

The meeting took place on May 20, 2006, at the 120th Convention in Paris

A total of 9 people attended the meeting, chaired by Geoff Martin (GGM).

Present: Ludovico Ausiello, Julien Bergère, Eddy B. Brixen, Tony Faulkner,
Mark Gilbert, David Josephson, Geoff Martin, George Massenberg,
Douglas McKinnie

Workshops and Tutorials

It was suggested that we try to keep a standing workshop slot at all conventions for “emerging technologies.” This slot could be revoked if no technologies emerge in time to organise a workshop.

Post-meeting note: This suggestion is not feasible given the current “standard” method of proposing workshops which requires that a precise workshop title, theme, description and a list of confirmed presenters be submitted to the local organising committee for review. -GGM

A tutorial on the theme of “microphones for non-entertainment applications” was suggested for Vienna with a repeat in New York. Applications such as automotive microphones as sensors, military acoustics, measurements (sound and noise), security, surveillance, mobile phones, computers. EBB noted the population of the convention appears to be declining, and this may be because we stick to “conventional” topics. If the AES is to survive, we need to expand our way of thinking, thus including interests outside of the field of pro-audio. GGM agreed to organise this tutorial, but to not chair or present at it.

This committee once proposed to have a workshop presenting the results of SC-04-04. It was reported at this meeting that there is great reluctance to present any data until a few years time when there is more coherence between manufacturers. EBB mentioned that the outcome of this work is to agree on how measurements should be presented. Consequently, we will not propose this for Vienna. On the same topic, the issue was raised that not one of the mic manufacturers in the world using standard IEC602608-4. What is being attempted within the AES Standards Committee is to refine a recommended practice or a subset of the standard that everyone can agree to use. When this work is closer to completion, there can be a presentation. This will be discussed in San Francisco.

TF raised the suggestion that podcasts of workshops and tutorials should be made available.

Note: This issue was raised at the Technical Council meeting and it was reported that the potential of this is already under investigation at AES HQ. Juha Backman suggested that video content also be included, preferably in the form of the PowerPoint materials from the same session. -GGM

Other business

TF raised the question of whether work was being done on wireless microphones with high enough sound quality for studio applications. DJ reported that there was a discussion about this in the regulations committee. Due primarily to bandwidth limitations, there are none.

There was a discussion, prompted by TF regarding current patent issues surrounding microflows and a rumoured disagreement between Schoeps and Sennheiser. DJ will investigate this issue.

The current work by the TC Advisory Group on Regulations was reported to have had a small but good technical discussion this morning concerning frequency allocations and the impact on wireless microphones. There is no new news. In summary, it is “a miserable mess.” The deadline is 2009 in the states, 2010 in Europe. Some companies are working on applications in higher frequencies according to DJ.