

ISDCF Main Meeting Notes

Wednesday, May 6, 2026



Aegisolve, Inc



AMC Entertainment



Barco



Christie Digital Systems
Canada Inc.



Comscore



Deluxe



Digital Cinema
Distribution Coalition



Dolby Laboratories, Inc.



Eikon Group



GDC Technology



Harkins



Marcus Theatres



Motion Picture Solutions



NEC Display Solutions of
America



Paramount Studios



Pixelogic - Digital Cinema
Services



Qube Cinema, Inc.



Regal Entertainment



Shenzhen Time Waying
Technology Co., Ltd.



Sony Pictures



The Fithian Group



Village Cinemas



Walt Disney Studios
Motion Picture...



Warner Bros.

Call to order

The meeting chair Pierre-Anthony Lemieux called to order the hybrid meeting at 10:03 AM Pacific Time. The meeting was held at the offices of Harman International, Northridge, CA, and online via Zoom.

A few words about Jerry

Inter-Society President Steve LLamb shared a few words about Jerry Pierce, ISDCF's long-time chair, who passed away abruptly. He highlighted Jerry's exceptional contributions to D-Cinema and the ISDCF, and noted that a celebration of life will be held at Harmony Gold Theatre (Los Angeles) on May 28, 2026. Steve requested assistance with collecting and assembling materials covering Jerry's life to be shared during the celebration.

Interim meeting chair announcement

Inter-Society President Steve LLamb reported that the ISDCF plans to continue operating and has retained Pierre-Anthony Lemieux (pal@sandflow.com) to chair the ISDCF main meetings until the end of the year. The Inter-Society plans to review the ISDCF objectives and operations at the end of the year.

Administrative

Next main meetings

Wednesday, July 1, 2026, at 10 AM Pacific (hybrid in Los Angeles, CA)

Action Item: Chair to follow-up with Drea Avila on a potential location at NBCU, and with Bill Hogan on one at the Pickford Center.

Wednesday, August 12, 2026, at 10 AM Pacific (Northridge, CA)

Action item: Chair to confirm with Mark Collins.

Wednesday, October 14, 2026 at 8 AM Pacific (virtual) [TENTATIVE]

Open invitation to EDCF members. Early start time to accommodate European participation.

Action item: Chair to coordinate attendance with EDCF.

Wednesday, December 2, 2026, at 10 AM Pacific (Northridge, CA)

Action item: Chair to confirm with Mark Collins.

January 13, 2027 (Time TBD, co-located with ICTA in Los Angeles) [TENTATIVE]

Open to ICTA attendees.

Action item: Steve LLamb to follow-up with ICTA to gauge feasibility and interest.

Action item: Chair to update ISDCF calendar with upcoming meetings.

House rules

<https://www.isdcf.com/terms/>

Meeting notes approval

Approval of the January notes is deferred until the next main meeting.

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1EvuM5rp4v6l-u91YqTy7twQE4-5jwcnM/view>

Acknowledgements

The Chair thanked Harman and Mark Collins for hosting the meeting, and all sponsoring members for making the work of the ISDCF possible.

Inter-Society

It was reported that the annual dues of 3 members are outstanding.

Real Work**DCI has released a new version of the Compliance Test Plan (CTP)**

<https://www.dcmovies.com/compliance-test-plan?ctp-version=v1.5.0>

The following changes since CTP 1.4.4 were highlighted:

- Modify projector measurement methodology for Test Procedure 7.5.8 SDR Intra-frame Contrast for Projectors.
- Remove SMS Operator Identification tests.
- Remove SMS/TMS as one of the Certificated Devices.
- Add image frame rate testing to IMB test sequences.

DCI has released a new revision of the Digital Cinema System Specification (DCSS)

<https://www.dcimovies.com/dci-specification?dcss-version=v1.5.0>

The following changes since DCSS 1.4.5 were highlighted:

- Deletes mandate for the SMS to collect post-show playout log reports from Media Blocks within 24 hours.
- Deletes mandate for the SMS and OMB to implement SMPTE ST 430-17 SMS-OMB Communications Protocol.
- Deletes SMS security-related requirements (certificate, TLS, AuthorityID).
- Removes requirement for a display device to have physical lock(s).

It was asked whether DCI had considered the impact of removing requirements on 24-hour log collection on test procedures that require collecting logs.

Changes to the DCI website

It was noted that changes to the DCI website can be detected by reading the timestamp at the bottom of website's pages. The announcement page and "new" badges can also be used. In doubt, DCI can be contacted at dcinfo@dcimovies.com.

BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) Subgroup

The subgroup is looking for a chair. Please contact Steve LLamb if you are interested in chairing.

Action item: Steve LLamb, Sean Romano and Veronica Pineda to collect and share the materials gathered so far by the subgroup.

It was noted that distribution of additional content to user devices has been used successfully in airports, museums and movie theaters. Some of the technology providers include Auracast, TheaterEars (recently used with Project Hail Mary) and Hello Movie (used in Japan). In addition to alternate languages, applications in theaters include making a director's commentary track available, which can drive repeat viewing.

<https://patrickvonsychowski.substack.com/p/the-whisper-in-your-ear-audio-enhanced>

It was noted that a panel on BYOD will be held at ICTA's Summer Annual Convention:

<https://internationalcinematechnologyassociation.com/events/summer-convention-milwaukee/>

Expressive Captioning (AMPAS)

Expressive captions involve enhancing spoken words with additional text and with styles to convey context (sound effects, mood, speaker, loudness, etc.). This is a contemporary take on SDH (Subtitles for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing) captions, driven by automated captioning and client devices with advanced graphics capabilities.

AMPAS has created a committee (chaired by Steve LLamb and Michael Goi) to study the impact of expressive captions on authoring, distribution and presentation, and is making a call for participants. Non-AMPAS members are welcome.

It remains unclear what the impact can and will be on cinema standards and practices, which already support rich text styling through image-based text (PNG).

Disney Infinity Vision

<https://thewaltdisneycompany.com/news/infinity-vision-movie-theaters/>

It was suggested that the program is not a new content format, but a certification program akin to THX, albeit not involving acoustics. The intent is to encourage great PLF experiences. The program may be tied to theatrical bonus materials for Infinity Vision screens.

It is expected that Disney Infinity Vision screens would be tracked in the TDL, and would be signaled in the naming convention and through CPL and FLM extensions. These extensions could be added to the ISDCF registries.

No public documentation is available and the timeline to a first title is 1-2 months.

Claims of acoustically transparent LED screens

<https://www.gdc-tech.com/press-release/gdc-technology-to-unveil-hdr-cinema-led-and-64-channel-cinema-audio-processor/?lang=ko>

A demonstration of the system was available at CinemaCon, albeit in a ballroom, which is not in an environment comparable to a commercial theater.

It was suggested that no accepted standards or guidelines are designed to evaluate the acoustic performance (off-axis response, etc.) of these systems.

Digital Cinema Future Proofing

Is it time to rethink the DCSS (and the standards it references) to match today's business and technology?

Consensus was expressed for maintaining compatibility with the current 2K + 5.1 sound DCP, which enables truly worldwide distribution.

It was felt that the area of greatest priority is security: quantum computing might obsolete current cryptographic algorithms, off-the-shelf CPUs offer secure enclaves and FIPS has evolved. One non-exclusive option is to invite experts from the cryptographic standards community to update the ISDCF on the direction of cryptographic standards at the international level, i.e., replicate the process that ultimately led to FIPS being selected 20 years ago.

Action Item: John Hurst to chair a subgroup with the task to understand the state of the art and ongoing changes in the cryptographic landscape and possible solutions affecting cinema.

Energy Efficiency

Regulations require understanding the energy efficiency of products you purchase. Many times, the specification sheets do not cover issues like: can products go into idle mode automatically? Are the API's for power control? What is the energy consumption of a device. Are there issues for power up sequencing? It was however suggested that there is no body that specifies what an "energy-efficient amplifier" is.

Streaming standards for live/delayed events

www.hollywoodreporter.com/business/business-news/amc-theatres-launches-live-concert-business-1236587189/

<https://investor.amctheatres.com/news-events/press-releases/detail/424/arena-one-and-amc-theatres-launch-a-first-of-its-kind-shared-live-concert-experience-nationwide-beginning-in-june>

There is no single standard for the delivery of live events to exhibitors. Is there a need? Software decoders might prevent the proliferation of hardware. It was suggested that lessons could be drawn from esports.

Action item: Bill Hogan to research individuals and organizations would could provide a primer on streaming to ISDCF members.

Summit at HPA Tech Retreat

There is strong interest in recreating the success of the Cinema Systems Summit, albeit not at CinemaCon, who has proven an unreliable partner. The current proposal is to host a ½ day event at the HPA Tech Retreat.

<https://www.isdcf.com/cinema-systems-summit/>

Mark Collins has offered to chair the program committee.

Action Item: Mark Collins to share a draft proposed program for the summit within the next month.

Oral history project

The objective is to document the birth of d-cinema through firsthand testimonials from individuals who were present. Patrick Von Sychowski, Carolyn Giardina and Steve LLamb are the points of contact for the activity.

Inter-Society offers to make IT resources available, e.g., online drive, to help with the effort.

It was noted that YouTube cinetechgeek channel has a lot of history in it on Digital cinema evolution. It was also suggested to collect artifacts for the Digital Cinema Picture Levels (DiCiPLe) initiative (which was a NATO initiative) before they are lost.

Audio/Test Content

Action item: Tim Weeks to draft a write-up on usage of the test content.

It was noted that test content might be missing from the website, e.g., missing closed captioning test of EntryPoint/Duration, audio test content is not listed under “Digital Cinema Test Material”, etc.

Action item: Chair to create an inventory of the test content available on the website and proposed an improved organization.

Action item: Steve LLamb to create (unencrypted) test content for a quick theater check. Assemble 4 short, unencrypted test DCP for quick test of theater image and sound set up. (scope 5.1, scope 7.1, flat 5.1, flat 7.1). Consider using as promotional material for events (like CinemaCon, ShowEast, etc.).

Action item: Brian Vessa to provide the text he had written on the objectives and expectations for each test.

Front page of the Internet... Getting better information out there.

Action item: Steve LLamb to create a landing page for cinema, media and beyond.

Image Artifacts

It was reported that the rate of incidents in the field has decreased.

Website and IT updates Naming Convention

It was noted that there is a growing backlog in facility/studio request.

LIPA Update

No update.

DCI Update

See above for DCSS and CTP releases.

SMPTE Update

DP Ballot underway for RP 200 - sound document.

[EG 428-23, D-Cinema Distribution Master — Mastering Guideline for Japanese Timed Text](#)

SMPTE fellow nominations are closing soon.

ISO TC 36 update

<https://www.iso.org/committee/48090.html>

ISO TC 36 is now chaired by Steve LLamb, who noted that the US TAG, who represents US interests within TC 36, is seeking participants from the industry. The next TC 36 plenary is scheduled for the end of August in Tokyo.

EDCF Update

Steve LLamb (EDCF board member) reported that the EDCF held a successful LA Tour before CinemaCon and thanked everyone who made it possible.

ICTA Update

The ICTA is holding a summer convention in Milwaukee, US (July 12 – 14):

<https://internationalcinematechnologyassociation.com/events/summer-convention-milwaukee/>

Vendor Updates

CineCert reports that it is now part of DCDC and that Dean Bullock has joined as its VP of Engineering.

Open issues

1. Consider a “best practice” document for playing back 3D48 features (need for a short MOS 2D48 interstitial after the trailers). Also make recommendations for additional test content for 3D48 (1-2 minutes of identifiable 3D images).

Action Items

1. Form AdHoc group to discuss Digital Cinema Future Proofing topics.

Completed. See "Digital Cinema Future Proofing" above.

2. Consider a virtual plugfest to test file size for hard drive delivery.

Action item: Andy Lampard to review and update as needed the ISDCF Document 3 to be more descriptive on the partition size requirements to address very large HDDs.

It was noted that RDD 52 specifies file sizes (in contrast with partition sizes).

3. Start planning a “Hollywood Technology Summit” for Inter-Society, could/should we partner with HPA?

Completed. See "Summit at HPA Tech Retreat" above.

Adjourned

The meeting was adjourned at 1 PM Pacific Time.

Attendance

Steve LLamb | Deluxe (Steve LLamb)

Pierre-Anthony Lemieux (Sandflow Consulting) (Pierre-Anthony Lemieux)

Veronica Pineda

Reiner Doetzkies

Sean Romano

Mike Radford

Cindy Ly

Harold Hallikainen# W6IWI (Harold Hallikainen)

YOSHIHISA GONNO

Martina Berger

Mike Renlund - Dolby (Mike Renlund)

David Deelo [Sony Pictures] (David Deelo)

Andy Lampard (Motion Picture Solutions) (Andy Lampard)

Wade Hanniball

Michael Binder

Justin Kawahara

Jesse Chow

George Aluzzi

Tim Weeks | Village (Tim Weeks)

Lontih Khatami

Aram Lecis

Andrew Poulain - Dolby (Andrew Poulain)

Weronika Kolodziej

Jean-Philippe Viollet (Dolby) (Jean-Philippe Viollet)

Brian Vessa

Mario Murguia

Trevor Endo - GDC (Trevor Endo)

Yuko Matsuo-Wood

Steve Hopkins

Daniel Tan

James Gardiner

Mark Latimer

John Hurst | CineCert Inc. (John Hurst)

Dean Bullock - CineCert (Dean Bullock)

Travis Spann

Andy Scade

Elie Boutros - Aegisolve (Elie Boutros)

Matthew Sheby | Disney (Matthew Sheby)

Randy Mitchell

Kevin Posnanski

Adam Pongracz | Colorfront (Adam Pongracz)

Jeff Battles

J. Sperling Reich

Tim Weeks | Village Cinemas Australia (Tim Weeks)

Benjamin GIGON (B G)

Kevin Draper

Bryce Alden

Michael Smith

Mark Collins

Cedric Lejeune

Bill Hogan

David Deelo

Elie Boutros

Mark Latimer | AMC Theatres (Mark Latimer)

Ketan Mehta | Qube Cinema (Ketan Mehta)

Benjamin GIGON

Dan Huerta

