

Minutes
Stage Machinery Working Group
Thursday, 20 July 2023
Marriott D/FW Westlake - Westlake, TX

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
Jane Harrington, ARM; The Hartford Group; A; G
Ben Clark; Ben Clark; I; U

Bruce Darden; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; P; CP
Bruce Downer; SERAPID, Inc.; P; CP
Nathan Dye; Texas Scenic Company; P; CP
Joe Golden; Gallagher Staging & Productions; P; DR
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; P; G
Robert Haycock; Robert Haycock; O; U
Julian Hoare; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; P; CP
Edwin S. Kramer; 1501; O; U
Dan Lisowski; University of Wisconsin - Madison; P; U
Cole Muth; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P; MP
Reid Neslage; Reid Neslage; I; G
Jim Niesel; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; P; DE
Craig Roberts; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; A; CP
Marco Robles; I.A.T.S.E. Local 80; P; U
Peter A. Scheu; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P; DE
Steven Serafin; The Hartford Group; P; G
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE

1 Opening Remarks

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 19:05, welcoming everyone and thanking them for attending—and being here so that motions needing a supermajority can be passed. There's a lot of work to be done; it might be necessary to have an on-line meeting between now and the scheduled October meetings.

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.

Richard Nix held up 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.

Nothing was revealed.

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. 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

Everyone introduced themselves – first those in the room, then online participants.

3.3 Determination of a quorum

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

Dan Culhane announced that more than 14 voters were 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:

There are none.

Jerry Gorrell and Jim Niesel both requested a status change from Observer to Principal. Jim Niesel requested the change only for himself, as Theatre Project's representative.

Bruce Darden moved to approve the requests. The motion was seconded, and carried without discussion, 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.

Serapid, Inc.; Bruce Downer

Bruce Downer was present.

3.5.2 Changes due to missed letter ballots

There are none.

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
Ben Clark	Ben Clark	I	U
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck & Associates	P	DR
Gareth Conner	Creative Conners, Inc.	P	MP
Harry Beauregard	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Michael Wade	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Cole Muth	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Joe Golden	Gallagher Staging & Productions	P	DR
Marco Robles	I.A.T.S.E. Local 80	P	G
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Jeremy Hodgson	Jeremy Hodgson	I	G
Sam Michael	Sam Michael	I	DE
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
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
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	CP
Steven Serafin	The Hartford Group	P	G

Jane Harrington	The Hartford Group	A	G
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Paul Brunner	Thern, Inc.	P	MP
Dan Lisowski	University of Wisconsin Madison	P	U
Dan Culhane	Wenger Corp.	P	MP
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Robert Dean	ZFX, Inc.	P	CP
Total possible votes:		28	
	Custom market producer (CP)	7	
	Designer (DE)	5	
	Dealer rental company (DR)	4	
	General interest (G)	5	
	Mass-market producer (MP)	4	
	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 *SM_Minutes_04-2023_Draft.pdf*]

Bruce Darden moved to approve. The motion was seconded, and carried without discussion or objection. Dan Lisowski abstained.

5 Approval of agenda

Bruce Darden moved to approve. The motion was seconded, and carried without discussion, objection, or abstentions.

6 Old Business

6.1 BSR E1.42-201x, stage and orchestra lifts

Steve Walker (leader), Jim Niesel (co-leader), Bruce Downer, Michael Nishball, Pete Svitavsky, and Chris Tilton
 [See *BSR E1.42-202x_PR1 CmmntResols_Draft.pdf* and *BSR E1-42_202x_SL2022-10011r2.pdf*]

The task group has submitted draft comment resolutions and a revised draft standard for the working group's consideration.

Steve Walker moved to approve the draft resolutions. The motion was seconded. There was discussion. Dan Culhane asked about comment resolution 8. The section reference should be to 7.3.1.3. The reference in the resolution was changed. The motion carried without objection or abstention. [TSM note: One commenter, Joe Jeremy, was part of the consensus voting body approving the resolutions.]

Steve Walker moved to send for second PR, the motion was seconded. The motion carried without objection or abstention. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI, with the public review commencing soon thereafter.

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)

Nothing to report.

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, Bill McIntyre, John Ringelman.

Its first public review ended on 27 June. The public review comment summary was distributed on 03 July. The task group submitted draft comment resolutions and a revised draft standard for consideration.

Joe Jeremy asked for 30 minutes to go through the comment resolutions and draft revision. There was no objection. Joe Jeremy shared his screen, showing a side-by-side comparison of the comment resolutions with their corresponding result in the draft standard. He also noted a list of internal task group comments that were also addressed in the revision. He completed the overview and asked for feedback from the working group.

Steve Walker said he had a concern for the definition of “User”, suggesting that equipment be replaced with control system. Joe Agreed. Bruce Darden objected to the change of the definition to make it be the user of the controls because it's not the same as in curtain machines, where the user can be the user of the equipment, not simply the controls. Joe Jeremy suggested that absolute consistency between standards is not required. The definitions for a control standard are specific to the controls. Definitions for machinery—the whole machine—are specific to machines

Dan Lisowski expressed a concern with section 7.17's recommendation against using analog encoding systems. Joe noted that the clause does not prohibit their use, saying everything is going digital; analog is too subject to noise, but some people might still use analog devices and work around their limitations. He asked Dan if his concern would be resolved by moving that sentence into the annex note for the same clause. Dan said yes, so the change was made.

Jim Neisel had editorial comments and a few questions of clarification, all of which were answered.

Robert Haycock suggested removing the word “motive” from the definition of actuator. The group agreed.

There was no further discussion, so Joe Jeremy moved to accept the draft comment resolutions as revised. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention.

Joe Jeremy moved to send the revised draft out to second public review. The motion was seconded. There was discussion. Steve Walker asked if it would make more sense to consider the public review by letter ballot. Bruce Darden suggested it was pointless to do a letter ballot for something that was going back out for public review anyway. The motion was seconded, and carried without objection or abstention. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI, with the public review commencing soon thereafter.

6.4 BSR E1.71 Curtain Machines

*Jesse Adams (task group leader), Reid Neslage, Bruce Darden, Mike Brubaker, and Paul Brunner.
[See BSR_E1.71_PR3_Resols_DRAFT.pdf and BSR_E1-71_202x_2022-10006r2b.pdf]*

The task group has submitted draft comment resolutions and a revised draft standard for consideration.

Jesse Adams moved to approve the proposed comment resolutions. The motion was seconded. He noted one change, highlighted in red. No one had objections to this change. The motion carried without objection or abstention.

Jesse noted the red text in the draft revision. The group went through each of them. There was more discussion about flame retardancy and non-combustibility, with slight wording changes made. There was no further discussion, so Jesse Adams moved to send out for its next public review. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention. A BSR8 will be filed with ANSI, with the public review commencing soon thereafter.

6.5 BSR E1.72 Floor Machines

Steve Serafin (Co-task group leader), Drew Becker (Co-task group leader), Steve Walker, Joe Champelli, Joe

Golden, Paul Zagajeski, Duane Wilson, and Julian Hoare

It's in public review until 01 August 2023.

7 New business

7.1 August Working Group meeting possibility

The working group chairpersons want to evaluate the need for an interim working group meeting, if necessary, in order to facilitate draft document development process.

In the interest of eliminating the need for an interim meeting, Richard Nix moved that, if there are no public review comments requiring resolution on BSR E1.72, that it then move to a letter ballot to approve as an ANS. The motion was seconded and carried without objection or abstention.

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.

Joe Jeremy announced that Jesse Adams was a recipient of the 2022 award, and read the nomination, which he had made:

Jesse consistently promotes the work of the Working Groups and the standards that are produced for ESTA. He is a constant contributor in the meetings he attends, comes prepared, asks productive questions, never judges the reasoning behind document content he requires clarification of, and is just simply a all around team player and cooperative colleague.

When he is not chairing a task group he is actively participating in more than one as a contributing member. He has a thirst for constant improvement and seeks out knowledgeable resources to assist in the writing of standards.

I nominate Jesse because of this consistency and because his approach to the work he contributes is a model example of what the ESTA TSP is all about. Cooperation, Safety, Betterment of the Industry as a whole.

Richard Nix said that this 2022 award was delayed only because of a desire to present it in person. The award will be sent to Jesse. Congratulations!

8.2 Other other business

9 Schedule for future meetings

The meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The Fall 2023 meetings will return to Westlake, TX during the week of 02 October, and the Winter 2024 meetings will be held in Anaheim, CA, in conjunction with the NAMM Show, during the week of 22 January 2024.

10 Adjournment

The agenda business being complete, with no further business brought forth, Dan Culhane adjourned the meeting at 21:08.

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 20 July 2023

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR
Jane Harrington, ARM	The Hartford Group	A	G
Troy Atkinson	Production Resource Group	P	CP
Harry Beauregard	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Nils Becker	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	O	MP
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	Thern, Inc.	P	MP
Joseph Champelli	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	O	CP
Ben Clark	Ben Clark	I	U
Gareth Conner	Creative Conners, Inc.	P	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	CP
Joshua "Fritz" Friedensohn	Entertainment Project Services, LLC	O	CP
Sanford P. Gilzow	Shur-Rig LLC	P	DR
Joe Golden	Gallagher Staging & Productions	P	DR
Tiny Good	Showtech Australia	O	U
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	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	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	P	CP
Matt Jordan	Production Resource Group	A	CP
Edwin S. Kramer	1501	O	U
Dan Lisowski	University of Wisconsin - Madison	P	U
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Sam Michael	Sam Michael	I	DE
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	O	MP
Cole Muth	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	P	MP
Reid Neslage	Reid Neslage	I	G
Jim Niesel	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	P	DE
Michael Nishball	Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.	O	DE
Richard J. Nix	Richard J. Nix	I	G
Chris Peterson	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 20 July 2023

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	O	G
Craig Roberts	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Marco Robles	I.A.T.S.E. Local 80	P	U
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.	O	MP
Zachary Stevenson	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	O	U
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.	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	O	U
Paul Zagajeski	Wenger Corp.	A	MP