ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – January 19, 2022

<u>Upcoming Meetings</u>

ISDCF Main Wednesday March 9, 2022 10am (zoom)
Social Event at CinemaCon - with EDCF
ISDCF Main Wednesday May 4, 2022 10am (probably zoom)

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 December '2021 approved
- Making Zoom work! (mute/raise hand/front light)
- InterSociety - **Membership Fees coming back 2022**! Expect invoices soon! Go to website to register and get an invoice. $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 19, 2022

1. **Membership Invoices coming for 2022.** Join Inter-Society! https://isdcf.com $500 per company per year, $100 individual membership.
2. Create test material for 428-22 dummy subtitles for a virtual plugfest (Steve)
3. Form a problem statement write up of the need for improved rendering specification for 428-7 to formalize the business need for this effort to encourage manufacturers to participate. Or recommend a new direction for a style guide for authoring of subtitles. AdHoc group to be formed: Steve/Matt/Dean - we need people that have issues that need to be solved.

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SMPTE Trailers

On February 4 Deluxe will distribute "Trail-Mix" hard drives in the SMPTE-DCP format. Other distribution companies are planning to do similar. This is only in the US/Canada.

Note: Most features are now being distributed are in the SMPTE-DCP format.

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ICTA February 21-23, 2022

A short report will be given on ISDCF activities.

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Immersive Audio

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)

430-14/430-17 now in publication queue.

(The following IAB Naming discussion was held at end of meeting.)

Question: What is the timeline for the change to IAB naming?

Discussion: The only thing "missing" is that the CTT (content title text) of the DCP has the name "Atmos" and not the name "IAB". Any theater with a rendering solution that can play a DCP labeled Atmos can play a DCP labeled IAB. The issue is not technology, but education of theater users that IAB = Atmos. The concern is that theater personnel that have a Dolby Atmos rendering system won't recognize a file named "IAB", they might think they are missing ATMOS (IAB) content, and miss a show. Generally, those theater operators can call the help desk of the service provider(s) and are informed how to play the IAB content.

The service providers at this meeting indicated that they are ready and willing to provide this service. NATO has informed its members of the fact that Atmos = IAB. We are certain it has not been communicated to the working level theater operators.

So we are waiting for the content providers and service providers to begin releasing content with the IAB name. We encourage distributors to include this information as part of each distribution of content marked IAB.

Question: We know that the Dolby Atmos rendering solutions will successfully and appropriately play the immersive audio bitstream. Will other rendering solutions (by Barco, DTS-X, GDC, Etc.) also appropriately play the immersive audio bitstream?

Discussion: At the ISDCF plugfest we have shown that all tested immersive audio solutions that indicate they can render the SMPTE IAB RDD57 bitstream can play the bitstream. ISDCF has conducted functional tests - meaning the bitstreams do not crash systems and sounds are generated from the appropriate location in the theater. A distributor has the ability to control playback of individual locations as part of content licensing. The naming does not have any means of control - to be clear a DTS-X/Barco/GDC systems that has been upgraded can playback a file if it is named "Atmos" or named "IAB" and it has the appropriate keys. It is up to each content provider to decide if they will provide content to rendering systems and the change of name does not impact that decision.

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InterSociety

InterSociety is the parent organization for ISDCF. NATO has been providing exceptional support over the last 10+ years in the form of an executive director and back-office support, but that is ending. (And we THANK NATO for all they have done!!) InterSociety needs to change the structure to take up these tasks.

The board of InterSociety is re-evaluating its mission and structure. They are also seeing what needs to be done to continue ISDCF. We may need to increase dues at sometime in the future.

Sperling offered to help. Pete Lude suggested a company "TJL Consulting" in Washington state is a cost effective company that could handle the organizational issues.

A request was made to post on the ISDCF distribution list and on the website how to pay. (Please just go to ISDCF website and enter the information in the form. THEN we will send you an invoice with a way to pay via quickbooks using a credit card.)

Part of the Admin tasks include organizing InterSociety meeting at CinemaCon and ICTA.

If you have any thoughts on what we should do, please feel free to contact Mark Collins.

Is ISDCF still needed? Feedback on our organization. One judges the importance of an organization by attendance - we have about 40 participants. Frequency seems to be about right. Any feedback please let us know!

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Too Many Boxes in the Booth?

Is there any need to address the increasing number of delivery methods and "receivers" in the booth of theaters. There are new types of content being presented to cinema audiences. Are there standards needed?

It's not clear there is a business need for this solution. It is a problem, but it's not clear that it needs to be solved with technology.

The example is AppleTV or a Roku box where each vendor has their own application.

ISDCF is either too early or not the right place for these discussions.

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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 in February 2022

Blank subtitle track (428-22) Public CD process has started: https://github.com/SMPTE/rp428-22, process to end in February 2022

We do need a virtual plugfest for dummy subtitles 428-22. Steve may create some test content.

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

LMT (Language Metadata Table) no action at this time and remove from our list.

428-7 subtitles is in need of fixing, but there are few manufacturers that are participating. AND current manufacturers are a generation behind in support of the CURRENT 428-7. Even the fixed current rendering is not sufficient for asian vertical text. We need to change 428-7 (or give up). The work-around is to use PNGs, not rendering OR just burn it in. We may be able to include better recommendations in a style guide for the positioning and safe title zones and not necessarily update SMPTE ST 428-7 directly.

There is a need to have a clear description of the problem and publish to this group. The organizations that want this solution (studios/service companies) needs to promote this need. Should we suggest that the mission of the SMPTE work to be a style guide? Maybe a recommended practice on authoring for subtitles.

Current deployed projectors have a fixed rendering solutions that will not be changed, so it is not likely to be changed. It may be a fools errand to try and improve the specification. There is a mixed deployment of very old projectors (that are unlikely to be updated) and new rendering servers that could be updated.

This is mainly a problem in Asia (mainly Japan). We could form an AdHoc group inside of ISDCF to help identify the appropriate approach. Which may be to stop the work. (Note: No company with the problem -i.e. a content company- volunteered to participate - so no one seems to have a pain point for this issue. Maybe it's not very broken.)

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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. We will add blank subtitle track to be an included feature of the test package.

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Website and IT updates

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

We may want to move intersociety.org from a NATO hosted site to the same site that hosts isdcf.com

Some info on traffic at isdcf.com:

What pages do your users visit?

Page	Pageviews	Pag
/site/	157	
/site/technical-docs/	68	
/site/smpte-dcp-tests/	40	
/site/smptestandards/	22	
/site/test-content/	22	
/site/smpte-dcp-tests/framing-chart/	20	
/site/Meetings/	11	
/t/SMPTE-DCP-Tests/	11	
/site/membership/	10	
/site/meeting-notes/	9	

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ISDCF Terminology Document

We are waiting for input from ICTA.

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EDCF Update

Nothing to report.

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DCI update

Nothing to report.

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Digital Cinema Picture Levels

On hold. UNIC asked for access to the test content that was created for DCPL project.

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Vendor report

Nothing to report.

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Review of Action Items from last meeting.

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. No session held.
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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Attendance on next page.