



Acoustical Society of America

OFFICE OF THE
STANDARDS SECRETARIAT

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S3/629

Minutes of the meeting of
Accredited Standards Committee S3, Bioacoustics
Wednesday, 28 November 2007
in
New Orleans, LA

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr. Champlin opened the meeting at 2:45 p.m. and welcomed Mr. Preves as Vice Chair of S3. Introductions were made. The attendance list is given at the end of this document.

2. Approval of the agenda

The agenda (**S3/620**) was approved.

3. Approval of the minutes

Ms. Blaeser reviewed the single correction to the draft minutes of the S3 meeting held in Salt Lake City, on 6 June 2007. The revised minutes, given in document **S3/618 rev 1** were approved.

4. Discussion of S3 activities

a) Discussion on committee activities

Mr. Champlin reviewed the S3 Advisory Report, dated 12 November 2007, (**S3/621**), noting in particular the over age projects. In regard to the revision of ANSI S3.2-1989 (R 1999) *American National Standard Method for Measuring the Intelligibility of Speech over Communication Systems*, he reported that he has discussed this with Mr. Schlauch who is concerned that the WG members may not reflect the users of the standard. Mr. Letowski suggested asking Ms. Binseel to work on this as their lab uses this standard. Mr. Ahroon also uses it. In reviewing the WG roster it was felt that many of the WG members represent users. It was suggested that Mr. Champlin talk with Mr. Schlauch to see if having a co-chair would help get this project moving.

Mr. Champlin also referred to the long-standing frustration in dealing with ANSI S3. 41-1990 (R 2001) *American National Standard Audible Emergency Evacuation Signal*. Irving Mande, the former Chair of this WG passed away and no one has been willing to take it up. The standard is woefully out of date according to the last information obtained from Mr. Mande. Since the Salt Lake City meeting, Mr. Champlin wrote to the Senior Vice President of the National Fire Protection Association asking for their input since they reference this standard in their fire code. In more than five months, no response has been received and telephone calls have also not been returned. Previous attempts by Mr. Champlin (as well as by Mr. Burkard and Mr. Schomer in previous years) to engage an expert from NFPA who was recommended by Mr. Mande have also not been fruitful. It was agreed that this standard should be balloted for withdrawal and the WG disbanded.

Finally, Mr. Champlin reported that he met with Mr. Wall at the recent ASHA meeting and discussed the progress on resolving the comments on the revision of ANSI S3.45-1999 *American National Standard Procedures for Testing Basic Vestibular Function*. Mr. Wall assured him that the process is proceeding and the revised draft will be ready soon.

b) Review of working group reports

Mr. Champlin reviewed the Summary of S3 WG Reports Nov. 2007 (**S3/622**) and asked WG Chairs who were present to update or elaborate on their reports.

S3/WG 35 Audiometers – R.L. Grason

Mr. Grason's report had not been received at the time S3/622 was circulated. He did submit a report shortly before the meeting, saying that this WG met in Denver in April 2007 during the AAA meeting. Their next meeting will be in Charlotte in April 2008, also in conjunction with the AAA meeting. In regard to their progress on the revision of ANSI S3.6, Mr. Grason said:

“A working group draft (rev A) of Ansi 3.6 includes all accepted comments to date. Second working group draft (rev B) will be ready for discussion at the next meeting in April 2008. Due to the number of updates in the ISO 389 series and IEC 60645-X standards requiring inclusion. Will continue to update in incremental revisions until early 2009.”

S3/WG 36 Speech Intelligibility – R.S. Schlauch

Mr. Schlauch was not present to elaborate on his report or on the discussion noted above. Mr. Champlin will follow up.

S3/WG 37 Coupler Calibration of Earphones – B. Kruger

Ms. Kruger was not present to update her report. Mr. Burkhard reported that changes in the ISO 60711 standard as well as the fact that the Zwislocki coupler is no longer manufactured have raised questions about the need to revise ANSI S3.25-1989 (R 2003) *American National Standard for an Occluded Ear Simulator* as well as ANSI S3.36-1985 (R 2006) *American National Standard Specification for a Manikin for Simulated in situ Airborne Acoustic Measurements*. Mr. Burkhard (Chair of S3/WG 67) and Ms. Kruger have been working together along with Mr. Preves and the hearing aid WG (S3/WG 48), to recommend a course of action.

S3/WG39 (joint with S2) – Human Exposure to Vibration – D.D. Reynolds

Mr. Reynolds was not present. He did submit minutes of the last S2/WG 39 meeting.

S3/WG 43 Method for Calibration of Bone Conduction Vibrator – J. Durrant

Mr. Durrant was not present. There was no activity in this WG.

S3/WG 48 Hearing Aids – D.A. Preves

Mr. Preves submitted detailed minutes of the WG 48 meeting in Denver. The WG is also meeting for a full day in New Orleans, where they are working on ANSI S3.22 and type approval testing.

This WG will also discuss comments received from Mr. Frye, recommending that WG 80, Probe Tube Measurements of Hearing Aid Performance be reconstituted to revise ANSI S3.46-1997 (R 2007) *American National Standard Methods of Measurement of Real-Ear Performance Characteristics of Hearing Aids*. After the WG meeting, Mr. Preves will report to

S3 on the outcome of that discussion. [Secretariat's note: As a result of the WG 48 meeting it was agreed that Mr. Coles will initiate a new work item proposal to reconstitute WG 80 and revise ANSI S3.46. This will be balloted in S3 when it is received.]

S3/WG 51 Auditory Magnitudes – R. Hellman

Ms. Hellman was not present and no activity has taken place in this WG since the last meeting. ANSI S3.4-2007 has been submitted to ISO/TC 43 for consideration for adoption as an international standard. Ms. Wilber is co-chairing that WG and Mr. Letowski is serving as project leader.

S3/WG 56 Criteria for Background Noise for Audiometric Testing – J. Franks

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

S3/WG 59 Measurement of Speech Levels – M.C. Killion and L.A. Wilber

Ms. Wilber reported that there has been no activity in regard to this working group.

S3/WG 60 Measurement of Acoustic Impedance and Admittance of the Ear – VACANT

This WG has no chair. Ms. Wilber suggested contacting the previous chair to see if he has old WG documents that might be helpful to a future chair in preparing a revision.

S3/WG 62 Impulse Noise with Respect to Hearing Hazard – J. Patterson & R. Hamernik (Vice Chair)

Mr. Patterson requested that this WG be disbanded but some members wish to remain active. Mr. Champlin has been unable to resolve this. Mr. Letowski offered to speak with Mr. Price about this.

S3/WG 67 Manikins – M.D. Burkhard

See S3/WG 37 report above. Mr. Burkhard reported that he has scheduled a meeting of experts from S3/WG 37, S3/WG 48 and others to work on the occluded ear simulator issue.

S3/WG 72 Measurement of Auditory Evoked Potentials – R.F. Burkard

Mr. Burkard was not present and did not submit a report. Mr. Champlin will follow up.

S3/WG 76 Computerized Audiometry – A.J. Miltich

Mr. Miltich reported that there is no current activity in this WG. Mr. Champlin will follow up.

S3/WG 79 Methods for Calculation of the Speech Intelligibility Index – C.V. Pavlovic

Mr. Pavlovic was not present. Two WG meetings are scheduled in 2008: a conference call in January and a face-to-face meeting in June.

S3/WG 81 Hearing Assistance Technologies – L. Thibodeau & L. Wilber

Ms. Wilber reported that the comments have been resolved and a revised draft is being prepared. She expects it to be ready for 30-Day Review soon.

S3/WG 82 Basic Vestibular Function Test Battery – C. Wall, III

Mr. Wall was not present and did not submit a report. (Note Mr. Champlin's report in section 4 a) above.)

S3/WG 83 Sound Field Audiometry – T.R. Letowski

Mr. Letowski reported that data have been obtained that are close to the audiometer standard but different from ASHA. Because of this he thinks that the research needs to be published before work on the standard can proceed.

S3/WG 84 Otoacoustic Emissions – G.R. Long

Ms. Long was not present and did not submit a report.

S3/WG 88 Standard Audible Emergency Evacuation and Other Signals – VACANT

See Mr. Champlin's report in section 4 a) above. Based on the complete lack of response from NFPA or anyone else for nearly five years, it was agreed to ballot the disbanding of this WG and withdrawal of ANSI S3. 41-1990 (R 2001) *American National Standard Audible Emergency Evacuation Signal*.

S3/WG 89 Spatial Audiometry in Real and Virtual Environments – J. Besing

Ms. Besing was not present and did not submit a report.

S3/WG 90 Animal Bioacoustics Terminology – A.E. Bowles

Ms. Bowles was not present and did not submit a report. Since the last meeting, the subcommittee on animal bioacoustics has been approved by S3 and this WG was transferred to that subcommittee.

S3/WG 91 Text-to-Speech Synthesis Systems – C. Bickley and A. Syrdal

Neither Ms. Bickley nor Ms. Syrdal was present but their report was reviewed. The WG is meeting monthly by teleconference.

S3/WG 92 Effects of Sound on Fish and Turtles – A.N. Popper and R.R. Fay

Neither Mr. Popper nor Mr. Fay was present to elaborate on their report. As with WG 90, above, this WG has been transferred to the subcommittee on animal bioacoustics.

c) Decisions about documents where no progress is being made

All documents with poor progress were addressed above. ANSI S3.41 will be balloted for withdrawal.

d) Proposals for new projects

Following up on discussion at the last meeting, Mr. Kane submitted a new work item proposal for the development of standards on cochlear implants. The proposal was well received but no WG chair has been identified. After internal consultations, the FDA proposed Dr. Srinivas Nandkumar to act as co-chair of this WG in cooperation with an expert from industry or academia who is still to be identified. Mr. Champlin will follow up. The proposal can be balloted as soon as this matter is resolved.

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

WG 88 is recommended to be disbanded.

f) Working Groups needing new Chairs

Mr. Champlin is still attempting to identify a Chair for S3/WG 60 Measurement of Acoustic Impedance and Admittance of the Ear.

5. Discussion of formation of a Subcommittee on Animal Bioacoustics

Mr. Champlin introduced Mr. Delaney, Chair of S3/SC 1. Mr. Delaney gave a brief overview of the background to the formation of the subcommittee and his goals for it. He announced that Whitlow Au has agreed to serve as Vice Chair of the SC. He also announced the time and place of the first SC meeting and extended an open invitation to attend.

6. New Business

No new business was raised.

7. Future meeting dates

Mr. Champlin reported that there will be no S committee meetings in Paris. The next S3 meeting will take place in Miami during the week of November 10, 2008.

8. Adjournment

There being no further business to discuss, the meeting was adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Blaeser
Standards Manager

| S3 | Affiliation | S3 Position |
|---------------------|------------------------|---|
| Craig Champlin | Univ. Texas | Chair S3 PVR, ASA |
| David Preves | Starkey Labs | Vice Chair S3 PVR, Starkey |
| Susan Blaeser | ASA | Standards Manager |
| William Ahroon | USAARL | PVR, USAARL |
| Jose A. Alicea-Pou | | Guest |
| Mahlon Burkhard | | Chair, S3/WG 67 |
| Tom Burns | Starkey Labs | AVR, Starkey |
| David Delaney | USA CERL | Chair, S3/SC 1 |
| Kurt Fristrup | NPS | PVR, NPS |
| James Kane | FDA | PVR, FDA |
| Tomasz Letowski | USA HRED | PVR, USA HRED |
| Ted Madison | 3 M | PVR, AIHA |
| Victor Nedzelnitsky | NIST | PVR, NIST |
| Paul Schomer | Schomer and Associates | Chair, ASACOS |
| Barb Schustrich | G.R.A.S. | PVR, G.R.A.S. |
| G. (Randy) Stanley | NPS | AVR, NPS |
| Laura Ann Wilber | | PVR, ASHA Co Chair S3/WG 59 Co Chair S3/WG 81 |