

Minutes
Stage Machinery Working Group
Friday, 22 March 2024
Sheraton Grand Seattle - Seattle, WA

Chairpersons:

Dan Culhane; Wenger Corp.; P; MP (presiding)
Joseph Jeremy; Niscon (LFT); P; CP

Recording secretaries:

Erin Grabe and Karl Ruling (ESTA)

Attendees:

Jesse Adams; Rose Brand Wipers, Inc; P; DR
Drew Becker; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; A; CP
Paul Brunner; WJHW Consultants; P; DE
Ben Clark; Ben Clark; P; U
Bruce Darden; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; P; CP
Robert Dean; ZFX, Inc.; P; CP
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; G
Julian Hoare; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; P; CP
Jeremy Hodgson; Jeremy Hodgson; I; G
Christina Keryczynskij; Charcoalblue LLC; P; DE
John Marczeski; Texas Scenic Company; A; MP
Charles McCafferty; Cirque du Soliel Entertainment Group; P; U
Cole Muth; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P; MP
Reid Neslage; Reid Neslage; I; G
Jim Niesel; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; P; DE
Jason Rasinowich; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; A; DE
Peter A. Scheu; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P; DE
Steven Serafin; The Hartford Group; P; G
Peter V. Svitavsky; Wenger Corp.; A; MP
Michael Wade; Creative Conners, Inc.; O; MP
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE
Paul Zagajeski; Wenger Corp.; A; MP

Visitors:

Sam Michael; Avista Ingenuity

1 Opening Remarks

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 14:09. He thanked people for being here, and noted that USITT always has lots of conflicting events that cannot be attended at the same time. It's important that those present have chosen to be here today.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

Dan Culhane 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 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 displayed a copy of the pamphlet. No restraint of trade concerns were raised.

2.2 Reading of the call for patents

Dan Culhane read the following statement 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.

No protected IP was reported.

3 Attendance and Membership

3.1 Requirements for membership

Dan Culhane read the following statement 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. The fee will increase to \$150 in 2025. New applications shall not be processed until the participation fee has been paid. 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

A sign-in sheet was circulate while those in the room introduced themselves. Erin Grabe called out the names of the people on line and they introduced themselves. This also functioned as a mic-check for online attendees

3.3 Determination of a quorum

There are presently 26 possible votes. A quorum is 9, a supermajority is 14.

Karl Ruling reported that a quorum was present.

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

As of today's meeting, the following applications and status change requests have been received:

Jason Rasinowich; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; A; DE (new application)

Jesse Adams moved to accept Rasinowich's application. The motion was seconded. The motion carried without objection or abstention.

3.5 Changes to observer status

3.5.1 Changes due to attendance

The following voters have missed two consecutive meetings. If they are not in attendance today, their voting status will be changed to Observer. For voting entities with multiple representatives, only one need be present.

There are none.

3.5.2 Changes due to missed letter ballots

The following voting entities have missed two consecutive letter ballots. Their voting status will be changed to Observer if the next letter ballot is missed.

List as of January's meeting
Jeremy Hodgson; Jeremy Hodgson (G)
Robert Dean; ZFX, Inc (CP)
Troy Atkinson; Production Resource Group (CP)
Matt Jordan; Production Resource Group (CP)

3.5.3 Automatic status changes

There are none.

3.6 Consensus body

The table below shows the full consensus voting body after this meeting's actions.

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Peter A. Scheu	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck & Associates	P	DR
Christina Keryczynskij	Charcoalblue LLC	P	DE
Charles McCafferty	Cirque du Soliel Entertainment Group	P	U
Ben Clark	Ben Clark	P	U
Cole Muth	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Joe Golden	Gallagher Staging & Productions	P	DR
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Jeremy Hodgson	Jeremy Hodgson	I	G
Michael Shaw	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
Joseph Jeremy	Niscon (LFT)	P	CP
Troy Atkinson	Production Resource Group	P	CP
Matt Jordan	Production Resource Group	A	CP
Reid Neslage	Reid Neslage	I	G
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig, LLC	P	DR
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
Julian Hoare	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Chris Peterson	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Craig Roberts	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP

Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	MP
John Marczeski	Texas Scenic Company	A	MP
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G
Jane Harrington	The Hartford Group	A	G
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Jason Rasinowich	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	A	DE
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	MP
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Leigh Witek	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Paul Brunner	WJHW Consultants	P	DE
Robert Dean	ZFX, Inc.	P	CP
Total possible votes:		26	
	Custom market producer (CP)	6	
	Designer (DE)	5	
	Dealer rental company (DR)	4	
	General interest (G)	5	
	Mass-market producer (MP)	4	
	User (U)	2	
Voting status key: P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter, I = Individual voter			

4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting

[See *SMmin01-2024Draft.pdf*]

Jesse Adams moved to accept the draft minutes as submitted. The motion was seconded. The motion carried without objection or abstention.

5 Approval of agenda

Steve Walker moved that draft agenda be accepted. The motion was seconded. The motion carried without objection or abstention.

6 Old Business

6.1 ANSI E1.42-2023, Safety Standard for Entertainment Lifts (*reaffirm, revise, or withdraw by 10 December 2028*)

No news or action now.

6.2 ANSI E1.44 – 2014, Common Show File Exchange Format for Entertainment Industry Automation Control Systems -- Stage Machinery

It's to be in public review for reaffirmation. A WG letter ballot is to follow immediately thereafter. Richard Nix phoned after the meeting, from Germany. The BSR8 filing with ANSI was delayed so E1.44 did not post for public review until 23 March 2024. The review will conclude on 20 May 2024, before the next scheduled working group meeting.

6.3 BSR E1.64, Stage Machinery Motion Control

Task group members are: Joe Jeremy (Chair), Jem Hodgson, Bruce Darden, Duane Wilson, Nathan Dye, Julian Hoare, Robert Dean, John Ringelman.

It's in public review until 08 April 2024. A WG letter ballot for final approval as an ANS will follow if no actionable comments are received.

One response received so far, but it's "Yes," reported Karl Ruling.

6.4 ANSI E1.71 – 2023, Powered Curtain Machines (reaffirm, revise, or withdraw by 10 December 2028)

No news or action now.

6.5 ANSI E1.72 – 2023, Powered Floor Machines (reaffirm, revise, or withdraw by 18 September 2028)

No news or action now.

6.6 BSR E1.82, Unidirectional Machine Controls

Jesse Adams, Mike Brubaker, Jerry Gorrell, Joe Jeremy, Paul Zagajeski, Matt Jordan, and Jem Hodgson. The task group also includes four people from CPWG, including Paul Beasley, who are not part of the Stage Machinery Working Group's consensus body.

Jesse Adams reported progress, with two recent task group meetings. They are working on refining the scope and renaming it to make it clear that this is a stage machinery standard, not a control protocol standard.

The task group plans to have task group meetings every two weeks.

7 New business

8 Other business and announcements

8.1 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. The deadline for nominations is 01 November.

Erin Grabe presented an Above & Beyond Award to Steve Walker for his work on E1.72.

8.2 Other other business

9 Schedule for future meetings

The meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The Summer meetings will co-locate with NATEAC in NYC, July 11-13, 2024. The Fall 2024 meetings will likely return to Westlake, TX during the week of 21 October (TBC). The Winter 2025 meetings will return to Anaheim, CA in conjunction with the 2025 NAMM Show, during the week of 20 January 2025.

10 Adjournment

The agenda being complete, Dan Culhane declared the meeting adjourned at 14:41.

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 22 March 2024

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR
Troy Atkinson	Production Resource Group	P	CP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Justin Bennett	University of the Incarnate Word	O	U
Daniel Brinker	USITT	O	G
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck Associates	P	DR
Paul Brunner	WJHW Consultants	P	DE
Joseph Champelli	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	O	CP
Ben Clark	Ben Clark	P	U
Gareth Conner	Creative Conners, Inc.	O	MP
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	MP
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Robert Dean	ZFX, Inc.	P	CP
Jim Digby	Event Safety Alliance	O	U
Bruce Downer	SERAPID, Inc.	P	CP
Nathan Dye	Texas Scenic Company	P	MP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	P	DR
Tiny Good	Showtech Australia	O	U
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Jane Harrington	The Hartford Group	A	G
Robert Haycock	Robert Haycock	O	U
Phil Heid	Creative Stage Lighting Co., Inc.	O	DR
Julian Hoare	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	P	CP
Jeremy Hodgson	Jeremy Hodgson	I	G
Joseph Jeremy	Niscon (LFT)	P	CP
Matt Jordan	Production Resource Group	A	CP
Christina Keryczynskyj	Charcoalblue LLC	P	DE
Edwin S. Kramer	1501	O	U
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
John Marczeski	Texas Scenic Company	A	MP
Charles McCafferty	Cirque du Soliel Entertainment Group	P	U
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	O	MP

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 22 March 2024

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Cole Muth	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Reid Neslage	Reid Neslage	I	G
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Chris Peterson	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	O	G
Jason Rasinowich	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	A	DE
Craig Roberts	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Eric Rouse	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	O	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
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Kevin Taylor	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	O	CP
Christopher B. Tilton	About the Stage, LLC	O	DE
Michael Wade	Creative Conners, Inc.	O	MP
Steve Walker	Steve A. Walker & Associates	P	DE
R. Duane Wilson	Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants	A	DE
Leigh Witek	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP