

Minutes
Stage Machinery Working Group
Thursday, 16 January 2020
Wyndham Garden Anaheim
Anaheim, CA

Chairpersons:

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

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

Jesse Adams; Rose Brand Wipers, Inc; P; DR
Drew Becker; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; A; CP
Mike Brubaker; CM Buck Associates; P; DR
Paul Brunner; Thern, Inc.; P; MP
Joseph Champelli; Entertainment Project Services, LLC; P; CP
Bruce Darden; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; P; CP
Nathan Dye; Texas Scenic Company; P; CP
Sanford P. Gilzow; Shur-Rig LLC; P; DR
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; G
Robert Haycock; UC Berkeley; O; U
Jeremy Hodgson; Cirque Du Soleil, Inc.; P; U
Bill McIntyre; Show Distribution Group, Inc.; A; CP
Steven Serafin; The Hartford Group; P; G
Michael Shaw; Motion Laboratories, Inc.; P; MP
Peter V. Svitavsky; Wenger Corp.; A; MP
Christopher B. Tilton; About the Stage, LLC; P; DE
Michael Wade; Creative Conners, Inc.; A; MP
R. Duane Wilson; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A; DE
Andrew Young; Andrew Young; I; U
Paul Zagajeski; Wenger Corp.; A; MP

1 Opening Remarks

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 14:06, thanking everyone for taking time out of their busy lives to attend. He made several geographical weather and temperature comparisons to the current conditions in Anaheim, before reiterating thanks to everyone for contributing to this very important cause.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

Dan Culhane read the following statement read 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 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 held up the pamphlet for everyone to see.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

Dan Culhane read the following statement read aloud to the assembly.

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

Dan Culhane read the following statement read aloud to the assembly.

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

Karl Ruling held up the screaming pink sign-in sheet, and asked everyone to please sign it for attendance purposes.

Everyone in the room introduced themselves, followed by the online attendees.

3.3 Determination of a quorum

[There are currently 24 votes possible. A quorum is 8; a supermajority is 13]

After show of hands, Dan Culhane declared that a quorum and supermajority were present.

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

As of 02 January 2020, the following applications and status change requests have been received:

There are none.

Sandy Gilzow requested a change of status from Observer to Principal voter for Shur-rig.

Pete Svitavski moved to accept the change. The motion was seconded, and carried unanimously.

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:

*Jeremy Hodgson; Cirque Du Soliel, Inc.
Dan Lisowski, University of Wisconsin – Madison*

Jeremy Hodgson was present. Dan Lisowski was not present, so his status was changed accordingly.

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.

3.5.3 Automatic status changes

The following automatic status changes have occurred since the last meeting:

There are none.

3.6 Consensus body

The table below shows the full consensus voting body as of today's meeting date, after all changes occurring as a result of this meeting's actions have been applied. Please 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
Andrew Young	Andrew Young	I	U
Jeremy Hodgson	Cirque Du Soleil, Inc.	P	U
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck Associates	P	DR
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	CP
Eric Rouse	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	A	CP
Joshua "Fritz" Friedensohn	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	A	CP
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Michael Shaw	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	A	MP
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Joseph Jeremy	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Bill McIntyre	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	A	CP
Sanford P Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	P	DR
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
David Bond	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	CP
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Michael Nishball	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	A	DE
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Paul Brunner	Thern, Inc.	P	MP
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
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Total possible votes:		24	
	Custom market producer (CP)	6	
	Designer (DE)	4	
	Dealer rental company (DR)	3	
	General interest (G)	3	
	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 *SMmin10-2019_DRAFT.pdf*]

Chris Tilton moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and carried without objection, and with one abstention.

5 Approval of agenda

The agenda must be approved, either as drafted or with modifications, by a vote of the working group.

Jesse Adams moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention.

6 Old Business

6.1 BSR E1.42-201x, *Entertainment Technology—Design, Installation, and Use of Orchestra Pit Lifts*

Steve Walker (leader), Jim Niesel (co-leader), Michael Nishball, Pete Svitavsky, and Chris Tilton

Any news or updates?

Chris Tilton confirmed a Doodle poll was distributed to the task group in order to help determine meeting times, but no further progress to report at this time.

6.2 ANSI E1.44 – 2014, *Common Show File Exchange Format for Entertainment Industry Automation Control Systems -- Stage Machinery* (Reaffirm, revise or withdraw by 07 May 2024)

Any news or action?

No report

6.3 BSR E1.64, Stage Machinery Motion Control

Task group members are: Joe Jeremy (Chair), Michael Shaw, Jem Hodgson, Wendy Manson, Gareth Conner, Bruce Darden, Nils Becker, Duane Wilson, David Bond, Nathan Dye, Jim Love, Bill McIntyre, John Ringelman.

Any news or updates from the task group?

Joe Jeremy reported that they had met earlier in the day, task assignments have been made, and they are making progress. They plan to have something brought to the working group by this time next year.

6.4 Definite-Purpose Stage Machinery (“Other machinery”) ad hoc task group report

[Jesse Adams, Mike Brubaker, Joe Champelli, Dan Brinker, Drew Becker, Paul Zagajski]

Any news or updates from the task group?

Jesse Adams gave a report, then asked for discussion. There was extensive discussion about the many types of machinery that might be included in a scope. Jesse said he intended to reach out to Michael Lichter to see what was going on in Europe. Karl Ruling mentioned the EU Machinery Directive, 2006/

Pete Svitavski spoke about the historical evolution of E1.6-1, and the notion of risk assessment and reduction principles.

Jesse said that his ad hoc group task was to determine if the original project request could be addressed in a single standard, or not. He said the consensus is that the project is best addressed in multiple standards, and that the challenge remains, which equipment is most important to address first.

Joe Champelli reminded everyone that the ad hoc task group’s mission has been completed in determining that a) the standard *is* necessary, b) it must be done as *separate* projects, not as a single project, and c) the recommendations have been returned to the working group for further action. The working group consensus concurred that the ad hoc task group had completed its task.

Jesse Adams then asked for the sense of the group on what needs to be addressed. The list discussed included

- acoustic curtains that are not over people, so the risk is low
- turntables
- travelators
- tracks
- curtain machines
- wagons
- floor machinery

Further working group discussion about which equipment to address first ensued. The discussion included RA/RR principles to help prioritize types of equipment.

Bruce Darden suggested a general title to the effect of “Floor Machinery”. Pete Svitavsky suggested horizontal movement. Bruce mentioned that traveling video walls and such, where the machinery is moving things horizontally, is a different category of machine than something that moves things at floor level.

The sense was that there could be two project scope statements: one for overhead machinery that is relatively low risk, and a second for floor machinery that moves.

Jesse offered to stay after the meeting, with anyone else who was willing to stay, and draft one or two new project scopes. Richard Nix said that the WebEx would remain open for as long as the ad hoc was willing to stay, with the intention of completing draft scopes for the working group to review before the USITT meeting

7 New business

8 Other business and announcements

8.1 Behind the Scenes Happy Hour

The event is tonight, and everyone is encouraged to attend.

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.

Bruce Darden had nominated Joseph Jeremy for his contributions in both the Stage Machinery Working Group, and the Rigging Working Group, stating on the nomination form that, “*This document should be shared between the SMWG and the RWG because Joe has done so much for both groups.*”

The list of contributions relevant to this award includes:

- Joe was the principal author of the controls section of ANSI E1.42 – 2016, Entertainment Technology— Design, Installation, and Use of Orchestra Pit Lifts
- Joe has undertaken being Co-Chairman of the Stage Machinery Work Group
- Joe is Task Group Chairman of the new standard in progress, BSR E1.64, Stage Machinery Motion Control
- Joe is also Task Group chairman of ANSI E1.6-4 – 2013, Portable Control of Fixed-Speed Electric Chain Hoists in the Entertainment Industry, and
- “*For such a laid back Canadian, he sure is a Control Freak!*”

Bruce Darden, assisted by Dan Culhane, presented Joe Jeremy with the award, during a lively round of applause and accolades.

8.3 USITT Risk Assessment project

Any news or updates?

Jerry Gorrell reported slow progress.

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 2020 meetings (USITT, Houston, TX)

The Spring 2020 meetings will be held in conjunction with the USITT conference in Houston, TX, from 01-04 April 2020. The SMWG is tentatively scheduled to meet from 13:00-17:-- CST, on Thursday 02 April 2020, at the Marriott Marquis Houston.

9.2 Summer 2020 meetings (NATEAC, NYC)

The Summer 2020 meetings will be held in conjunction with the NATEAC event in New York City, 19-20 July 2020. The complete schedule has not yet been confirmed.

10 Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made and seconded. Dan Culhane reminded everyone that the ad-hoc task group would remain in the room, and online, to work on the scopes for two new projects.

The agenda being completed and there being no further business brought forth, he then declared the meeting adjourned at 15:35.

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 15 February 2020

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR
Nils Becker	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Justin Bennett	University of the Incarnate Word	O	U
David Bond	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
William Bradburn	Aerial Arts, Inc.	O	U
Daniel Brinker	USITT	O	G
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck Associates	P	DR
Paul Brunner	Thern, Inc.	P	MP
Joseph Champelli	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	P	CP
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.	P	CP
Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	CP
Joshua "Fritz" Friedensohn	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	A	CP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	P	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
Dan Lisowski	University of Wisconsin - Madison	P	U
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP
Franco Magliozzi	Chubb Group of Insurance Companies	O	G
Wendy Manson	Cirque Du Soleil, Inc.	O	U
Bill McIntyre	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	A	CP
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	A	MP
Reid Neslage	H & H Specialties Inc.	wtg	MP
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	A	DE
Michael Nishball	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 15 February 2020

Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	O	G
Eric Rouse	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	A	CP
Peter A. Scheu	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Michael Shaw	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
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
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
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP