ISDCF Main Meeting Notes – August 20, 2025
In person at Universal and Zoom

Upcoming Meetings

Wednesday October 22, 2025 10:30am In Person/Zoom / Universal
Wednesday December 3, 2025 8:00am (time still TBD) In Person / Zoom

Part 1: General Reporting

Housekeeping:

- Zoom meeting (provided by ISDCF)
- Set next meeting dates (above).
- Thank you ISDCF for support of the Chairman.
- Meeting notes from July 2, 2025 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:

President: Steve LLamb
VP: Reiner Doetzkies
Secretary / Treasurer: Dean Bullock
Executive Director: Jerry Pierce - and chairman ISDCF
Bookkeeper: Michelle Hurst
Members: Susie Beiersdorf, Mark Collins, Sean Romano, Mark Waterston, Kirk Griffins, Mike Radford

InterSociety financial status: We have about $37K in bank which should be good for the end of the year. 21 corporations have paid. 15 individuals have paid.

ISDCF LinkedIn account has been more active. We encourage participation and cross promotion.

There is a request to have a joint UNIC / EDCF / ISDCF call in October. In process. If you want to participate let Jerry know.

Attendance is at end of these notes.

Action Items from August 20, 2025

1. Sean will lead the effort to create a requirement list for BYOD systems and devices. Report due next meeting. (Jerry to create a mail list to have a place to have the general conversation.)
2. An exhibitor used the audio test content and would be willing to write up what they learned from the content.
3. Joint effort with ICTA/ISDCF for Newsletter. (TBD what this means.)
4. Getting accurate information on how to formulate a DCP for search and AI engines is essential. All of us must let SMTPE leadership know that these standards and documents MUST be made public. In particular, those that support SMPTE (like Diamond membership) need to let SMPTE know this is needed. (SMPTE Diamond Members include: Amazon, Apple, Disney, Netflix, Deluxe, CBS, Dolby, Google, Fox, Paramount, Blackmagic Design and more.)
5. Chair of ISDCF to gather companies that have joint membership and create a letter and attend a SMPTE board meeting to make the case for open standards.

6. Offer ISDCF resources to SMPTE to help maintain SMPTE Schema registries.
7. Worth checking out mediastandardsregistry.org that is a great resource. Steve has been working on it and trying to figure out next steps.

Real Work

Big Picture:

Theatrically things are looking OK.

DCDC is installing terrestrial connectivity across the US. Aiming for 500 sites this year, 1,300 for next year. They are getting on average 100Mbps.

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DCI Update

DCI released a new version of the Compliance Test Plan - now version CTP 1.4.3. Mainly an editorial update/clarification.

New Tech committee chair takes over October 1. Warner Bros. Is next.

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BYOD (Bring Your Own Device) updates

Comparison (a starting point)

	Path one	Path two
Type	Audio correlation / cloud download of content	In-Theater sync (WiFi?), in-theater delivery of streaming content
HI track	Not good enough sync	OK
Ease of getting content	Requires customer action before arrival at theater	Requires customer to get connected to WiFi in theater
VI / Captions / Sign Language	Good	Good - if DCP has content
Trailers	Requires customer action before arrival at theater (currently not provided)	Good
Security	Each system different	Current security approved

Ease for studio to provide content	Each system different	Would be part of DCP
Cost	Free to Theater, theater could purchase devices for customers	Could cost a WiFi hub, theater could purchase devices for customers
Future ADA compliance	Unknown, issue with sync and trailers	Probably OK

One group is working on Path One to to help in “standardization” of specifications and creating material for current caption/audio smart phone apps.

The second path is to improve the design of systems to meet all the goals of devices for the application. No one is actively working on Path Two, except for Qube (and a similar approach by Dolby).

We really should have a list of requirements for BYOD and come up with this so we can have the discussion. Should this be a subcommittee? Does someone have the interest in creating this list? Sean Ramano has offered to take the lead on coming up with a list of requirements.

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On Screen Text Rendering

No work has been done on this effort. We don’t have a leader/folks that care about this enough to do work. We understand this is a problem, but we need a proponent to move this to a high priority. There is a direct cost for distribution for the need for burned in subtitles.

The other work-around is to provide .png files. Some think this is a good solution, but others don’t like that solution.

This will be off our agenda going forward.

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Audio Test Material

The content is on-line and can be downloaded. One exhibitor did use it and found that the test content revealed some problems in the room - with bounce-back from behind the (perf) screen to the room from the surrounds.

It's there and we will drop from the agenda.

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Possible Joint EDCF/UNIC/ISDCF

So many groups, how can they coordinate. There needs to be more international communications across the globe. We will start with Europe and figure out the next steps.

Our plan for 3 meetings:

(1) ISDCF hosting a discussion diving into the details of what we have been doing over the last year. Basically our meeting notes live and in person. It would be two or three from ISDCF and anyone from UNIC / EDCF that wanted to hear what we have been doing. Schedule for September 23, 2025.

(2) A working group with ISDCF/EDCF/UNIC to explore how we should work together and understand the challenges we each face and decide if we should hold joint meetings and/or other plans to more forward. We would suggest 6-8 folks from each organization to keep it a working session. October timeframe?

(3) An open meeting with ISDCF (all participants - about 50) and anyone from EDCF/UNIC that wanted to join us. We might have dual leadership (Jerry and Guillaume). Tentatively we are looking at December 3 at 8am Pacific Time Zone with in-person in California and an open Zoom meeting for everyone else. This might be twice a year, we will start with this one.

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Front page of the Internet… new project?

An AI search for "Digital Cinema" results in misinformation. Can we help fix that?

AI can be changed if reliable information is presented in a machine readable way. Is this a role for ISDCF to try and improve the results of an AI search.

As an example, if you try and find the schemas for digital cinema you can't find them. The SMPTE information does not appear in an open search. In fact, it's really hard to find the RIGHT schemas at all on the open web. There needs to be rich information that AI engines will find.

SMPTE need to publish the schemas in a "proper way." Or someone does. The ISDCF recommendations don't make it into searches. We may need to change ISDCF website from Wordpress to a machine readable approach.

The Wikipedia page on digital cinema does not give proper results for making a professional DCP. Because ISDCF provides the Digital Cinema Naming Convention ISDCF is a known reliable source of information.

The starting point is to make SMPTE information public. It can't be found if it's hidden/behind a paywall. ISDCF should let SMPTE know that we NEED information out behind the firewall. THIS is probably the best way to solve this problem.

The group feels we need to contact SMPTE board with a plea to make the standards open to reduce the "noise" of bad information and replace it with SMPTE vetted information. There is some concern that if the security is too "open" that it will put high value content at risk. The ISDCF chairman will work on getting a statement of support and work on attending a SMPTE meeting.

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SMPTE Global Rollout

Nothing new to report. Time to remove from agenda.

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Website and IT updates Naming Convention

All good. Business as usual.

We could help SMPTE with maintaining the registry of Schemas. SMPTE isn't doing a good job with their registry. We don't think ISDCF should take it over, we could help SMPTE maintain their registries. Last resort to ask to move to ISDCF control. There is a problem with version control.

Barco has assured us that we will soon have the "official" BarcoHDR name for the Naming Convention.

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SMPTE update

mediastandardsregistry.org for a list of many (all?) documents that are of interest to our groups.

Mastering guideline for timed text - FCD SMPTE EG 428-23 Mastering Guideline for Japanese Timed Text DCDMs 1ED (1st Edition)

ST 429-16, Additional Composition Metadata and Guidelines.

27C-10 Study Group on Origins of Digital Cinema

2098-2 update request (frame rate update)

EG 428-23 ready for DP
RP 428-22 ready for pub

Next SMPTE Tech Committee meetings: Sept 17-19 in Warsaw, Poland at Faculty of Mechatronics of Warsaw University of Technology - Warsaw, Poland & Online

Maybe present something from ISDCF at the SMPTE Fall Conference

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Image Artifact issues (playback issues)

Still meeting every two weeks. There is a fix being distributed for ShowVault for the CZ decoding issue. Some progress on identifying other known errors.

Some issues relative to forensic watermark are being addressed as well.

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InterSociety Newsletter

ICTA is planning to organize a newsletter. InterSociety may drop our efforts and help ICTA with their newsletter.

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Vendor Updates

HeyLED gave an update: Has deployed to Japan 6M/4K HDR display. Two 5M deployed in China.

Some creatives are finding issues with the "fill factor" of LED screens. Since it differs from traditional projectors (which have a 100% fill factor) the LED images seem to be "sharper"

and different from projection. This may need to be addressed going forward for LED specifications. Early feedback only. This is more obvious with credit crawl and/or text on the screen. It seems to dance. Could be an artifact of the "perfect focus" of LED. (Same effect with DLP projectors if in "perfect" focus). Is this an opportunity for a "plugfest" to see these issues. These issues are not addressed in the DCI/CTP.

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Other Topics

If a company implemented the sign language video track, are they violating any patents? https://patentimages.storage.googleapis.com/7c/b6/fa/cd0950f36a4c0a/US11095913.pdf The question went to the patent holder.

Action Items from July 2, 2025

1. Request for experience with AI assisted meeting note tools. (Do you have a system that seems to work?) Feedback on suitability to use AI tools from members. Don't do it.
2. ISDCF to create a small group to figure out how to discuss security issues that are becoming more evident. (Steve/Guillaume) Ultimately to help the industry understand the issues. Still in process.
3. Update Audio Test website with description of expectations. Add 7.1 QuickTime version. Done.
4. Revisit BYOD subcommittee. Steve to follow up with Howard K on the other committee. Underway.
5. Restart the font rendering subcommittee with Dean Bullock, Matt Sheby, and Mike Radford. Dead for now.

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Attendance on last page.