



ANSI E1.28 – 2011 (R2016)
**Guidance on planning followspot
positions in places of public
assembly**

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Standards Review on 1 July 2016.

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Published By:

The 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
Email: standards@esta.org

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The Followspot Position Working Group, which authored this Standard, consists of a cross section of entertainment industry professionals representing a diversity of interests. ESTA is committed to developing consensus-based standards and recommended practices in an open setting.

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*Investor for over 15 years

Contact Information

Technical Standards Manager

Karl G. Ruling
The Entertainment Services and Technology Association
630 Ninth Avenue, Suite 609
New York, NY 10036
USA
1-212-244-1505
karl.ruling@esta.org

Assistant Technical Standards Manager

Erin Grabe
The Entertainment Services and Technology Association
630 Ninth Avenue, Suite 609
New York, NY 10036
USA
1-212-244-1505
erin.grabe@esta.org

Technical Standards Council Chairpersons

Mike Garl
Mike Garl Consulting LLC
836 Smoke Creek Rd.
Knoxville, TN 37934
USA
1-865-389-4371
mike@mikegarlconsulting.com

Mike Wood
Mike Wood Consulting LLC
6401 Clairmont Drive
Austin, TX 78749
USA
1-512-288-4916
mike@mikewoodconsulting.com

Followspot Position Working Group Chairpersons

Jules Lauve
Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc.
47 Water Street
South Norwalk, CT 06854
USA
1-203-299-0830
jlauve@theatreprojects.com

Richard Logothetis
Lycian Stage Lighting
P.O. Box D, Kings Highway
Sugar Loaf, NY 10981
USA
1-845-469-2285
richard@lycian.com

Acknowledgments

The Followspot Position Working Group members when this document was approved by the working group on 24 May 2016 are shown below. The company or organization listed is the company or organization represented.

Voting members:

Edwin S. Kramer, I.A.T.S.E. Local 1, U
Kyle Kusmer, Steven Schaefer Associates, G
Jules Lauve, Theatre Projects Consultants, Inc., DE
Fred Lindauer, G
Richard Logothesis, Lycian Stage Lighting, P
Richard J. Nix, ZFX Flying, Inc., G
Chip Purchase, Foundation for Jones Hall, U
Stephen Vanciel, IATSE Local 631, U
R. Duane Wilson, Amer. Society of Theatre Consultants, DE

Observer (non-voting) members:

Jerry Gorrell, Theatre Safety Programs, U
Curtis Kasefang, Theatre Consultants Collaborative, LLC, P
Ford Sellers, Chauvet Lighting, P

Interest category codes:

P = producer
DE = designer
G = general interest
U = user

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose

The purpose of this document is to offer guidance and to make recommendations for the placement and arrangement of permanent followspot positions in places of public assembly. Information in this document is not intended to conflict with any federal, state or local codes, statutes, ordinances or regulations, or to replace competent professional advice.

1.2 Scope

This document makes recommendations for the operational and functional aspects of permanent followspot positions within places of public assembly, including the determination of their location within the venue, their physical space requirements, and the safety considerations associated with their use.

The scope of this document includes accessibility and environmental concerns, but only to the extent that these concerns relate to (a) the location and configuration of followspot positions, (b) the working environment created by these areas during their intended use, and (c) the working environment created during other activities incidental to their intended use.

Temporary followspot positions are not included in the scope of this document.

2 Definitions

2.1 followspot: A manually operated spotlight intended specifically for illuminating moving objects or performers.

2.2 followspot position: A purpose-designed, permanently located space or platform, specifically intended for one or more followspots.

2.2.1 followspot booth: A followspot position that is an enclosed room or space specifically intended for the placement, use, and operation of followspots.

2.2.2 followspot platform: A followspot position that is an open-sided platform specifically intended for the placement, use, and operation of followspots.

2.3 obstruction: Any interference to the movement of the followspot, its operator, or any interference in the path of the followspot light beam, between the intended followspot position and the performance area, whether predictable or not. Examples of physical obstructions include building structural framing elements and any equipment attached to the building structural framing elements.

2.4 pan angle: The included angle formed by the followspot's horizontal limits of movement, measured at the followspot's beam centerline.

2.5 qualified lighting specialist: A person who by possession of a recognized degree or certificate of professional standing, or who by extensive knowledge, training, and experience, has successfully demonstrated the ability to solve or resolve problems relating to live event lighting using followspots.

2.6 railing: Any barrier that is intended to function as an OSHA or building code compliant guardrail