ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – December 1, 2021

<u>Upcoming Meetings</u>

ISDCF Main Thursday January 20, 2022 10am at Deluxe ITC and Zoom
     Proof of vaccination required for in-person!
ISDCF Main Wednesday March 9, 2021 10am (probably only zoom, TBD)
Social Event at CinemaCon - with EDCF

Part 0: Open Mic (15 minutes prior to meeting start time)

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 September '2021 approved
- Making Zoom work! (mute/raise hand/front light)
- InterSociety - **Membership Fees coming back 2022**! Erin (evh@natoca.com) if you have any questions about membership. $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 December 1, 2021
1. **Membership Invoices coming for 2022.** Join Inter-Society! https://isdcf.com $500 per company per year, $100 individual membership.
2. Hold join ISDCF/EDCF session to discuss naming of IAB vs ATMOS for immersive audio content.
3. ISDCF may create a new page of links to training material. Best if specific videos can be up-voted. Where to go and find training references.

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EDCF/ISDCF Social Hour

Focus moving to in-person events and a move away from virtual events at this time.

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SMPTE Trailers

The industry is planning to shift to all SMPTE-DCP trailers. The date is now set to be February 4, 2022. At this time the trailers will be in SMPTE-DCP simple version.

On February 4 Deluxe will distribute "Trail-Mix" hard drive in the SMPTE-DCP format. Other distribution companies are planning to do similar.

Studio groups that are responsible for trailers have been notified. For more information on Deluxe's plans, contact Steve LLamb.

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ICTA January 17-19, 2022

The InterSociety Ken Mason Award will be given to Jackie Brenneman and Esther Brauh in recognition of everything they have done for the cinema community. Award will be given at the dinner on January 18.

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ISDCF Immersive Audio

Is it time for a plugfest? Possible critical listening in January 2022, initial feedback from many is "not yet."

While it would be good to get test material to exercise RDD57, it doesn't seem that sufficient new rendering solutions have entered the marketplace since we did the last IAB plugfest.

It would be good to test authoring solutions, but we don't see immediate support from these tool manufacturers.

There is some interest in testing interface protocols - specifically 430-14 and 430-17, but these have not been published by SMPTE and again, we don't find a group of manufacturers that are pushing for testing.

DCI is planning on publishing new information related to SMPTE interface protocols. This may encourage a plugfest in the future.

The usual question: Has anyone implemented new features in IAB devices that others have implemented that need to be part of an IAB profile 2? (Nope)

We are still "on-hold" to change the name from "ATMOS" to "IAB" in the CTT (Content Title Text - AKA the Naming Convention) of the name. This could be a good EDCF/ISDCF discussion.

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Training

What is needed in the industry? Specifically, who needs training? Entry level? Mid-management? Executives?

1) Training of the operators (create a good audio/video experience)
2) Training of the technical Personnel (those that maintain equipment)

Current training is too in-depth for operator level.

• One great introduction is to start with the naming convention and see if you understand what each field means and can respond accordingly.
• Bite sized video is only way to communicate to non-technical
• Start with a "hot" topic and grow from there.

Learning about a complex theatrical system is far more than bite size videos.

Maybe ISDCF can be an aggregator of links for training - both bite size and long versions.

Can we identify a specific need? (Much like the "start with a hot topic" comment) and ISDCF could seek others to provide an approach to training.

Could ISDCF / ICTA hold a plug-fest for training?

Making training videos difficult since each facility has different operating methodology and equipment. No general solutions.

One company targets mid managers and believes this will "trickle down" to the line workers.

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What about 3D

ISO has a standard moving forward for 3D light levels based on SMPTE 432-1. Probably to be published in early 2022.

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DCP Testing Tools

Very difficult to get open source solution and it's not clear that there is a "gold standard" for what's correct. It might be too expensive to try and build a solution.

ISDCF successfully conducted SMPTE-DCP plugfests in the past and they.identified specific tool issues, and it was a good way to make improvements.

Vendors should/can discuss incompatibilities. When an incompatibility is discovered, the vendors involved in the incompatibility should determine which side is not following the standard and make a correction. If the standard is unclear, an issue should be posted to the SMPTE GitHub for that standard and an agreement on interpretation should be attempted between the vendors.

If a system doesn't know what to do, DON'T CRASH!

NO SYSTEM SHOULD CRASH WHEN AN UNEXPECTED ELEMENT IN A DCP IS FOUND. It doesn't need to try to play it, but it shouldn't CRASH.

There was no strong need expressed by the community to build special testing tools, so we will drop this as a topic.

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SMPTE update

Public CD process… looking for comments 429-20 https://github.com/smpte/st429-20 MXF constraints. PLEASE look at these constraints if you work in creating MXF packaging!! Process to end approx. Feb 2022

Blank subtitle track (428-22) Public CD process has started: https://github.com/SMPTE/rp428-22, process to end approx. Feb 2022. We may want a mini-plugfest.

Other document links: https://www.smpte.org/public-committee-drafts#listing

430-17 in publication queue
430-14 ready for ST Audit

LMT (Language Metadata Table). The ISDCF language repository works well for digital cinema, but would not work for others (like IMF) or other downstream delivery. Conclusion: ISDCF keep doing our thing. Someday (but not anytime soon) we could embrace LMT. We don't plan on submitting ISDCF language repository to SMPTE.

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Updated Test Package

LOTS OF WORK NECESSARY! Still in the queue. We expect to create a GitHub repository for this work.

Biggest need is to create a RDD-57 package to show playability (and also RDD-52 compliant)

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Website and IT updates

All good. More Facilities and Studios have been added. Some new languages have been added.

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ISDCF Terminology Document

ICTA is working on a terminology/glossary document. ISDCF will help host the registry for a joint effort. We are waiting for the first batch of entries from ICTA to start the effort.

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EDCF Update

CinemaCon in April. Re-started work on SMPTE Roll Out.

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DCI update

The DCI document DCSS - Digital Cinema System Specification is now being published in HTML on line. A vast improvement for document maintenance. https://dcss.dcimovies.com/latest/dcss.html

The DCI is in process of updating the CTP (Compliance Test Plan) and will include IAB testing as well. DCI is reaching out to manufacturers for input to the next CTP. Please contact DCI if you want to have input.

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Digital Cinema Picture Levels

On hold.

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Vendor report and other comments

Cinema-catcher.app on James Gardiner's GitHub page. A free tool that does a limited set of TMS functions. https://github.com/jamiegau/cinema-catcher-app

Note that the cost of Xenon Bulbs has gone way up over the last year.

There may be a need for training for architects (specifically isle lighting and exit signs).

Is there any concerns about the colorimetry of lasers? In particular the metamerism characteristics? Maybe, but most likely in mastering suites and not an issue for general public.

Open caption updates. Many exhibitors are scheduling open caption showings to see if this can meet the needs of the community. There is a call for better closed caption devices!

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Review of Action Items from last meeting.

Action Items from September 22, 2021

1. **Membership Fees waived for 2021** Join Inter-Society! https://isdcf.com $500 per company per year, $100 individual membership.
2. Look into a "quick" DCP testing tool that would help validate packages. (Steve, Pierre, James, Jerry) - Decided NOT to continue study
3. Get terminology list to start the GitHub registry for terminology (Frank)
4. Bring ISDCF language metadata table to SMPTE - IMF would like to use this registry since it is maintained. (Dean/Steve offer to be proponents) - Decided NOT to submit to SMPTE
5. January ISDCF field trip to new academy theater? - ICTA is planning a trip, we won't.

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Attendance on next page.