

# ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – November 29, 2016

## Upcoming Meetings

Main meeting Thursday January 19, 2017 Universal

Main Meeting Wednesday March 15, 2017 Probably Universal

## **Part 1: General Reporting**

### Housekeeping:

- 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.
- Thanks to Disney for lunch. Upcoming: Jan '17 Jim W/Wendy A (Consultants): Disney; March '17 Christie
- Thank you to Universal for the facilities and parking.
- Thank you to Universal for support of the Chairman.
- Thank you to Inter-Society for providing the funding for notes, travel, general expenses and admin support.
- Thank you to Universal/Sony / Christie for the coffee and treats
- Meeting notes from September '16 was reviewed and approved.
- Forum update - the Billy Lynn post has received MANY views.
- Legal reminder / press reminder
  - \* Chatham House Rule:
    - \* When a meeting, or part thereof, is held under the Chatham House Rule, participants are free to use the information received, but neither the identity nor the affiliation of the speaker(s), nor that of any other participant, may be revealed.

Attendance is at end of these notes.

### **Action Items from November 29, 2016**

1. Update ISDCF website with new descriptor for audio channel recommendations that include MCA descriptors. Change the file name of Doc4 to remove "Interop".
2. Create a new USB stick with test content in folders (SMPTE-DCP/Interop-DCP) that would be used for future testing. Include Test Content B2.1 Encrypted. (Steve L)

3. Create a short video of how to test to be incorporated in the DCP (Jerry / Steve)
4. ISDCF put together a presentation for regional events (Jerry to start at ICTA).
5. Create a webinar on what to test and how to test. Widely publicize the opportunity for the webinar.
6. Create Recommended Behavior Document for server / caption device for timing of release of RPL / ULR for closed caption prior to title playback (to be assured that first caption is displayed) (RPL : Resource Presentation List)
7. Subgroup to edit / recommend changes for Document 12 - RP for Ingest Behavior - Steve L to lead, Dean B, John H, Mike R, Jim W, Chris W, Bill E "volunteered" to participate.
8. Send Doc4 update in Word format to Mike R. for minor corrections.
9. Get new SMPTE-DCP Test Content updated and posted in Versions B1 / B2 / 3D V2.1 - **Need updated version posted.**

From earlier meetings:

10. Start a thread on Forum on Event Cinema Automation needs / workflow solutions. (CJ and Jerry)
11. Wendy will check with John H and SMPTE to see if there is a list of SMPTE specs that could be posted on the ISDCF website.
12. Add to the SMPTE CPL metadata document the use of lower case subtitles indicating burned in subtitles and upper case is rendered. Dean [Post on Forum.]
13. ISDCF should help improve description of submission aspect ratios to the Academy. (Ernie / Bill H.)

### **ISDCF Audio Routing Doc 4 Update**

At the last meeting it was noted that we are adding MCA labeling to SMPTE Test Package B2.1 and had not documented what we were doing. Pierre Lemieux started with the ISDCF Doc 4 (Audio Routing Document) and added the MCA description.

The addition is MCA Descriptors in the track file and XML representation of the Descriptors in the CPL. No change to the channel layout.

The group reviewed the document (<http://isdcf.com/papers/ISDCF-Doc4-Audio-channel-recommendations-pal-20161029.pdf>) It includes a reference to Test Content B2.1.

This modification to the audio convention matches what is in ISDCF's SMPTE-DCP Test Package B2.1 and is what the group now believes should be the way to deliver SMPTE-

DCP packages in the future. The group also changed the name of the document from “Interop-audio-channel-recommendations” to “Audio-channel-recommendations” to reflect the use of this recommendation for SMPTE-DCP packages.

### **ISDCF Traveling Plugfest**

Steve, Jackie and Jerry conducted a 4 day tour of 14 exhibition sites / 15 screens to test SMPTE-DCP content to see how things worked. The theaters are located in the LA/San Francisco areas with a diverse set of TMS, servers and projectors. Slight advantage to places that are not “the usual suspects.”

VERY educational - we saw a wide variety of TMS, LMS, servers and projectors. We learned about the skill level of the operators. Some were very interested in what we were doing and protected their passwords. Others opened the door and gave us full access to the systems.

The outline of goals for the meeting discussion:

### **ISDCF Plugfest Questions**

- Do we define a minimum level of performance for a theater to be SMPTE-DCP ready?
- Is there a “self-testing” program for theaters?
- How do we provide feedback to theaters and equipment manufacturers on found issues?

What Happened:

A report was issued on the results of the plugfest. Plugfest Results <http://isdcf.com/files/PlugfestResults20161114-V3.pdf> (User: dumb pw: dumb)

The screens were chosen by Deluxe to represent diversity in the field, not a representation of what has been deployed.

We asked the question about the need for closed caption, hearing impaired and descriptive audio devices - should they be required to be “SMPTE-DCP Ready?”

Some questions: Was the HI track being used? A: No one in the visited theaters was using the HI track provided in the DCP. They were using the locally generated HI track (C+L/R formula) that the B-Chain was generating.

Bottom line: the accessibility playback equipment performance will not be included in any report on theater performance.

Suggested minimum 2D performance:

1. Playback encrypted 2.1 content (metadata including MCA labeling - see end of report)
2. (Server)/TMS/LMS ingests the B2.1 content file set in a folder. ISDCF will provide a USB stick with content in a folder. ~~(That is not corrupted.) TMS and LMS systems should ingest all content from asset map in package folders. Servers should ingest at least all content that they can playback (they don't need to ingest things that they can't play, but they are free to ingest and not play them back at a later time.)~~
3. Subtitles appear at proper location and size
4. All audio channels work and are correctly routed

(The strike out section was a more complete description of what was desired, but considered too detailed for the performance criteria. We will just test a ISDCF/Deluxe created USB stick with some of these elements for the test.)

Should we better specify what systems should do - similar to the way IMF has explicitly defined what to ingest. We decided that we will not completely define what a system should ingest - it will be part of the ingest document (underway).

An interesting note: ALL systems that played Test Content B2.0 ALSO played Test Content B2.1 and ALSO played the Atmos content playing back using the audio in the Main Sound.

The summary of this conversation:

- It does playback (properly) encrypted SMPTE-DCP complexity B2.1 test content - loaded from a USB stick - including on-screen subtitles, audio channels.
- (Server)/TMS/LMS ingests the B2.1 content file set from a folder. (That is not corrupted.)
- Subtitles appear at proper location and size
- All audio channels work and are correctly routed

For ISDCF notes only:

- Make note of accessibility, but not required to be “ready”
- Silent to other types of content playback - Atmos, Barco-Escape, DTS, Random, Badly formed
- No judgement of UI for customers (feedback on non-play, lack of key, ease of loading from folders, etc.)

We had a discussion on how to help projectionists to be able to understand and how to use the test material. Bottom line: let’s do a video describing how to test, how to look at the content - include it in the DCP of test material. (Test content, instructions, test content again).

ISDCF should do training on how to do the testing and playback at regional events - ICTA/CinemaCon/Regional NATO events/Company training (i.e. managers for theaters). Some companies have offered to help with the training. If needed?

Other results were presented/discussion:

### **Other Results:**

- Drives with SMPTE-DCP content in folders is NOT handled well on many machines. (But some do just fine!) Separate CPL loading of content
- No consistency of loading via CPL or PKL (what should it be? CPL? IMF fully describes expected behavior, Digital Cinema does not.)
- TMS and Server feedback to user of failures is marginal to really

- bad (hit play, nothing happens or try to ingest and the system freezes and requires a total reboot of projector and server.)
- Many independent sites don't have a TMS
  - Why don't systems have a "RESTART" option? Unplug to restart?

The reason for a total power cycle for restarting systems is that there is no standard practice for how systems recover from a restarted subsystem - (An IMB could be restarted in a projector, but it is not clear what would happen with the projector after the restart - no standard practice.) Basically this is just the way it is. If a user wants to restart a subsystem the best way is to restart everything and a power cycle is a way to achieve that.

- Some systems don't like DTS-X, Barco Escape or generic AUX data SMPTE-DCP packages, other systems just go ahead and play back main sound and main picture.

We had an interesting discussion suggesting that one could release a SMPTE-DCP package with Main Sound of 5.1 including the Atmos-Sync track and the Atmos data and have a two CPL's to support 5.1 systems and Atmos playback.

- If a system played Test content 2.0 it also played Test content 2.1  
Good News!
- Closed captions did not start at first frame in some of the theaters. It was pointed out that the problem probably might be that the server didn't send the RPL/URL ahead of time. There is no specification of timing for issuing the RPL/URL. Each system is different. We created an action item to see if there might be a recommended behavior document written for guidance to servers/closed caption systems on how to achieve proper playback.

- Security in the Booth and the equipment

Our visit showed us that cyber security and physical security was minimal in most locations. This could be addressed for the level of security - but not by ISDCF.

(Lunch Break)

- Hearing Impaired / Visually impaired and Closed Captions devices - many didn't know how to make them work, some couldn't find the devices, some didn't own devices.
- Some systems did not have VI's connected (most/all HI is standard C+L/R mix) and most bigger theaters had CC devices (that worked) as well.
- What should the behavior be of unrecognized UL's? ATMOS, DTS-X, Generic UL are optional either way (not a reject due to play or non-play.)

Suggestion was to be silent on this behavior.

- Bad Schema did not cause anyone to reject content. Should it? Probably should at least message the fact. Suggestion was to be silent on this behavior.
- Finding the current software version on all systems was difficult - and we knew what we were looking for! Don't expect a tech to figure it out.

Not a topic for ISDCF - but suggestions to manufacturers to make it easier to understand the numbers.

- Should the Dolby Vision content play on systems? Probably not. But ISDCF will be silent on the issue. (Most systems played it back with Main Sound and no picture since there was no Main Picture.)

What's next:

- Build a single USB stick with test content that would do all the tests (only 1 needed). Probably with about 10 CPL's
- Thinking about future ISDCF plugfests. Decided that this was not on the near-term plan for now.
- Describe the test plan and results to NATO members and anyone else that will listen.

Biggest Surprises? Fewer failures than expected.

## **SMPTE-DCP Update**

NOTE: Studios now believe we can safely deliver vB2.1 content to sites.

### **Fox Report:**

“Keeping Up with the Joneses” went out in SMPTE-DCP vB2.1 to satellite and hard drive sites. A first for hard drive delivery of SMPTE-DCP.

2,900 sites, 63 had issues. 2.3% issues. Of the 63 sites 3 had known issues (but they worked anyway), of other 60 sites 7 have been upgraded and are now OK. The other 53 sites- unknown issues being tracked down.

### **Disney Report:**

Disney will have a feature in January both satellite/hard drive delivery. Still hoping that by the end of 2017 for all features to be released in SMPTE-DCP.

### **Paramount Report:**

Both satellite and Hard Drive: December 16 “Fences”, December 23 “Silence”

## **Accessibility**

Required ANCINE (Brazil Film Board) CC, HI, VI (12 months), Sign Language (24 months) - how to do sign language? Personal video device,

not picture in picture. Cell Phone? One deliverable per language - consumption devices might be different. Trailers too? <http://isdcf.com/files/BrazilAccessibilityNormativeRuling.pdf> (user: dumb password: dumb)

Could be a sidecar with the DCP. Reason? Sign Language is a truly different language.

What can ISDCF do? Basically make sure this is on ISDCF's radar for future needs.

Someone from Brazil may attend the next ISDCF meeting that may provide more information on this "pain point."

The possible need is for a standardized way of delivering this content to theaters. ISDCF could help formulate an approach to submit to provide to SMPTE.

ADA Rules Published: [https://www.ada.gov/regs2016/movie\\_captioning\\_rule\\_page.html](https://www.ada.gov/regs2016/movie_captioning_rule_page.html)

- Compliance by June 2018
- Digital Theaters only (exception of drive-in theaters)
  - Closed caption devices per location
    - Single screen: 4 devices
    - 2-7 screens: 6 devices
    - 8-15 screens: 8 devices
    - 16+ screens: 12 devices
  - Must have Audio Descriptive devices - one per two screens
- Theaters must maintain equipment and have trained staff to assist patrons

## **Billy Lynn Results**

- Last meeting we spent time with Sony representatives on the tech requirements for high frame rate 2D and 3D
- At last minute, Sony decided to go to just 24fps 2D24 for the US release of the movie

- It was released internationally in HFR, in particular China 3D60.
- The decision to drop HFR was not for technical reasons

**Ingest Behavior RP** - finalize? Ingest behavior and transfer behavior. After the traveling plugfest we know more and it's time to update and finalize this document.

### **Review of Action Items:**

1. Post information about Billy Lynn specs to ISDCF Forum (JPierce) - **DONE**
2. Document the MCA labels in both the audio track files AND in the CPL Metadata including MCA descriptors. (On ISDCF dot com/t now) - **DONE**
3. Call an adhoc call in to decide how to add the MCA in CPL / Audio Tracks for posting on ISDCF tech page. Could be modifying the SMPTE documents to include MCA in the CPL or a new document at ISDCF Tech Documents. Jerry to do a doodle - **DONE**
4. Get new SMPTE-DCP Test Content updated and posted in Versions B1/B2/3D V2.1 - **Need updated version posted.**

From earlier meetings:

5. Share the advantages of SMPTE-DCP content with major exhibitor chains that are SMPTE-DCP ready and encourage them to ask for SMPTE-DCP content from studios (I paid for the upgrade, now I want to use the new automation features!) Create one-sheet descriptions of "Why should you upgrade" **Let's drop this one. We will include in discussion video for test content.**
6. Could we change the [DigitalCinemaNamingConvention.com](http://DigitalCinemaNamingConvention.com) to automatically (or faster) redirect to the current site. (Chris W) - **DONE**
7. Start a thread on Forum on Event Cinema Automation needs / workflow solutions. (CJ and Jerry) - Keep it on the list, nothing done yet.
8. Subgroup to edit / recommend changes for Document 12 - RP for Ingest Behavior - Steve L to lead, Dean B, John H, Mike R, Jim W, Chris W, Bill E "volunteered" to participate. **IN PROCESS**
9. Wendy will check with John H and SMPTE to see if there is a list of SMPTE specs that could be posted on the ISDCF website. **Lost...and somewhat forgotten. Still Needed.**
10. Add to the SMPTE CPL metadata document the use of lower case subtitles indicating burned in subtitles and upper case is rendered. Dean [Post on Forum.] **Still Needed**
11. ISDCF should have a recommended practice for zip/tar content to create

drives (NOT for distribution to theaters.) Dean? Nick? Steve? **DROP IT**  
12.ISDCF should help improve description of submission aspect ratios to the  
Academy. (Ernie / Bill H.)

## Updates

- Immersive Audio - A short (positive) update was given.
- Is there a need for widely available unencrypted framing charts?
- What should the minimum configuration to be considered “immersive” - A topic for next ISDCF meeting.
- SMPTE Digital Cinema - Publishing the XML schema registry - a problem was discovered in the SMPTE published documents - a fatal flaw was discovered. The plan is to fix the problems then move forward with re-publishing of these documents.

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Attendance on next page.