



**Rigging the
Funktion One
system at
Glastonbury 2008**

Funktion One

FUNKTION ONE enjoys a rich heritage in festival sound reinforcement. Founder and chief designer, Tony Andrews has been heavily involved with Glastonbury since he co-founded Turbosound with John Newsham in the 1970s.

Andrews convinced organiser Michael Eavis to run the festival as a yearly event rather than a one-off as was originally intended. In the late '70s, he was put in charge of the construction of a permanent pyramid stage, which lasted for several years until 1992, when it burnt down after a light was left on in the roof.

Soundsystem and Dance Island. As usual, the unmistakable purple and silver units won't be hard to spot at the Notting Hill Carnival, but the full list of Funktion One appearances is extensive and includes Bestival, The Big Chill, Renaissance, Escape into the Park and Rocknest among many others. The speakers will often be used in conjunction with either Full Fat Audio or OEM MC2 amps.

Andrews and Newsham started Funktion One in 1992. Although the company has subsequently enjoyed huge success in the installation market, Andrews notes: "Our strength was always in live. We've always loved sound outdoors and always been involved in it. It's fantastic." Funktion One has always been a champion of point source designs and techniques, which, as always, it will be bringing to festivals around the country this summer.

The company has pioneered the Ambisonic surround sound system for large-scale events. This emerging technology has been used at Glastonbury and the Sancho Panza tent at the Glade Festival. Ambisonics is a series of recording and replay techniques using multichannel mixing that can be used either live or in the studio. Encoding and decoding sound information on a number of channels can present a two-dimensional or three-dimensional sound field.

This year, Funktion One's sound systems will appear once again at the 20,000-strong Glade festival in Reading. On the Main, breakstay and Vapour stages, units featured will be the narrow dispersion arena Resolution 5, wide dispersion RES4, F221A bass enclosures, F218 double bass enclosures and 'big sounding' RES2 small enclosures. At Glastonbury, RES4 and F218 models will provide the sounds in the 1,500-capacity Orange tent.

The company will have a huge involvement in dance festivals in 2008, with its Resolution 5, F221 and F218 loudspeakers appearing at Creamfields, Gatecrasher Summer