

Minutes
Stage Machinery Working Group
Thursday, 30 September 2021 15:00 – 17:00 EDT
via WebEx

Chairpersons:

Dan Culhane (presiding)
Joe Jeremy (not present, with regards)

Recording secretaries:

Karl Ruling and Richard Nix (ESTA)

Attendees:

Jesse Adams; Rose Brand Wipers, Inc; P; DR
Troy Atkinson; Production Resource Group; P; CP
Drew Becker; InterAmerica Stage, Inc.; A; CP
Paul Brunner; Thern, Inc.; P; MP
Ben Clark; Ben Clark; I; U
Dan Culhane; Wenger Corp.; P; MP
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
Reid Neslage; H & H Specialties Inc.; P; MP
Michael Nishball; Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.; P; DE
Peter A. Scheu; Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants; P; DE
Steven Serafin; The Hartford Group; P; G
Michael Wade; Creative Conners, Inc.; A; MP
Steve Walker; Steve A. Walker & Associates; P; DE
Paul Zagajeski; Wenger Corp.; A; MP

1 Opening Remarks

Dan Culhane called the meeting to order at 15:05, thanking everyone for taking time to attend – we cannot move forward with our work without the attendees participation. He said Joe Jeremy would not be attending due to another commitment.

2 Patent and anti-trust statements

2.1 Reading of the anti-trust statement

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 held up the pamphlet in front of his camera for all video-enabled attendees to see. He also confirmed that a digital version was available.

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

3.3 Determination of a quorum

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

Richard Nix confirmed that the requirements for both a quorum and a supermajority were met.

3.4 Processing of new membership and status change requests

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

*Ben Clark; Ben Clark; I; U
Cole Muth; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc; P; MP*

Jesse Adams moved to approve the applications, with Ben Clark as submitted, and Cole Muth as an Observer, since he was not present. The motion was seconded, 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 representation status will be changed to Observer.

*H & H Specialties, Inc; Reid Neslage; P
Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc; Michael Nishball; P and Jim Niesel; A*

All three individuals were 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 all changes effected during the meeting.

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
Ben Clark	Ben Clark	I	U
Mike Brubaker	CM Buck Associates	P	DR
Gareth Conner	Creative Conners, Inc.	P	MP
Michael Wade	Creative Conners, Inc.	A	MP
Joe Golden	Gallagher Staging	P	DR
Reid Neslage	H & H Specialties, Inc.	P	MP
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
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	A	MP
Troy Atkinson	Production Resource Group	P	CP
Matt Jordan	Production Resource Group	A	CP
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
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

Name	Representing	Status	Int Cat
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Paul Brunner	Them, Inc.	P	MP
Dan Brinker	U.S.I.T.T	P	G
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:		27	
	Custom market producer (CP)		7
	Designer (DE)		4
	Dealer rental company (DR)		4
	General interest (G)		5
	Mass-market producer (MP)		5
	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 *SMmin07-2021_DRAFT.pdf*]

Troy Atkinson moved to approve the minutes. The motion was seconded, and carried 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 BSR E1.42-201x, stage and orchestra lifts

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

Any news or updates?

Steve Walker reported no progress due to schedule coordination. He said that documents have been circulated, they have a good idea of the necessary changes, and that they will consider email reviews.

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)*

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, Julian Hoare, Bill McIntyre, John Ringelman.

Any news or updates?

Dan Culhane reported that he had received an an apologetic note from Joe Jeremy, which said he had not been able to move forward, but expected to do so in time for a report at January's meeting.

6.4 BSR E1.71 Curtain Machines

Jesse Adams (task group leader), Pete Svitavsy, Dan Brinker, Reid Neslage, Bruce Darden, Mike Brubaker, and Paul Brunner.

Any news or updates?

Jesse Adams reported, first thanking all of his task group for contributing to nearly 30 task group meetings since beginning their work. Their current draft has been distributed to the working group for an internal, informal review, as an interim progress report. Has asked that any comments be sent to him, or be contributed at any of their upcoming meetings.

Steve Walker said he found the references to characteristic loads and peak loads to be a little confusing, because he wasn't sure how those would be determined for these types of machines, further stating he thought the characteristic load should not be more than the rated output of the motor.

Bruce Darden noted that machines that could not reverse direction, or that had to be reset by a human – e.g. kabuki drops, “suck” drops – are out of the scope of this standard.

Jesse said that a someone from a projection screen manufacturer had been a guest attendee at a few of the task group meetings, and had been invited to join the working group.

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 Zagajski, Duane Wilson, and Julian Hoare

Any news or updates?

Drew Becker reported not much progress since the last meeting, but they have spent most of the time reformatting the document for clarity.

Steve Serafin gave kudos to Steve Walker, saying he had done a significant amount of valuable work recently, then suggested that they should work diligently towards having a review document sometime before January's meeting.

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.

8.2 Other other business

Jerry Gorrell said that the Weather Channel has been offering “*great videos*” about vehicle removal on some of the most active highways in the country, which contain some very interesting rigging techniques that he thought our audience would find very interesting to see.

9 Schedule for future meetings

The meeting schedule is normally posted at <http://www.esta.org/ESTA/meetings.php>. It is not yet posted, but meetings will occur via WebEx during the week of 17 January 2022. Other future meetings, subject to change, are as follows:

Spring 2022: In conjunction with USITT conference; in-person, 02-05 March 2022, Baltimore, MD

Summer 2022: In conjunction with the NAMMShow 2022; in-person, 03-05 June 2022, Anaheim, CA

10 Adjournment

The agenda being complete, and there being no further business brought forth, Dan Culhane declared the meeting adjourned at 15:40.

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 30 September 2021

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Jesse Adams	Rose Brand Wipers, Inc	P	DR
Troy Atkinson	Production Resource Group	P	CP
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	P	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
Jerry Gorrell	Theatre Safety Programs	P	G
Robert Haycock	UC Berkeley	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	O	U
Jim Love	Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC	A	CP
Wendy Manson	Wendy Manson	O	G

Stage Machinery Working Group members as of 30 September 2021

Name	Representing	Status	Int cat
Bill McIntyre	Show Distribution Group, Inc.	A	CP
Rick Montgomery	Motion Laboratories, Inc.	A	MP
Cole Muth	Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.	O	MP
Reid Neslage	H & H Specialties Inc.	P	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
Kurt Pragman	Pragman Associates, LLC	O	G
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
Zachary Stevenson	University of North Carolina School of the Arts	O	U
Peter V. Svitavsky	Wenger Corp.	A	MP
Christopher B. Tilton	About the Stage, LLC	P	DE
Michael Wade	Creative Connors, 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