

ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – January 13, 2021

Upcoming Meetings

ISDCF/EDCF Social Hour - February 3 8am

ISDCF March 10, 2021 10am Wednesday

(Possible conflict with SMPTE Block Mtgs)

ISDCF April 21, 2021 10am Wednesday

[Immersive plugfest - Not scheduled.]

Part 1: General Reporting

Housekeeping:

- Zoom meeting (provided by NATO)
- Set next meeting dates (above).
- Thank you Universal for support of the Chairman.
- Thank you to Inter-Society for providing general expenses and admin support.
- Meeting notes from November '2020 approved
- Making Zoom work! (mute / raise hand / front light)
- InterSociety - **Membership Fees waived for 2021!** However, we still are doing work - in particular the Naming Convention Website - please let Erin (evh@natoca.com) know if you want an invoice for 2021! \$500 per company per year / \$100 individual membership.
- Legal reminder / press reminder / Antitrust Disclaimer. The official antitrust guidelines are posted on our website and are linked from the main ISDCF page. A short verbal overview of guidelines was given. Please no-social-media for discussions held at ISDCF.

Attendance is at end of these notes.

Action Items from January 13, 2021

1. **Membership Fees waived for 2021** Join Inter-Society! <https://isdcf.com> \$500 per company per year, \$100 individual membership.
2. Steve to schedule classes for SMPTE and the new MS365 world
3. Jerry to continue discussions on Intra-Theater communications
4. Jerry to reach out to see if we are ready to encourage use of IAB vs Atmos in naming convention. Craft a messaging / education for exhibitors on IAB Profile 1 / Atmos. To avoid confusion in the marketplace (probably after movies start to flow again).

5. Figure way to have more social time either before/after / during ISDCF meetings. Investigate other ways to help communications between people of our industry.

Holdovers:

6. In time, create new SMPTE-DCP test package with RDD52 constraints as well as one that will include RDD57 IAB constraints. (Probably two packages.)

===

Organizational issues:

ISDCF/EDCF Social Hour Set for Wednesday February 3 at 8am Pacific Timezone

Feedback: good way to keep in contact... Europe is really locked down at the moment.

Website and IT updates

We are moving the entire Digital Cinema Naming Convention Site (DCNC) to full GitHub publishing. (We will no longer be using WordPress for DCNC). Good progress, a few months away from completion.

<https://github.com/ISDCF/registries>

All registries have been transitioned away from GoogleDocs, but they are not yet exposed in the DCNC website and will be part of the complete move to GitHub publishing. (Automation can use the registries that are at the above link.)

===

Communication and “Breakfast Round Tables”

How can we help engagement in the industry? How do we replicate some of the social interactions that occur at face to face meetings?

HPA Tech Retreat is going to have Breakfast Round Table hosted meetings. Is there something ISDCF/InterSociety should do similar to this?

The “webinar” format misses the interactions. We could use some format to allow us to find out “what’s happening?”

Easy first step is to add social time to the ISDCF meeting. SO - We will add 15 minutes prior to ISDCF/after ISDCF / and have a 15 minute break for socialization.

We will have some off-line ideas about what we might want to do... We don’t need to TELL people anything new. People need to talk to people - WE NEED THERAPY sessions.

Groups that are thinking about this: Celluloid Junkie, EDCF, HPA, InterSociety, ISDCF.

NATO holds a webinar almost every week and attracts over 500 listeners. If you are a theater owner it is free to be a member of NATO and you can listen in to these very informative presentations/discussions.

Expect some experiments in social interactions for our industry in the coming weeks/months. If you have ideas/suggestions contact Jerry Pierce, Mark Collins or Thomas MacCalla.

===

Europe Light Level safety

During the ISDCF/EDCF social call, it came up that changes have been made for safety on projectors in Europe.

The European standardization of safety for projectors was extended to xenon projectors in 2015. There was little impact since it was for new-designed projectors and did not cover installation. Now it has been extended to include projectors that are being sold - laser and xenon. They must meet the safety criteria for **light level safety for both the devices and installation**. [It does not impact existing installations.] It does impact moving projectors from one screen to another.

Optical Safety Distances for lamp projectors Transition from “IEC/EN/UL 60950-1” to “IEC/EN/UL 62368-1 Ed 2”

These same regulations have not been extended to the States.

===

ISDCF Immersive Audio

We need to have a schedule change of NAMING CONVENTION for distribution of IAB/ Atmos content. Currently most immersive mixed are NAMED "Atmos" as part of the digital cinema naming convention text - CTT (Content Title Text) that appears on users screens. BUT these files will also play on DTS and Barco systems that have implemented the IAB (Immersive Audio Bitstream) protocol and there is a general agreement to change the naming to IAB.

OLD:

PitchPerfect3_FTR-7-DVis_F_EN-XX-CCAP_US-13-CA_ATMOS-71-HI-
VI_2K_UP_20171103_DLB_SMPTE_OV

NEW:

PitchPerfect3_FTR-7-DVis_F_EN-XX-CCAP_US-13-CA_IAB-71-HI-
VI_2K_UP_20171103_DLB_SMPTE_OV

We know that will cause confusion in the field, especially for those Atmos users who are used to seeing the ATMOS name in the CTT (Content Title Text). The issue is education to let operators know to look for IAB instead of ATMOS. The files are the same, the only thing different is the name. There will need to be an education program for theater operators, particularly Atmos users.

Dolby, DTS and Barco have systems deployed that can play the IAB/ Atmos files now.

One studio thought that they might label it AtmosIAB for a period of time, but was immediately was discouraged from doing so...

Should NATO/Studios/ISDCF set a date-certain? Do we need a date certain? This is not the same issue as the shift from Interop to SMPTE-DCP. The equipment does not need upgrade, this is JUST a naming issue. We should take the lead from the change as manufacturers have deployed systems that will play the IAB (Atmos) files.

—

SMPTE-RDD57 is well underway. (This is the Immersive Audio Bitstream Constraints – IAB Application Profile 1). Estimate publishing in SMPTE in March 2021. We plan on keeping ISDCF Document 15 open and available which contains the same information as RDD-57. It is not clear if SMPTE will make RDD57 open to general public - we asked for keeping it open.

—
We need a test package for IAB content - for a future plugfest and as an industry resource. The goal is to have a package that is NOT a killer-reel®, but just tests the basics for a SMPTE-RDD-57 (IAB Profile 1) compliant bit stream. The target audience might be an exhibitor to make sure things are working in the theater. A second package that is a bit more edge case testing (but still within profile 1) might also be helpful for ISDCF testing. We also want SMPTE to finalize RDD57 to make sure nothing has changed.

—
Has anyone implemented new features in IAB devices that others have implemented that need to be part of an IAB profile 2? Nope. Will ask again next meeting.

—
OMB testing for new protocols. 430-17 / 430-14 Not yet finished in SMPTE.

—
Maybe a plugfest for subtitling (micro positioning) 428-7 standard plugfest. Test package is being built outside of ISDCF. We may be asked to conduct some testing, but not planned at this time.

===

Dummy sub Files proposal for document

SteveL and JackW have created a DRAFT document defining this missing element. (http://isdcf.com/papers/ISDCF-Doc-16_EmptyTimedText_draft.) No feedback yet, but some may be coming. In process...

The concept is that ISDCF will solicit feedback on the document and post on the ISDCF website. When completed we anticipate it will become an annex to the SMPTE-RDD-52 document and become “official.”

<https://github.com/jack-watts/empty-dci-tt>

===

DRAFT Intra-Theater Communication Requirements

Last meeting there was some discussion about possible solutions to the last 30M communication between a cinema server and patron devices. Jerry put together a candidate list of requirements for a future standard or approach.

Intra-Theater Communication Requirements (Transmission Protocol)

Requirements (first draft only):

- 1) Provide a data link between a cinema server and personal devices unique to each theatrical screen.
- 2) There shall be no limit to the number of receiving devices in an auditorium.
- 3) The data link shall provide delivery of at least 8 streams closed caption and/or audio to the theater (only one per device in use)
- 4) The data link shall provide delivery of at least 2 streams video to the theater (only one per device in use).
- 5) The user selection of which screen is appropriate shall be completely automatic (no user or operator preset or input).
- 6) Must operate in an environment of many screens in close proximity and should not interfere with other communication systems.
- 7) Must support current (and future) generation of smart phone devices (no special hardware) and could be implemented in a low cost standalone receiver.
- 8) The solution must be an open industry wide solution for both transmitter and receiver.
- 9) The solution shall ultimately be standardized for world wide use.
- 10)[Does this track need to be encrypted? ADA requires in-the-clear analog audio out - not sure if it makes sense to encrypt the audio tracks. Other systems do not encrypt today for closed captions.]

Is there a need for a receiver requirement document? Like no screen recording? Too early?

This is NOT an end-to-end solution, it's motivation is to deliver content that is within the CPL to patrons in the theater using modern technology. It is targeting current smartphones and the existing protocols they support. In the future if other languages/captions/video is delivered to theaters, it would be part of a different protocol/recommended practice. PROBABLY delivered as a CPL track extension aux-data.

===

Trailer Sound Levels

Can we revisit trailer sound levels?

We probably can't move forward unless some of the key studios are willing to discuss. Studios feel this is not the time.

===

Exchange of DCDM Files

The IMF Forum and SMPTE-35PM has been working on a way of interoperable exchange of DCDM files. Their work can be found at [GitHub.com/SMPTE/st2067-40-2ED/](https://github.com/SMPTE/st2067-40-2ED/)

===

SMPTE-DCP

Desire to have a copy of the B2.1 documentation as a technical document in ISDCF. In the works, but lower priority right now...

The proponents of RDD52 are checking with SMPTE for licensing rights before creation of an ISDCF document that can be maintained on the ISDCF site. The main reason for the posting in ISDCF is as a 1) free version and 2) editable version that can be used as a resource for updates of RDD52 in SMPTE.

===

The Restart

Regions are re-closing. It would be better if the Covid pandemic would end...

We are not hearing of any major issues with theaters that re-start...

The experience is that some have 'forgotten' how to operate the equipment. Problems seem to be more people than hardware.

<https://www.isdcf.com/site/covid-19-recommendations/>

===

ISDCF Terminology Document

Angelo put together a first pass that was a bit too long. We may want to use a smaller version and point to other documents. Work continues.

===

HPA Tech Retreat 2021 Update

Moved to March 15-26, 2021 - all virtual - including "Breakfast Round Tables"

Combination of a content portal with 20 minute presentations. Breakfast and Lunch Roundtables. Schubin year in Review, Some live big issue panels and 2 Days of super sessions outline a number of global films we are involved with demonstrating TECH and Covid Safety and a Live without a net end to end cloud workflow that we will partner with MovieLabs to pull off.

In the past HPA has done a great job of bringing the community together. I'm sure they will do a great job again! <https://hpaonline.com/event/2021-hpa-tech-retreat/?tab=overview>

===

EDCF Update

Europe is going into a second lockdown due to the pandemic. Seems to be moving into remission.

ISDCF/EDCF social sessions. (Next session is - February 3, 8am Pacific Time.)

===

DCI update

No report this time.

===

Digital Cinema Picture Levels

No report this time.

===

SMPTE

Transition to Microsoft 365. If you are a SMPTE member you should be getting up to speed on the new systems.

A suggestion was made for an introduction as a USER to see how to make it work. Steve has offered to give a "class." You need to be a SMPTE meeting, contact Steve if you want to attend.

BTW it works better in browser windows, not the native APP on the computer. AND it's a work in progress, things will change.

===

Review of Action Items from last meeting.

Action Items from January 13, 2021

1. Please Join Inter-Society! <https://isdcf.com> \$500 per company per year, \$100 individual membership.
2. In time, create new SMPTE-DCP test package with RDD52 constraints as well as one that will include RDD57 IAB constraints. (Probably two packages.)
3. Form group to get requirements for in-theater communications. JerryP

Holdovers:

4. Craft a messaging / education for exhibitors on IAB Profile 1 / Atmos. To avoid confusion in the marketplace (probably after movies start to flow again).

===

Attendance on next page.