



ANSI E1.27-2 – 2009 (R2019)

**Entertainment Technology—
Recommended Practice for Permanently
Installed Control Cables for Use with
ANSI E1.11 (DMX512-A)
and USITT DMX512/1990 Products**

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Published by:

Entertainment Services and Technology Association
630 Ninth Avenue, Suite 609
New York, NY 10036
USA
Phone: 1-212-244-1505
Fax: 1-212-244-1502
standards@esta.org

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Roy Bickel
 DMX Pro Sales
 Tony Giovannetti
 Pat Grenfell
 Mitch Hefter
 John Huntington
 Beverly and Tom Inglesby
 Eddie Kramer
 Jason Kyle

LuxBalance Lighting
 Tyrone Mellon, Jr.
 Lizz Pittsley
 Showman Systems
 Michael Skinner
 Skjonberg Controls Inc.
 Stage Labor of the Ozarks
 Tracy Underhill
 Charlie Weiner

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Contact Information

Technical Standards Manager

Karl G. Ruling
ESTA
630 Ninth Avenue, Suite 609
New York, NY 10036
USA
1-212-244-1505 ext. 703
karl.ruling@esta.org

Assistant Technical Standards Manager

Richard J. Nix
ESTA
630 Ninth Avenue, Suite 609
New York, NY 10036
USA
1-212-244-1505 ext. 649
richard.nix@esta.org

Technical Standards Council Chairpersons

Mike Garl
Mike Garl Consulting LLC
1-865-389-4371
mike@mikegarlconsulting.com

Mike Wood
Mike Wood Consulting LLC
1-512-288-4916
mike@mikewoodconsulting.com

Control Protocols Working Group Co-chairpersons

Milton Davis
Doug Fleenor Design, Inc.
1-805-481-9599
milton@dfd.com

Michael Lay
Signify
1-352-433-2479
michael.lay@signify.com

Acknowledgments

The Control Protocols Working Group members when this document was approved by the working group on 1 July 2019 are shown below.

Voting members:

Kevin Loewen; Acuity Brands Inc.; MP
Robert Bell; Acuity Brands Inc.; MP
Maurits van der Hoorn; Acuity Brands Inc.; MP
Wayne David Howell; Artistic Licence Holdings; DE
Christian Krueger; Blizzard Lighting LLC; MP
Robert Haycock; UC Berkeley; I; U
Bill Ellis; Candela Controls, Inc.; DE
Brent Boulnois; Candela Controls, Inc.; DE
Jim Ohrberg; Candela Controls, Inc.; DE
Jason Potterf; Cisco; MP
Paul Kleissler; City Theatrical, Inc.; MP
Larry Schoeneman; DesignLab Chicago, Inc.; DR
Milton Davis; Doug Fleenor Design, Inc.; MP
Ian Campbell; Doug Fleenor Design, Inc.; MP
Ulrich Kunkel; E3 Engineering & Education for Entertainment GmbH; U
Steve Terry; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; MP
Sam Kearney; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; MP
Eric Rasmussen; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; MP
Robert Goddard; Goddard Design Co.; MP
Peter Willis; Howard Eaton Lighting Ltd.; CP
Edwin S. Kramer; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; U
John Huntington; I.A.T.S.E. Local 1; U
Roger Lattin; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728; U
Matthew Ardine; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728; U
David Kane; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728; U

Alan M. Rowe; I.A.T.S.E. Local 728; U
Mark Primrose; Kino Flo, Inc.; CP
John Valus_Jr.; Lex TM3; CP
Leroy "Tripp" Oliver, III; Mainstage Theatrical Supply, Inc.; DR
Scott M. Blair; Megapixel; CP
Mitch Hefter; USITT; U
Bill McIntyre; Show Distribution Group, Inc.; CP
Simon Newton; Open Lighting Project; G
Daniel Murfin; Royal National Theatre; U
Michael Lay; Signify; MP
Maya Nigrosh; Sonos; MP
Jim Love; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; MP
Julian Hoare; Tait Towers Manufacturing LLC; MP
Tucker Downs; Tucker Downs; I; G
Paul Beasley; Walt Disney Company; U
Eric Bloom; Westview Productions; DR
Andrew Berry; X-Laser; MP
Jon Hole; Eaton; MP

Observer (non-voting) members:

Cameron Affleck; English National Opera (ENO); U
Christian Allabauer; Christian Allabauer; G
Tim Bachman; Altman Stage Lighting; MP
Nick Ballhorn-Wagner; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; MP
Robert Barbagallo; Solotech Inc.; U
Marcus Bengtsson; disguise; MP
Justin Bennett; University of the Incarnate Word; U
Andrew Berry; X-Laser; MP
Javid Butler; Integrated Theatre, Inc.; CP
Justyn Butler; JBOTS; CP
Jean-Francois Canuel; A.C. Lighting Ltd.; CP
Steve Carlson; High Speed Design, Inc.; MP
Yongzhi Chen; Guangzhou Haoyang Electronic Co., Ltd.; CP
Anthony Chiappone; Chauvet Lighting; MP
Martin Chisnall; Martin Chisnall; U
Jon Chuchla; Audio Visual Systems, Inc.; G
Edward R. Condit; Edward R. Condit; G
Gareth Conner; Creative Conners, Inc.; MP
Fraser Connolly; Obsidian Controls; DE
Chris Conti; PRG; DR
Jeremy Day; Lumenpulse Lighting Inc.; MP
Larry Dew; W.A. Benjamin Electric Co.; DE
Rich Dionne; Purdue University; DE
Hamish Dumbreck; James Embedded Systems Engineering; MP
James Eade; ABTT; G
Paul K. Ericson; Stantec; DE
Trevor Forrest; Helvar Lighting Control; MP
Andrew Frazer; Stellascapes; MP
David Gooch; Chauvet Lighting; MP
Sean Goossen; LiteGear, Inc.; MP
Jerry Gorrell; Theatre Safety Programs; G
Sean Harding; Port Lighting Systems; G
Nick Harper; Nick Harper; G
Bill Hewlett; ImageCue LLC; MP

Jim Holladay; Luxence; G
Eric Johnson; Eric Johnson; G
Rob Johnston; Interactive Technologies, Inc.; MP
Michael Karlsson; LumenRadio AB; MP
Jonathan Kemble; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc. ; MP
Christopher Kennedy; Chauvet Lighting; MP
Lucas Korytkowski; Insight Lighting; MP
Jason Kyle; JPK Systems Ltd.; MP
Hans Leiter; Electronic Theatre Controls, Inc.; MP
Jon Lenard; Applied Electronics; MP
Rob Love; Insight Lighting; MP
David McCulloch; David McCulloch; U
John Mehlretter; Lehigh Electric Products Co.; MP
John Musarra; John Musarra; U
Mit Patel; disguise; MP
Jaxon Patterson; Insight Lighting; MP
Soren Sterdorff Peglau; Brother, Brother and Sons; MP
Gary Pritchard; LSC Lighting Systems PTY Ltd; MP
Charles Reese; Production Resource Group; DR
Yngve Sandboe; Sand Network Systems, Inc.; MP
Nicolai Gubi Schmidt; Nicolai Gubi Schmidt; U
Ford Sellers; Chauvet Lighting; MP
Christopher B. Tilton; About the Stage, LLC; DE
Robert Timmerman; Signify; MP
Tracy Underhill; Triple C Lighting & Controls; G
Carlo Venturati; Clay Paky S.P.A.; MP
Will Wagner; Carallon Ltd.; MP
Colin Waters; TMB; DR
Ralph Weber; ENDL Texas; G
Loren Wilton; Showman Systems; CP
David Yellin; Sumolight GmbH; MP
Jeong Sik Yoo; Ghost LX; DE

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CP = Custom-market Producer
DE = Designer
DR = Dealer or Rental company
G = General interest
MP = Mass-market Producer
U = User

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1 General

1.1 Scope

This Recommended Practice is intended to provide for maximum interoperability in the use of equipment connected in permanently installed entertainment lighting applications. To accomplish this intent the Recommended Practice defines acceptable cable and connector types, and the ways in which they may be used.

Entertainment lighting uses both EIA-485/EIA-485-A and EIA/TIA-568 Category 5 and higher cabling systems for data connection between equipment. There are significant differences between the two cables. In order to avoid confusion arising from the differences in specification of the two cable types this Recommended Practice has separate sections for cables designed specifically for EIA-485 signals and Category 5 and higher cable.

Category 5 cable is also known as Class D cable under ISO/IEC standard 11801. Research by the ESTA CPWG determined that Category 5, 5e, 6, and 6a cables would all be suitable for use with DMX512. Since control over future revisions of ANSI/EIA/TIA-568 and ISO/IEC 11801 is beyond the scope of this Recommended Practice, ANIS/EIA/TIA-568 Category cables shall be the controlling standard with respect to future developments. Cable, Equipment, and System Manufacturers, and Engineers, System Integrators, and Installers subject to ISO/IEC standards should consider references to Category 5 or higher cable as referencing comparable cable described by ISO/IEC standards.

This Recommended Practice applies to entertainment lighting systems that are permanently installed, regardless of the nature of the facility. Connection of portable and temporary equipment are not covered by this Recommended Practice, and applications that may limit the interoperability of entertainment lighting control systems for the sake of cost are also beyond the scope of this Recommended Practice. Connection of proprietary control systems, which may co-exist with equipment covered by this Recommended Practice, is also beyond the scope of this Recommended Practice.

1.2 Appropriate uses

This Recommended Practice is intended for those involved in the design, manufacture, installation, and use of entertainment lighting systems.

1.3 Compliance

Compliance with this Recommended Practice is strictly voluntary and the responsibility of the Specifier, System Manufacturer and installer. Disclosures and identification or other claims of compliance do not constitute certification or approval by ESTA. See clause 7 for disclosure requirements.

1.4 Local Requirements and Regulations

Cabling installations covered by this Recommended Practice are frequently also covered by local regulations which may place restrictions on cable construction, connection or installation for reasons of safety, electromagnetic compatibility or other reasons. Such local regulations may be statutory requirements or may be included in the system specification. All such regulations are entirely beyond the scope of this Recommended Practice and compliance with this Recommended Practice has no bearing on compliance with any other such requirements.

2 Normative references

- | | |
|-----------------------------|---|
| ANSI/TIA/EIA-568-B-2001 | Commercial Building Telecommunications Cabling Standard |
| ANSI/TIA/EIA-568-B.2-1-2002 | Commercial Building Telecommunications Cabling Standard - Part 2 - Addendum 1 - Transmission Performance Specifications for 4-Pair 100 Ohm Category 6 Cabling |