

**Photographic Alliance of Great Britain
Technical Standards Committee
Progress Report: February 2007**

At its meeting in October 2006, the Executive approved the proposed format of standards documentation for projected digital images (PDI): a checklist of standards; guidance to organisers; and guidance to authors. The Executive requested that the checklist set of standards be ready for its meeting in February 2007.

The Committee completed its survey of Federations and their strategies for introducing their own PDI events. By the end of 2007, 15 of 18 Federations will have completed at least one event, and a fair number of Federations will have several years of such experience. Widespread experience at Federation level is seen as a precondition for the Alliance organising its own events, given that Federations generally host such events. Should the Alliance wish to consider organising a PDI event, including possibly converting a slide event partially or completely to PDI, then this should be feasible by 2008 or, at the latest, 2009.

The Committee continued its research into the subjective acceptability of digital projector brightness. Originally this was intended to correlate with lumen specifications of projectors so as to advise prospective purchasers. However, the results will be of more pragmatic use in relating simple exposure meter readings to likely acceptability.

To meet its main objective, the Committee received a suggested set of standards (with thanks) from Tony Riley (SPA), and set these alongside its own independently prepared set. The Committee then recovered several sets of instructions to authors as published by current UK open exhibition events. The texts of these instructions were analysed: into standards topics listed with their detail. Taking these texts as the 'answers' to hypothetical standards, the Committee effectively considered what the original 'questions' might have looked like. These analyses confirmed a realistic set of standards topics. Tested against the Committee's own work eg, in the Third Interim Report of April-06, these also showed where there was good practice, and where there were some definite mistakes being published by organisers.

Attempting to draft the checklist of standards, as requested by the Executive, showed that it was not possible to do this without quite detailed consideration of what the guidance to organisers would be. Although it has increased the effort required in drafting, the attached Fifth Interim Report from the Committee includes both the checklist and the full guidance to organisers; preceded by an explanatory Introduction.

The Executive is asked to receive the Fifth Interim Report, and consider whether it generally meets the requirements previously agreed. The Report is marked 'Draft' and it should receive wider and much more detailed consideration. It will appear anyway on the Committee's own website, and some of the Committee's expect correspondents will be asked for comments. The Executive may wish the Report to be published on the main PAGB website alongside the Third Interim Report. Any detailed comments which Executive members may wish to make, or have commissioned within their Federations, should be sent to the Committee for consideration.

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