ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – October 16, 2018

<u>Upcoming Meetings</u>

Tuesday December 11, 2018 10:30am Universal
January 29, 2019?? (perhaps a call only? 10:30-2:30pm)
Audio Immersive Plugfest ~~February 25/26, 2019~~ March 12/13 - tentative
ISDCF Meeting March 14, 2019
(BUT as the notes are being written, SMPTE has moved to the week of March 12 so we will need to move the date again).

(Will try for Wednesday meetings as often as possible.)

Part 1: General Reporting

Housekeeping:
- Set next meeting dates (above). Next lunch: Dec'18 Pixelogic (about $3-400/lunch for the room)
- 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.
- Thank you for the potluck and members bringing food! It was great!
- InterSociety has been providing lunches, but we are not covering our costs!! We will begin marking those that haven't joined/paid. Please become a member!! We discussed how to make this work. We are going back to asking for companies to contribute for lunch.
- Thank you Universal for the facilities and parking.
- Thank you Universal for support of the Chairman.
- Welcome Jerry's latest GrandChild: Waverly! Born 6 days ago.
- Thank you to Inter-Society for providing the funding for notes, travel, general expenses, LUNCHES! and admin support.
- Thank you to Universal/Intersociety/Susie for the coffee and treats
- Meeting notes from September '18 approved
- InterSociety request to be a member! $500/company. Please Join Inter-Society! www.intersociety dot org / become-a-member / $500 per

company per year, $100 individual membership. We asked to come up with an easy PayPal join with a credit card means of joining.

- Legal reminder / press reminder. A verbal description was provided at the meeting. The information is on the front page of isdcf(dot)com.
    * 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 October 16, 2018

1. Please Join Inter-Society! http://www.intersociety.org/become-a-member/ $500 per company per year, $100 individual membership.
2. Add link to smptedcp.com to the ISDCF website to help exhibitors to be able to play SMTPE-DCP content. This is a UNIC / EDCF site.
3. Gather folks (call or meeting) to discuss how to proceed to formalize B2.1 constraints in the SMPTE or ISDCF process. (Chris W, Steve L)
4. Create an immersive sound discussion list for sharing of bit streams prior to the plugfest.
5. Get results from the SMPTE Renderer Expectations Drafting Group meeting (Pete L)
6. Send recipes to Jerry for potluck dishes.
7. Post zipped sizing charts to ISDCF. (About 20GB)
8. Call meeting to create common language for TDL/KDM management in anticipation of creating an educational series.
9. Create a presentation for education of exhibitors on the options to report changes of equipment.
10. Jerry will post the Digital Delivery of DCP Recommendation to the ISDCF reflector for final comments.

From Earlier Meetings:

11. CJ will provide language that might be used for the open-source copyright to be included on the website isdcf-slash-t.
12. Create a license-free immersive audio file for creating immersive bit stream content to test - Mike R? Pete L (Fraunhofer)?

SMPTE-DCP Updates

361 sites US/Canada still Interop only (about 2%)
Most other regions are shifting…
Mexico 1 00%
South America in transition
Asia also moving forward…

NATO will be issuing a resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED that motion picture distributors and exhibitors operating in the "domestic" market of the United States and Canada, will fully transition to SMPTE DCP by 9 April 2019. (The full resolution is attached to this document.)

This is similar to the resolution NATO made for the transition for Cyan Dye in the audio sound track on film. We now have a date certain. Finally, April and now we have a YEAR!!

EDCF smptedcp.com was launched and provides great information and content. They have different test content and some regional information. We will link from the current ISDCF site to provide more resources to the community. (UNIC has been funding the site/ information.)

We have been told that ALL systems can be software upgraded and no system requires a hardware swap. We will need to verify this.

We are seeing some end-of-life board failures in projectors. It doesn't seem to be unusual/unexpected. But it's costly…

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Update to SMPTE standards to reflect the currently used profile. (i.e., ISDCF Test Content B2.1 profile)?

Options to document B-2.1:
1) In SMPTE Application approach (like IMF), but many documents can't be referenced (ISDCF documents)
2) We might do a SMPTE Specification (using new SMPTE rules). Could go though quickly?
3) A total 429-2 revision (major work)

If new SMPTE Specification, then DCI would reference the wrong document. BUT it may be needed anyway to solve other items that are not included in the SMPTE (like DBox and audio routing).

It probably is a year or two away from a real reference that can explain B2.1. Right now ISDCF is the only thing filling that need. Maybe we need a clear ISDCF document that would be similar to what would be used in SMPTE.

Separate call/meet up is needed to determine a path forward for documenting B2.1.

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Immersive audio plugfest - Moved to March (but will need to move again)…

Mike R (Fox) has started building bitstreams to test many features of the new standard. In doing so he has uncovered issues and the standards. In fact he has provided feedback to SMPTE on the standard and some manufacturers. Work is proceeding and he is ready to share the contest for more testing prior to the March plugfest.

These will be encrypted and full SMPTE-DCP containers. No content

will have back-up track. Some will be ONLY objects. No preamble in the content (length of zero). These should play on existing rendering systems just to make sure it works. In this first batch, no bed re-map, conditional beds or conditional objects.

Will there need to be a constraint document needed similar to B2.1 - answer: yes, there is a constraint document as part of the standard.

ISDCF will create a discussion list to share with those interested in getting early samples of test bit streams.

Companies participating: Dolby, QSC, Barco, DTS, Fraunhofer, Leonis Cinema (others? Let Jerry know.) IT IS IMPORTANT FOR MANUFACTURES OF SERVERS AND TMS TO GET BITSTEAMS TO TEST! Past experience shows that these new bitstreams can cause problems to existing ecosystems.

Please go to http://lists.isdcf.com/listinfo.cgi/immersivesound-isdcf.com and sign up to be on the list to receive links to bit streams.

SMPTE will be holding a Rendering Expectations Drafting Group meeting on October 24. ISDCF members are invited to attend/participate as guests. Information was circulated and many expressed interest in attending.

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Trailer Sound Levels

Review: Most exhibitors turn down the sound levels by about 6db for the trailers (Fader 5.0-5.5). Most customers find this acceptable. Many exhibitors turn the volume back up (to Fader 6.5 -7.0) for the main feature. This has been going on for many years (probably 10+ years).

TASA will find it difficult to change the spec by 6db and exhibitors

would like to playback trailers at the same volume as the feature.

Do we think that mixers are "gaming" the TASA Leqm standard? Probably no change over the last 10-15 years.

Should we have a requirement of monitoring at fader level 7? Next TASA meeting will hopefully set the future… (Remember, exhibitors have solved this by turning down the fader for trailer playback.)

Netflix using LKFS for sound levels control (home releases).

There was one comment on the sound levels of features being too loud as well. While this is probably true, we deferred (for now) to focus on trailer sound at this time.

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Subtitle Quality Issues

A presentation was given (attached to this report) on the quality of server-rendered subtitles on the screen. Pixelogic conducted some testing and identified many issues. It's a mess out there - mainly server rendered.

The CTP doesn't test many of the possible combinations. We have a rendering issue for on-screen subtitles. Servers are not required to render subtitles, so it's not clear that servers that DO render are tested for subtitle rendering in the CTP?

In past ISDCF plugfests we certainly experienced this with Japanese subtitles. SMPTE may take this on as well. SMPTE has a project "TC-21DC AHG Stereo Subtitling" that is revising ST 428-7. Though the scope of the project is to improve rendering of Japanese subtitles and may help here as well.

Is this a DCI issue for the CTP?

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Lunch - potluck! If you are so inclined - send Jerry your recipes and he will post them on ISDCF website.

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Audio Channel 16 for MP3 stereo pairs?

This could be used for alternative spoken languages. But since many are moving to cloud delivery to personal devices, no needs to encourage this from ISDCF. Nice idea that (at this time) has no proponent.

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Brazil Sign Language

The following was preliminary information, not verified:

ANCINE has separated the exhibitors in 2 groups as follows:

Exhibitors with more than 21 or more screens
Exhibitors with 20 or less screens

So, the new proposed implementation calendar will be the following:

Exhibitors with more than 21 or more screens

June 16th 2019 _____ 15% of total screens
September 16th 2019 _____ 35% of total screens
January 1st 2020_____ 100% of total screens

Exhibitors with 20 or less screens

September 16th 2019 _____ 30% of total screens
January 1st 2020 _____ 100% of total screens

Not clear which solution (video or avatar) is being supported by Ancine. This is our best guess at this time. We should know more in a few months.

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Reference sizing charts

New versions are complete and will be posted on ISDCF.

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TDL List management - how to get updates to all TDL owners?

Need for a tutorial for theater operators of options. Need a common naming method for services provided.

Description of architectures of possible ways to solve the TDL issue for both service providers and exhibition. We need to have a small meeting to discuss the common language.

Some exhibitors are exchanging equipment swaps/upgrades in a very manual way - they need to be educated on what is available. An education / webinar is needed to explain the options. Mainly the automated ways - Server based, TMS based, Hardware in theater, etc.

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Equipment End-of-Life

Some boards are failing in the field - most noticeable when an upgrade is conducted (power cycle, board removal, etc.). But it seems to be a fact-of-life for 10+ year old electronic equipment.

Is there anything that ISDCF can do?

Note to group: Series One projectors are not expected to have much longer life…

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Next Generation Displays - Direct View and HDR projectors

No new responses to the DCI releases.

NanoLumens is a new entry as a supplier.

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Any upcoming special formats?

Question on creating 25fps distributions? Does it work as a commercial release? One vendor described that their installed equipment is not capable of playing 25fps - and there are a significant number of these systems installed in the US.

Should we include in our SMPTE constraint document that 25fps will be problematic in North America? Maybe as an informative note for the legacy issue.

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Corner Brightness - LED screens

The standard for brightness on corners of a theatrical image will be discussed at the SMPTE meeting next week. It may be that normal image brightness roll off due to viewing angle may mean that LED screens already have roll off…

There is also a color shift due to view angle for LED screens. This is not covered in SMPTE standards as well.

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EDCF Update

New website for SMPTE-DCP.

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KDM Origin

It is not clear who issues the KDM - it's not in the naming convention. It would be a place for an exhibitor to call to fix an issue. It's not clear this is a need, but as new KDM distributors enter the marketplace.

One could use the KDM signature to look up who issued the KDM. A website could look at the KDM and tell the source. (Does anyone want this?)

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Attendance on next page.

FINAL RESOLUTION

SMPTE DCP Deadline

WHEREAS "SMPTE" is the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers, an organization that sets technical standards for the cinema and television industries, and "DCP" stands for Digital Cinema Package, and

WHEREAS the SMPTE DCP is a specification published as a formal standard by SMPTE regarding the packaging and delivery of digital cinema content files, and

WHEREAS for many years since the transition from film to digital, and the publication of relevant standards by SMPTE, digital cinema distributions have taken place in the form of "Interop DCPs", a non-standards-based packaging format that was agreed to between some of the early manufacturers of digital cinema equipment to promote interoperability between their systems, and

WHEREAS the SMPTE DCP standard was developed by committees of experts in an open and rules-based process, and

WHEREAS the SMPTE DCP standard includes some very useful features that are not supported in the Interop DCP, and

WHEREAS those benefits include: the ability to carry soft 3D subtitles, and encrypted subtitles; the ability to support "auxiliary data" other than the picture, the sound and subtitles, which can enhance such features as immersive audio, moving seats, lighting effects and other innovations not yet developed; the ability to use automation cues to reduce operational effort and minimize human error; the ability to carry more "metadata" which will make it easier to identify information such as the name of the distributor, the audio format, the aspect ratio, the light level at which the content was mastered, etc.; and

WHEREAS almost all digital cinema equipment is capable of playing back SMPTE DCPs as long as current software versions are installed, and

WHEREAS fewer than 350 cinema locations in the U.S. and Canada have yet to prepare their systems for SMPTE DCP delivery, and

WHEREAS every effort has been, and is being made to communicate with those cinema operators and encourage them to prepare, and

WHEREAS the designation of a voluntary deadline for the full transition to delivery of content solely in the SMPTE DCP format may finally be necessary to encourage complete transition, and

WHEREAS that complete transition will further innovation, cost savings and presentation quality, and

WHEREAS the adoption of this resolution was recommended by the NATO Technology Committee members in their meeting on Monday, 8 October 2018,

BE IT RESOLVED that motion picture exhibitors operating in the "domestic" market of the United States and Canada will fully transition to SMPTE DCP by 9 April 2019.

The Executive Board
National Association of Theatre Owners
Beverly Hills, CA
9 October 2018