

ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – July 19, 2023

zoom meeting

Upcoming Meetings

Main Meeting: Wednesday September 13, 2023 (in person/zoom)

Possible audio test content on Monday September 11, 2023

Main Meeting: Wednesday November 8?

Thank you to companies that have committed to sponsoring ISDCF for 2023.



Part 1: General Reporting

Housekeeping:

- Zoom meeting (provided by NATO)
- Set next meeting dates (above).
- Thank you ISDCF for support of the Chairman.
- Thank you to Dean Bullock for providing general expenses and admin support.
- Meeting notes from June '2023 approved and to post to open website
- 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.

InterSociety: Board Jerry Pierce (Chair), Steve LLamb, Susie Beiersdorf, Dean Bullock (secretary / treasurer), Mark Collins, Don Tannenbaum. Are you interested in helping guide the organization? Contact us!

Attendance is at end of these notes.

Action Items from July 19, 2023

1. Provide example bit streams of problematic JPEG2000 bitstreams that experience issues on some decoders. (Sean?)
2. Call another audio test content meeting to discuss.
3. See embedded action items from last meeting (that we didn't complete)

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Future of ISDCF - Financial Report

Doing well with payments. Invoices for individual members should go out next week. About \$40K in bank. Still about 3-4 invoices out. Individual member invoices not sent out (yet).

It was felt this meeting (the July 19 meeting) was held too soon after the last meeting. Appropriately we shifted the next meetings date out.

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Reminder: Egg Show next week at the ICTA conference. Free and recommended.

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Big Things Happening - Open Question

Go Barbie, Go Oppenheimer

Oppenheimer: The IMS3000 has an issue with the closed caption track (so many captions - a very talkative movie). Specifically the legacy Doremi / Dolby servers and IMS3000s with 3.4.11 and is only IMS3000s that are running 3.5.13. There is a "hot fix" being released TODAY to fix the problem. Dolby is notifying owners. The movie

plays but the closed captions do not. (There was a request for test content to play on other / different servers to make sure this “edge case” does not cause problems elsewhere. Yes - contact Steve LLamb.) No exhibitor on the call was aware of the problem. Does not impact the open captions.

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JPEG2000 decoder problem

Mission Impossible - An issue with some Series 1 servers having problem with playback. Welcome to wack-a-mole with legacy / equipment. In this case the actual problem is unknown but when a substitute 2K version was sent it ‘fixed’ the problem. (Seen as color “halos” on the screen.) Significant engineering resources has been studying the problem to try and understand what causes the issue to prevent future problems.

This is a strange phenomena - It seems to be due to the use of an Analog Device JPEG decode chips (ADV 212 and ADV 202) - we don’t know how many decoders / servers may have this problem - estimates have been between 10K and 40K - we don’t know. These chips are still being sold, but it is not known if they are being used in current equipment. Some Dolby, some Doremi, some GDC have legacy products that use these chips (we think). We *think* we will develop a *public* set of constraints that takes these devices into account.

FYI the encodes are compliant - it is NOT due to a bad bit stream. It may be possible to go back to JPEG since these standards are open so they may be able to include the constraints into the Digital Cinema profile.

Companies are working to evaluate the bitstream to find the root cause. This problem has existed for a very long time (at least as far back as 2015), but we have not found the root cause.

We don’t think ISDCF should be notifying users. The root cause has not been identified and we should not be misleading the industry. The industry is currently trying to find this specific problem and constraints necessary to avoid in the future (in JPEG authoring).

There was a request to provide bit streams that have the challenging segment to others so it can be evaluated by more interested parties.

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End of Life Equipment Discussion

Separate from this specific issue with a few servers/JPEG 2000 decoders is the issue that equipment has been deemed by the manufacturer as “end of support” equipment and “end of life” equipment. In one such case a distributor has issued “end of content delivery” for a specific piece of hardware (due to a security issues for a product that had not passed the CTP).

Should ISDCF provide information to exhibitors that they should be aware of possible “end of content delivery” in the future, particularly for legacy products that have reached “end of life” by the manufacturer.

Exhibitors should be aware that much like their iPhone at some point in time old hardware will need to be replaced.

This push/pull of supporting end of life equipment may limit new features that are desired going forward. Distribution does not want dual inventory. We will face a time when certain end of life equipment may fall into the end of content delivery category and we need a means to communicate and explain to the industry going forward. (Think Interop-DCP / SMPTE-DCP.)

There was a request to have a definition for the terminology for terms:

- End of Sales

- End of Support

- End of Life

- End of Content Delivery

Suggestion was to include better definitions in the terminology document. Not sure if we can all agree on the definition of the terms.

After posting draft minutes comment: One company uses

- End-of-life = End-of-sales = no orders for new products are possible + no more training will be given
- End-of-Service = no orders for spares and consumables are possible + no repairs will be done

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Action Items from June 15, 2023

1. Continue work on audio test material for non-perf screen

We can use Patriot as sample sections. We did hold a call over the last week to discuss. No other feedback received. Goal is to have another call then a demonstration before the next meeting.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

2. Hold a call of the security subcommittee to discuss possible workshop and/or tutorial on the big-picture of security in digital cinema (Dean)

Dean nudge to move this forward. Nothing happened since last meeting. SMPTE is working on identification of documents that may need to be updated. TBD.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

3. First draft of metadata fields in CPL and expected operational actions based on these fields (Steve)

In process ... maybe next meeting.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

4. Create new request to join committees

Send a request to Jerry to join one of the committees. (New form request on the way.)

Action Items from June 15, 2023

5. ISDCF and make a recommendation that manufactures/studios issue notice when playback hardware won't be supported by either studios or manufacturers in the future a year in advance (for non-emergencies).

We had a submission for a framework to discuss this important issue, but the group was uncomfortable with continuing down this path. It probably a discussion between exhibitors and distributors. The motivation was to consider how to give early notification when hardware wouldn't be supported by distributors.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

6. ISDCF could send a note to SMPTE on the possible impact of changes on industry (GDC offered to create draft)

Slightly different direction. Skip till next time

Action Items from June 15, 2023

7. ISDCF chairman to send note to SMPTE to openly publish the change list contemplated that may impact future playability of content.

Underway

Action Items from June 15, 2023

8. Review requirement list for personal device use in theater for closed caption and alternate audio track (Dean)

Still under evaluation.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

9. Start a projection letter service for the industry to distribute *exception letters* for

upcoming films (DCDC)

Underway.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

10. ISDCF to encourage CIT to build the test sequence and language for the presentation monitoring.

Hand-off in process.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

11. Everyone is invited to add terms to the terminology document (incorporated into the NamingConvention site). We need to write an introduction to the site (Jerry).

Terminology Registry

Initial terminology registry has been started! <https://registry-page.isdcf.com/terms/>
We need to add more terms, but we have the start and the GitHub registry is open and ready for additions and pull request to update (<https://github.com/ISDCF/registries/blob/master/src/main/data/terms.json>) We need to have an introduction written to the registry. An API version of the JSON is also available at <https://registry.isdcf.com/terms/>.

We still need the intro.

Action Items from June 15, 2023

12. Next ISDCF meeting have a call out for standards for streaming delivery (live and pre-recorded)

Next meeting.

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IAB Rollout

One release went out with no issues.

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Naming Convention

Nothing to report. Lots going on, but business as usual.

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SMPTE update

Many documents for digital cinema SMPTE standards have been completed. Public CD proposed standard for compression of DCDM lossless JPEG2000.
<https://github.com/SMPTE/st428-24>

The 3D document was also live: <https://www.iso.org/standard/81846.html>

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The Cinema Foundation

No updates.

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EDCF

No updates.

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DCI Updates

No updates.

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Attendance on next last page.