



Acoustical Society of America

OFFICE OF THE
STANDARDS SECRETARIAT

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S12/710

Minutes of the annual meeting of
Accredited Standards Committee S12
held in
New Orleans, LA
28 November 2007

1) Opening of the meeting and introduction of those present

Mr. Hellweg opened the meeting at 10:45 a.m. and introductions were made. He recognized the representatives from new organizational members of S12, including Beth Cooper (NASA), Kurt Frstrup and Randy Stanley (National Park Service), Jeremie Voix (Sonomax) and Barb Schustrich and Gunnar Rasmussen (G.R.A.S.). The attendance list is given at the end of this document.

2) Approval of the Agenda

The S12 agenda (S12/700) was approved unanimously.

3) Approval of the Minutes

The minutes of the S12 meeting held in Salt Lake City on 5 June 2006, (**S12/696**) were approved unanimously.

4) Review of S12 activities

a) Discussion on committee activities

Mr. Hellweg reviewed the S12 Advisory Report dated 28 November 2007 (**S12/701**), specifically the ballots where there are comments to be resolved.

Ballot S12/692: In regard to the ballot to reaffirm S12.60, Mr. Hellweg reported three negative votes with some significant comments. The S12 advisory group is working on proposals to resolve the comments. He noted that the newly approved WG S12/WG 50, Information Technology (IT) Equipment in Classrooms, will be tasked to resolve some of the comments. Others are already being addressed in the S12/WG 46 addressing the special conditions of modular classrooms. Many of the comments received were echoes of comments considered during the development of the standard for which nothing has changed. He asked the group's opinion on forming a third WG to consider any remaining comments and also work with the two new WGs to integrate all the new material into a cohesive group of standards. This idea was generally approved and Mr. Hellweg stated that he would have a proposal for voting by S12 shortly. It was noted that this proposal may involve changing the scopes of WG 46 and WG 50.

Ballot S12/695: The ballot to reaffirm this technical report (S12.13) closed with one negative vote. There is no active WG. Mr. Hellweg suggested reaffirming the TR now and at the same time reconstituting a WG to consider the comments and possible revision. This WG would need a chair and no one volunteered to take this responsibility. Mr. Hellweg will seek a chair for this WG.

b) Review of working group reports

Mr. Hellweg reviewed the Summary of S12 WG Reports Nov. 2007 (**S12/702**) and asked WG

Chairs who were present to update or elaborate on their reports.

S12/WG 3 Measurement of Noise from Information Technology and Telecommunications Equipment – K.X.C. Man

Ms. Man was not present and did not submit a report. Mr. Hellweg reported that the WG met in Reno at NoiseCon in October 2007. They are monitoring ISO activity and have nothing new to report. They have recommended that ANSI S12.11 Parts 1 and 2 be reaffirmed next year.

S12/WG 11 Hearing Protector Attenuation and Performance – E.H. Berger

Mr. Berger reported that WG 11 met for nine hours in New Orleans and made excellent progress on the revision of ANSI S12.42. They will meet again in February at the NHCA meeting to work on S12.42 and S12.6.

Mr. Hellweg presented a plaque to Mr. Berger thanking him for his efforts as working group chair resulting in the recent publication of ANSI/ASA S12.68-2007.

S12/WG 13 (formerly WG 35) Method for the Selection of Hearing Protectors that Optimize the Ability to Communicate – D. Byrne

Mr. Byrne was not present and reported no activity. Mr. Hellweg will follow up to find out if there is any prospect of progress on the horizon.

S12/WG 14 (formerly WG 39) Measurement of the Noise Attenuation of Active and/or Passive Level Dependent Hearing Protective Devices – W.J. Murphy

Mr. Murphy was not present but did submit a report which is included in S12/702. Nothing new was added.

S12/WG 15 Measurement and Evaluation of Outdoor Community Noise – P.D. Schomer

Mr. Schomer reported the negative votes on the revision of S12.9/5 have been resolved. The 30-Day Review is almost closed and the document is expected to be published soon after final approval. Revision of Part 6 will be discussed in New Orleans. Once this is completed, minor revisions will be needed in Parts 1 and 3 to coordinate the series.

S12/WG 18 Criteria for Room Noise – R.J. Peppin

Mr. Peppin asked Mr. Schomer, who is project leader on the revision of ANSI S12.2, to provide an update to the report. Mr. Schomer reported that Leo Beranek and Greg Tocci have been working on revised text to resolve the negative votes. The revised draft is nearly ready for discussion with the negative voters and, after that, the 30-Day Review by S12.

S12/WG 23 Determination of Sound Power – B.M. Brooks & J. Schmitt, Co-chairs

Neither Mr. Brooks nor Mr. Schmitt was present and no report was received. Mr. Hellweg noted that several of the sound power documents were reaffirmed this year and ANSI S12.30 was withdrawn. There is still some discussion about revising this to bring it into line with the S12.5x series since it contained much useful information.

In an e-mail received just before the meeting, Mr. Lind reported delays in processing the ARI proposal for *Determination of Sound Power Levels of Noise Sources Using Sound Pressure – Precision Method for Reverberation Rooms – Part 2: Immovable Noise Sources*, as an ARI standard. Once they have finalized it, they still plan to submit it to S12 to go through the consensus voting process. The finished product will be published as a dual-logo standard.

S12/WG 31 Predicting Sound Pressure Levels Outdoors – R.J. Peppin, Chair, L. Pater, Vice Chair

Mr. Peppin reported that he never had the opportunity to follow up on this matter after the Salt Lake City meeting and asked Ms. Blaeser to resend the U.S. comments on the 2006 Systematic Review to assist him in preparing a new work item proposal for ISO. [Secretariat's note: Done 12/11/07.]

S12/WG 32 Revision of ANSI S12.7-1986 Methods for Measurement of Impulse Noise – A.H. Marsh

Mr. Marsh was not present and did not submit a report.

Mr. Ahroon offered to take on this WG since he believes this is too important to allow it to languish. Ms. Blaeser noted that several people in the animal bioacoustics subcommittee have expressed interest in this, as well. Mr. Hellweg will follow up on this.

S12/WG 36 Development of Methods for Using Sound Quality – G.L. Ebbitt & P. Davies, Co-chairs

Neither Mr. Ebbitt nor Ms. Davies were present and no report was submitted. Mr. Schomer reported that he had spoken to them and they do not see a future for this WG. However, Mr. Schomer noted that there may be other people interested in approaching the problem from another angle and a new proposal may be forthcoming. Mr. Hellweg will follow up on this.

S12/WG 38 Noise Labeling in Products – J. Pope & R.D. Hellweg, Co-chairs

Mr. Hellweg reported that he expects to have the time to resume work on this delayed standard. It needs to be reformatted. He asked if the initial PINS had envisioned an NAIS (it had not). This is a unique American National Standard and the next version will include more explanatory material than the earlier version. He expects to have a revised draft for WG review in January or February 2008.

S12/WG 40 Measurement of the Noise Aboard Ships – S. Antonides, Chair, S.A. Fisher, Vice Chair

Mr. Antonides was not present but his report was reviewed. After the last WG meeting the remaining negative vote to resolve was Mr. Peppin's. Mr. Peppin reported that he has been in consultation with Mr. Antonides and Mr. Fisher and the matter has been ironed out. A revised draft can be expected soon.

S12/WG 41 Model Community Noise Ordinances – L. Finegold, Chair, B.M. Brooks, Vice Chair

Neither Mr. Finegold nor Mr. Brooks were present but their report was reviewed. Mr. Hellweg reported that no future WG meetings are planned. Extensive WG comments were received and will be circulated to the WG for consideration in writing. This may become a Technical Report. Mr. Hellweg assured the WG members present that he will follow up with Mr. Finegold and Mr. Brooks to ensure that the entire WG receives the comments.

S12/WG 44 Speech Privacy – G. Tocci, Chair, D. Sykes, Vice Chair

Mr. Elliot reported on behalf of Mr. Tocci, reading the following report:

“WG44 met at Salt Lake City and reviewed a very rough first draft of a standard on Speech Privacy in Healthcare Facilities. The WG has arranged for a standing meeting at most ASA meetings at 5 PM, Wednesdays (Thursdays for the Tuesday-Saturday meeting format). There will be a WG meeting here in New Orleans at 5 PM, Thursday. Meetings last about 1 hour. We had about 25 persons in attendance at the Salt Lake WG meeting. We expect about the same attendance here in New Orleans.

“Draft 2 of the proposed standard will be discussed this week. Though development of the standard seems to be progressing quickly, there are a number of issues that are a matter of opinion that need to be ironed-out. Among them, for example, is--does the term “confidential”, as used in HIPPA legislation, correspond to “normal privacy” or “confidential” privacy as those terms are used in office acoustics. This is a critical question as many healthcare environments are open-plan in format where “confidential” speech privacy, as it is used in office acoustics, is usually not attainable.

“Strictly speaking, the WG is titled “speech privacy” suggesting a wider purview than healthcare facilities. However, the diverse character of environments unique to healthcare merits a standard focused specifically on healthcare facilities. Hence, the standard to be developed, though of general interest in many workplaces, will be specifically focused towards use in healthcare facilities.

“However, the speech privacy methods and criteria to be defined in the standard will generally apply in much the same form in many other types of workplaces. Accordingly, it would be logical to follow this standard with a similar standard aimed at the special needs of the financial industry since GLBA legislation has imposed privacy requirements there similar to those of HIPPA in healthcare environments. This might then be followed by a speech privacy standard for general office environments; and finally one establishing “acoustical comfort”, a concept being explored by GSA for their offices where speech privacy may not be required, but where some acoustical isolation from neighboring workstations is required for an effective work environment. It is most commonly observed that standards development moves at a glacial pace, so that mentioning these other areas of speech privacy standards development is premature. Nonetheless, the work of the WG is moving forward.

“Our next meeting will be held at ASA 156 Miami, Florida in November 2008. The WG does not expect to meet in Paris, but would consider doing so if there is interest expressed by our EU counterparts.”

Mr. Roy said that there is not a clear definition of “privacy” in health care; it is not productivity based as in open office concerns. There is a need to determine what the expectations are for privacy in health care.

S12/WG 45 Measurement of Occupational Noise Exposure from Telephone Equipment – A.K. Woo

Mr. Woo was not present and did not submit a report. Ms. Blaeser reported that the WG met in Salt Lake City and at that time Mr. Woo stated that future WG meetings would take place as internet meetings.

S12/WG 46 Acoustical Performance Criteria for Relocatable Classrooms – T. Hardiman & P.D. Schomer, Co-chairs

Mr. Schomer reported that after the Salt Lake City meeting the scope was finalized and the PINS was submitted. Progress is being made on the measurement procedure and this may be able to be generalized to be included in the main part of S12.60 rather than in a separate part.

S12/WG 47 Underwater Noise Measurements of Ships – M. Bahtiarian

Mr. Bahtiarian was not present and his report was reviewed.

S12/WG 48 Railroad Horn Sound Emission Testing – J. Erdreich

Mr. Erdreich reported that the Metro North Rail Road has petitioned the FRA to see if they will even consider accepting this change in procedure before they proceed with funding research. The project is temporarily on hold.

S12/WG 49 Noise from Hand-Operated Power Tools, Excluding Pneumatic Tools – B.M. Brooks

Mr. Brooks was not present and did not submit a report. There has been no activity in this WG.

S12/WG 50 Information Technology (IT) Equipment in Classrooms – R.D. Hellweg

Mr. Hellweg reported that formation of this WG was approved by S12 on Nov. 14 and a WG meeting will be held in New Orleans. As stated earlier, he may be proposing a revision to the title and scope so that this working group can address noise from other portable classroom equipment.

c) Decisions about documents where no progress is being made

All documents with no progress were addressed above.

d) Proposals for new projects

Two proposals were discussed. Mr. Richard Fridrich, formerly of GM, sent an e-mail proposing a standard for qualifying anechoic and hemi-anechoic rooms for sound quality testing. Mr. Hellweg outlined the correspondence he has had with Mr. Fridrich and said that once some questions are clarified if a formal proposal is forthcoming it will be balloted in S12. [At the S1 meeting, which followed the S12 meeting, qualification of anechoic and hemi-anechoic chambers was also discussed. The following summarizes the S1 discussion:

Mr. Winker suggested forming a working group to develop specification for anechoic and hemi-anechoic chambers. There was some discussion of how this would mesh with the S12.5x series in S12 as well as the new proposal under discussion in S12 on qualification of anechoic and hemi-anechoic chambers for uses other than sound power. Some of the people present felt that Mr. Winker's proposal would be more closely related to instrumentation and should be in S1. Mr. Hellweg asked that the two proposals be considered together to avoid duplication or overlap. The leadership of S12 and S1 will work on this together.]

Mr. Roy reported that the Center for the Built Environment at Berkley, CA has surveyed over 300 buildings and found that in most cases only the acoustics have been found to be lacking. He is proposing that TC AA form a standing committee that will work to translate the extensive design knowledge that is available into standards projects that can be forwarded to S12 (or the other S Committees, as appropriate).

e) Working Groups to be disbanded or moved to inactive status

No working groups are proposed for disbanding or inactive status at this time.

f) Working Groups needing new Chairs

Mr. Hellweg will follow up in regard to WG 32 to see if Mr. Marsh wishes to be replaced as Chair.

5) New Business

Mr. Schomer asked for volunteers to coordinate the U.S. position on several ISO/TC 43/SC 1 Systematic Reviews.

6) Future meeting dates

Mr. Hellweg reported that there will be no S committee meetings in Paris. The next S12 meeting will take place in Miami during the week of November 10, 2008.

7) Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Blaeser
Standards Manager

S12 Attendance	Affiliation	S12 position
Robert Hellweg	Hellweg Acoustics	Chair S12 PVR – ASA
Susan Blaeser	ASA Standards Manager	
William Ahroon	USA ARL	PVR – USA ARL
Jose Alicea-Pou	Junta Calidad Ambiental de Puerto Rico	Guest
Philip Battenberg	Quest	AVR – Quest
Elliott Berger	Aearo Technologies	PVR – Aearo Technologies
Les Blomberg	Noise Pollution Clearinghouse	PVR – NPC
Beth Cooper	NASA	PVR – NASA
David Delaney	USA CERL	Chair S3/SC 1
Bill Elliot	Cavanaugh Tocci	Guest
John Erdreich	Ostergard Acoustical Consultants	PVR – NCAC
Kurt Fristrup	National Parks Service	PVR – NPS
Ali Herfat	Emerson Climate Technology	PVR – Emerson Electric – Copeland Corp.
Dick Hingson	Sierra Club National Parks and Monuments Committee	Guest
Mac Mezache	Emerson Climate Technology	Guest
Rich Peppin	Scantek	PVR – ASHRAE
David Preves	Starkey Labs	Vice Chair S3
Gunnar Rasmussen	G.R.A.S. Sound & Vibration	AVR – G.R.A.S
Kenneth Roy	Armstrong	Guest
Paul Schomer	Schomer and Associates	PVR – Schomer and Assoc. Chair ASACOS
Barb Schustrich	G.R.A.S. Sound & Vibration	PVR – G.R.A.S.
G. (Randy) Stanley	National Parks Service	AVR – NPS
Brandon Tinianov	Quite Solutions	PVR – INCE USA
Jeremie Voix	Sonomax	PVR – Sonomax
Douglas Winker	ETS Lindgren	Guest