

**Minutes**  
**Stage Machinery Working Group**  
Thursday, 11 July 2024  
NYC College of Technology - Brooklyn, NY

**Chairpersons:**

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

**Recording secretaries:**

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

**Attendees:**

Ben Clark; Ben Clark; P; U  
Christina Keryczynskij; Charcoalblue LLC; P; DE  
Cole Muth; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; P; MP  
Craig Roberts; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; A; CP  
Drew Becker; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; A; CP  
Jane Harrington; The Hartford Group; A; G  
Jason Rasinowich; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; A; DE  
Jeremy Hodgson; Jeremy Hodgson; I; G  
Jesse Adams; Rose Brand Wipers, Inc; P; DR  
Jim Niesel; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; P; DE  
Joe Golden; Joe Golden Enterprises; wtg; DE  
John Marczeski; Texas Scenic Company; A; MP  
Michael Shaw; Motion Laboratories, Inc.; P; MP  
Nathan Dye; Texas Scenic Company; P; MP  
Paul Brunner; WJHW Consultants; P; DE  
Peter A. Scheu; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P; DE  
R. Duane Wilson; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; A; DE  
Reid Neslage; Reid Neslage; I; G  
Rick Montgomery; Motion Laboratories, Inc.; A; MP  
Sam Michael; Avista Ingenuity, LLC; P; DE  
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE

**Visitors:**

Ethan Gilson – Entertainment Rigging Services  
Robert Goddard – Goddard Design

**1 Opening Remarks**

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 14:05, welcoming everyone to the meeting, and thanking them for taking time to attend, especially those who are braving the steamy hot NYC weather. Without your participation we cannot move forward. Thank you!

**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 for all to see.

## **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 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. 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**

Everyone introduced themselves.

### **3.3 Determination of a quorum**

*There are presently 25 possible votes. A quorum is 9, a supermajority is 13.*

Richard Nix confirmed the requirements for both a quorum and a supermajority had been met.

### **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:*

*Joe Golden; Joe Golden Enterprises; P; DE (change of representation)  
Sam Michael; Avista Ingenuity, LLC; P; DE (change of representation)*

Jesse Adams moved to approve the applications as submitted. The motion was seconded and 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.*

Sanford P. Gilzow; Shur-Rig LLC

Sandy Gilzow sends his regrets.

### 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.

There are none.

### 3.5.3 Automatic status changes

Joe Golden, see above.

Dan Culhane noted that Tait now has a new controlling interest investor, Goldman Sachs Private Equity. It's not finalized yet, but this may impact representation.

### 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
Sam Michael	Avista Ingenuity LLC	P	DE
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck & Associates	P	DR
Christina Keryczynskyj	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
Bruce Darden	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	P	CP
Drew Becker	InterAmerica Stage, Inc.	A	CP
Jeremy Hodgson	Jeremy Hodgson	I	G
Joe Golden	Joe Golden Enterprises	P	DE
Michael Shaw	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	P	MP
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	A	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
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
<b>Total possible votes:</b>		<b>26</b>	
	Custom market producer (CP)	6	
	Designer (DE)	7	
	Dealer rental company (DR)	2	
	General interest (G)	5	
	Mass-market producer (MP)	4	
	User (U)	2	
<b>Voting status key:</b> P = Principal voter, A = Alternate voter, I = Individual voter			

**4 Approval of the minutes from the last meeting**

[See *SMmin03-2024\_Draft.pdf*]

Steve Walker moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded and approved without objection or abstention.

**5 Approval of agenda**

Jesse Adams moved to approve the agenda. The motion was seconded and 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)**

*Any news or action?*

No news or updates. Steve Walker said it's being used in several states

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

*The working group reaffirmation letter ballot closes on 05 July 2024.*

Richard Nix reported, it's moving to the TSC.

## **6.3 ANSI E1.64 - 2024, Stage Machinery Control Systems in the Entertainment Industry** *(Reaffirm, revise or withdraw by 17 June 2029)*

*It's been approved and will be published by the time this working group meets!*

It's published Joe Jeremy thanks everyone for their assistance and hard work.

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

*Any news or action?*

No news or action.

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

*Any news or action?*

No news or action.

## **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.*

*Any news or action?*

Jesse Adams reported. An article about the project was published in the July edition of Protocol, along with a request to respond to a survey. The task group has paused until survey results are tabulated, the survey ends 11 August.

## **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](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.*

### **8.2 Call for educational session proposals for NAMM 2025**

*A call for educational session proposals for NAMM Show 2025 is now open. Interested parties should contact Laura Hoepker ([laura.hoepker@esta.org](mailto:laura.hoepker@esta.org)) for details.*

## **9 Schedule for future meetings**

*The meeting schedule is posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. The Fall 2024 meetings will return to Westlake, TX. during the week of 21 October. This working group is scheduled to meet on Friday 25 October at 16:00 Central Time. The Winter 2025 meetings will return to Anaheim, CA in conjunction with the 2025 NAMM Show, during the week of 20 January 2025.*

Richard Nix reminded everyone about the BTS fundraiser on Sunday evening at City Winery, send an email to NATEAC@esta.org.

**10 Adjournment**

Dan Culhane adjourned at 14:30

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 11 July 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	O	DR
Joe Golden	Joe Golden Enterprises	P	DE
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 Keryczynskj	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
Sam Michael	Avista Ingenuity, LLC	P	DE

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 11 July 2024

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>	<b>Status</b>	<b>Int cat</b>
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	A	MP
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
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