ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – August 6, 2024
Zoom Only

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<u>Upcoming Meetings</u>

Wednesday October 2, 2024 10am - Location probably Harman/Zoom
     Possibility of audio demonstration prior in Van Nuys … TBD
Wednesday November 13, 10am - Location probably Harman/Zoom

Part 1: General Reporting

Housekeeping:

- Zoom meeting (provided by ISDCF)
- 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 25, 2024 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.

Organizational Issues:
InterSociety Board:

    President: Steve LLamb

    VP: Reiner Doetzkies

    Secretary / Treasurer: Dean Bullock

    Executive Director: Jerry Pierce - and chairman ISDCF

    Members: Susie Beiersdorf, Mark Collins, Sean Romano, Don Tannenbaum, Mark Waterston

We held this meeting at 3pm Pacific Time and we have about 8 folks from Asia/Australia. Probably we will do this again - maybe twice a year?

InterSociety financial status (about $28K in the bank). Everything is normal.

Attendance is at end of these notes.

Action Items from August 6, 2024

1. Get audio test content to Trevor so we could do a demonstration at VanNuys prior to next ISDCF meeting.

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IAB Naming

Last meeting we discussed an issue with naming of IAB CPLs. Some distribution companies are using the IAB name, some IAB-ATMOS and others ATMOS only and some with ATMOS-71 others with 51-ATMOS-.

The current recommended practice is to use IAB only and if included, to indicate a main sound at the end of the audio field, not the beginning.

After discussions since the last meeting, the Chairman proposed we don't change the recommendation. The accepted naming will continue to allow for all other indicators (with ATMOS/IAB). If an advocate wanted to change the Naming Convention description on the website that they submit an issue on GitHub with a proposal. The rational was that theater operators are now aware that IAB=ATMOS due to the number of prior releases and we already have had many releases with the various markings and it seems to be working.

After a very brief discussion, the group agreed.

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DCI New Release

DCI Releases DCI Specification, DCSS Version 1.4.5
Approved for Distribution May 29, 2024

Comments: No major changes to this version (update to ethernet requirements).

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Global SMPTE Roll Out

We are challenged to convert some regions (Thailand/Korea/Others) to SMPTE-DCP due to subtitling issues. We considered an ISDCF informational document to help make the conversion (when to burn in, how to render, etc.). Ultimately we decided not to do this.

Should we make conversion to SMPTE-DCP (A-Simple), to make the conversion. It is mainly challenging due to very old equipment. This issue has also been seen in Europe. The consistent problem is old equipment.

Example: One major title (Deadpool 3) did not play in some locations in Korea and it was not clear what the problem was (it was thought to be PNG subtitling issues/ encryption, but that has not been confirmed).

Not clear that we should recommend a simple SMPTE version, it would best be done by manufacturers to update to handle the encrypted subtitles and PNGs. (If that's the problem). Studios want to make the conversion to full SMPTE-DCP. The general feeling is we need to work with the manufacturers to upgrade/update systems so they can play these DCPs. The challenge is that some of these products may be past EndOfLife and don't have an engineering team that can make the updates. It may become a business issue for the cost of mastering for systems that are not able to play current SMPTE-DCP that include encrypted subtitles.

Do we need test content that can help manufacturers find the "bug." We know that "Deadpool 3" has a known issue. We know that the issue needs to be full length content. (It could be test content that was extended.) BUT we don't know exactly what triggers the problem.

The two main issues with the current situation - unencrypted subtitles in some DCPs and the need to create a separate non-SMPTE DCP for some regions. A solution that "endorses" a simplified SMPTE-DCP is not sufficient as a solution. The solution needs to be software updates to equipment - based on testing of problematic content (Deadpool 3).

There is a Legacy Server group that meets every other Monday where this topic is discussed. ISDCF should not be actively involved at this time. We need to know more. This is a time to name companies and discuss version/model numbers. Probably not for ISDCF.

We think exhibitors need to be aware of equipment that is problematic. Many don't know that distribution is jumping through hoops to master content that will play on their old equipment.

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Smart Phones / Accessibility

A very important topic is of interest to ISDCF/Cinema Community:

EU accessibility requirement June 2025

https://www.elevenways.be/en/articles/an-update-on-the-european-accessibility-act

"The **European Accessibility Act is official as of 28th June 2025** however it would seem that each of the 27 States that form part of this Act is taking some time to organize themselves and announce their plans. This would/could indicate that there is going to be a rush later this year and, in the lead up to June next year of clients trying to get content created to comply with this Act.
The EAA aims to improve accessibility for people with disabilities across a range of products and services within the EU. The EAA sets common accessibility requirements for various products and services, including ATMs, ticketing machines, banking services, e-books, e-commerce, and audiovisual media services. It should also be noted that companies headquartered outside of the EU must comply with the EAA if they sell relevant goods or services within the EU."

https://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/?uri=COM:2015:0615:FIN

It looks like there will be new requirements in Europe for accessibility. Just like Japan had the requirement that motivated Hello!Movie.

Studios are aware of this upcoming requirement. The approach is for studios to rely on smartphone app developers/vendor to provide solutions for the region. Studios are working with individual vendors. There does not seem to be a push for a common industry wide solution - at least at this time.

We may want to use the ISDCF's Audio Test content with captions/subtitles for a possible Demo.

Our goal was to make sure everyone was aware of the upcoming requirement. At this point, there does not seem to be a need for ISDCF's involvement.

In a related note, is there a move to provide multiple closed caption language tracks on current DCPs? (Spanish and English in particular.) There is some, but limited, request from patrons. One exhibitor "officially" requested closed caption in Spanish.

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ICTA/InterSociety Conference at next CinemaCon.

We are considering a one day conference on Cinema Technology at CinemaCon. ICTA is working on the concept and they are taking the lead with discussions with CinemaCon. ISDCF would be available to help. The current concept is for 9am to 3pm on Monday. Could be 3 different "courses" offered in this time period.

Comment that many manufacturers have dealer meetings on Monday. From their perspective later in the week (Thursday) would be better. Others indicated that NATO/CinemaCon would probably only offer Monday (if at all).

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Image Artifacts

(JPEG stuff). Still under active investigation. Some discussion moving to the Legacy Group.

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Audio Test Material

Waiting for volunteer contribution to make the DCPs. It's summer and a busy time to get it prepared.

If we can get it ready, we might be able to do a demonstration at Amazon Culver City prior to next ISDCF meeting.

Van Nuys has a theater with both LED/Standard screens. Trevor has access to these screens and it's not that far from Harman. We need the content 2 weeks prior to a demo.

Note: that there is a new "audio transparent" LED screen, but not in the US at this in time.

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Security subcommittee

No meeting was held. No plans for a forthcoming meeting. Plans to drop as a topic.

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Website and IT updates Naming Convention: General Status

All good.

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DCI Update

New fancy website. Easier to search. Most of the old permalinks are still working!

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Terminology Registry

Initial terminology registry was started https://registry-page.isdcf.com/terms/

Entry language was updated.

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SMPTE update

pDCDM passed FCD (Packed DCDM - 2x smaller size) Standard supports JPEG2000 Part 1, and Part 15.

Meeting coming up second week in September 2024.

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EDCF Update

Nothing to report

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The Cinema Foundation / CIT

No update. Seems to be in sleep mode.

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Vendor updates

Colorfront: Implemented HDR-DCI transcoder. Ready for testing. Reach out to Colorfront for more information.
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Action Items from June 25, 2024

2. Revisit the IAB Naming convention. Consider how to 'fix' the naming issue. Done
3. Encourage the move to find a common approach for audio correlation matching for smart phone use. (Not necessarily a common technology.) Lots of Solutions, not this one.
4. Provide marketing data to ISO TC36 for their strategic plan. Business plan went out
5. Request for help in planning a "Cinema Technology" conference or webinar. Respond to Jerry or Steve. ICTA has the lead

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Attendance on last page.