	CP
Mike Garl	Mike Garl Consulting LLC	exf	
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	O	DR
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Robert Haycock	UC Berkeley	O	U
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	O	DR
Steve Hnath	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Jeremy Hodgson	Cirque Du Soleil, Inc.	P	U
Joseph Jeremy	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Edwin S. Kramer	1501	O	U
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP
Wendy Manson	Cirque Du Soleil, Inc.	O	U
Bill McIntyre	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	A	CP
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	A	DE

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 13 February 2019

Michael Nishball	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	O	G
Peter A. Scheu	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
Steven Serafin	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	P	G
Zachary Stevenson	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	P	U
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Christopher B. Tilton	About the Stage, LLC	P	DE
James Tomlinson	Team Tomlinson	P	G
Michael Wade	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Jeong Sik Yoo	Ghost LX	O	DE
Andrew Young	Andrew Young	I	U