

WICKED SOLUTIONS ADDS FUNKTION ONE

LEBANON: Lebanese rental house, Wicked Solutions has invested in a Funktion One sound system. The company purchased four Resolution 4 cabinets and six F121 subs along with Full Fat Audio amps from local distributor Audiotech Group.

'We have heard about Funktion One's famed performance from international industry leaders whose

opinion we trust; and decided to use the Brand ourselves,' said Wicked Solutions partner Woody Naufal.

'Our events usually require powerful yet clear speakers, which we hadn't found in previously used brands.

'You hear about it a lot but it is nothing compared to when you actually use it for your events,' continued Mr Naufal. 'It is definitely



Wicked Solutions' new system

a different experience, Funktion One takes sound to a whole new and higher level.'

Mr Naufal believes the system is giving the company some important advantages over its competition,

believing it offers 'credibility and a guarantee that the sound will be perfect at the upcoming event'. This, he states, has been good for business. 'Word gets out quickly in our industry, and we rely very much on the audience's experience to get the word out and so do our clients obviously. If you are using Funktion One, the credibility curve is bound to go up as soon as you drop that name during a business meeting.'

www.audiotechgroup.com
www.funktion-one.com
www.wicked-me.co

IPOINT ACADEMY HOSTS 14-DAY TRAINING PROGRAMME

TURKEY: A 14-day performance and training event was held in Istanbul recently, with the main goal of providing technicians seeking to improve their knowledge with new training opportunities. The event was organised by iPoint, a community of experienced sound

The main topics covered in the theoretical part of the programme included: sound physics, EQ, dynamic processors, effects units, digital consoles, digital network protocols, and signal chain/flow.

For practical training, there was a three-day session during the event

The following day the system was re-installed by students under the supervision of Mr Ludz. After setting back up, several shows were performed, with reinforcement provided separately by Sequenza 5 and Sequenza 10 systems. There were reportedly a lot of visitors for the performance day, including Baransel Baran and Emrah Öztürk, Tonmeisters for the well-known Enbe Orchestra. They were reportedly very impressed with the demonstration and were even considering whether to replace their existing line array with a Sequenza 5.

Another engineer in attendance for the performance day was Basar Yurtcu, sound engineer for MFÖ Music Group, Gripin and İrem Demirci, who commented: 'I have used several high end line array systems from well-known brands, but the power and the distribution of the Nomos XLC was far beyond my expectations.'

www.atlantik.com.tr
www.ipoint-event.com
www.kling-freitag.com



The iPoint event in Istanbul

engineers and Tonmeisters, and was attended by a select group of 22 technicians.

The main sponsor for the event was Kling & Freitag's Turkish distributor, Dinakord Elektronik. The distributor contributed Sequenza 10 and Sequenza 5 line array systems to be used through the course. Aside from the 14-day training programme for beginner engineers, a seven-day programme was also established for technicians wishing to update their knowledge.

'The reason for being the main sponsor of this event was to train the people in the pro audio field about the technical advantages of Kling & Freitag equipment; such as the special waveguide horn design, frequency line coupling technology and its unique and very practical rigging system,' said Sarkis Çavuşyan, chairman of Dinakord. 'After making a good calibration with the Con:Sequenza software, we aimed to show the real performance of the Kling & Freitag items in a live performance.'

focused on Kling & Freitag. The Sequenza 5 and 10 systems, along with Nomos XLC cardioid subwoofers were installed, with calculations carried out by Con:Sequenza software. The resulting data was used to position the array, and a training demonstration providing a detailed explanation of the systems' calibration procedure was then carried out by Kling & Freitag system engineer, David Lutz, and Yilmaz Yeniol, a sound engineer and the founder of iPoint. Finally an FOH sound check was performed with a live orchestra whilst monitoring techniques were taught using the manufacturer's Scena 15 wedge monitors and in-ear monitor systems.

During the sessions, a selection of digital desks from Yamaha, Avid, DiGiCo, Soundcraft, Allen & Heath, Behringer and Mackie were available to all students in a special room where they could familiarise themselves with the various features and detailed training was given on each desk.

StarAS adds Midas and Robe

TURKEY: Turkish rental company StarAS has grown its inventory with a range of Midas digital consoles plus moving head lights from Robe. Both purchases were made through the manufacturers' local distributor, Atempo.

The audio side of the purchase is based around a Midas digital console pack. StarAS has purchased a Midas Pro 6, a Pro 2, two Pro 1s and a range of stage boxes which were delivered in time for the summer season. This is the rental company's first Midas digital investment and reportedly comes as a result of customer requests.

'We are pleased that StarAS decided to make this heavy investment in digital with Midas consoles,' said Atempo's Istanbul regional director, Volkan Konuralp. 'As the leading rental company in Turkey, they invested in the leading digital audio mixer in the World.'

The lighting side of the investment was a separate sale. This saw Atempo supply StarAS with 48 Robe Robin Pointe, making



Ertu-rul Yalçın from StarAS with Atempo's technical coordinator Cem Atik

it the first company in the country to invest in the moving head fixture.

'Pointe is the new Swiss Army Knife product for Turkish lighting designers. We are seeing shows only using Pointe fixtures as the moving head selection,' stated Mr Konuralp. 'StarAS also saw the flexibility and local demand of the product and invested in Robe once more. It is certainly very meaningful for Turkish rental industry.'

www.atempo.com.tr
www.staras.com.tr

CROWN DCI AMPS AWARDED AVNU ALLIANCE CERTIFICATION



The AVnu certified Crown-DCI-ND amps

WORLD: Crown Audio's DCI Network Display Amplifiers have become the first professional audio endpoints to receive AVnu certification for Audio Video Bridging (AVB) by the AVnu Alliance.

'This certification underscores our long term commitment to AVB and

Harman Professional's support for the AVnu Alliance and its mission to promote interoperability amongst audio manufacturers,' said Dan Saenz, business segment manager for Crown Audio. 'Crown's history of leadership in professional amplifier technology is well documented

and today's announcement is the latest in a long list of industry-first achievements.'

Certification, which is available to any member, is based on testing that takes place at the University of New Hampshire InterOperability Lab (UNH-IOL), which serves as AVnu's independent testing facility. The alliance funds the development of certification testing and its members are responsible for ensuring its IEEE AVB compliance programme meets demanding performance benchmarks.

www.avnu.org
www.crownaudio.com



Using White

James Ling takes a behind the scenes tour of Beirut roof-top club White and talks to the end users to get their opinions on the recently installed audio, video and lighting systems



The PSM318 takes pride of place in the DJ booth

LEADING THE NEWS IN THE JULY-AUGUST 2014 edition of *Pro Audio Middle East* was the story of the new audio, video and lighting systems to be installed into Beirut's White for the outdoor summer season. Equipped by local companies Prolites and Audiotec Group, the club features a wealth of high-end equipment, but what is it like to perform through the new systems?

Covering off the equipment installed, the visual side of the project was supplied by Prolites. White now features more than 110 Cyclops Lighting moving heads including the new platinum-series beams CL 160B-ER and CL 200B-E with Philips 5R lamps. The venue's roof is also part of the design and features 20 Chainmaster chain hoists that hold four giant Eurotruss square truss structures framing the large LED screens. In total, White includes over 100 sq-m of LED screens covering the main wall and DJ booth, central bar roof and below the VJ booth to the rear of the venue. The screens are synced and controlled by the VJ to work in harmony with the lighting and audio to build the atmosphere.

The lighting is controlled by an Avolites Pearl Expert Pro with Touch Wing console. It allows the lighting operator to create a variety of designs that accommodate the sporadic changing moods, music and events throughout the night. From the architectural lighting aspect, more than 3km of LED flex strips are wrapped around the trademark central white bar and sides of the club.

On the audio side, Audiotec Group supplied six Funktion One Resolution 3s, four Resolution 2s and two Resolution 3 SHs for the mid highs, as well as eight F221s and two F121s to provide low end. Added to this, F1201s and F101s have been distributed in the upper lounge areas to provide even coverage. A pair of PSM318s act as monitors in the DJ booth which also features four Pioneer CDJ decks and a DJM900nexus mixer. Power for the system is courtesy of Funktion One F40Q, F60Q, F100-2 and Full Fat Audio amps. Meanwhile, processing is via Funktion One X04A and X02 loudspeaker management systems.

As would be expected with the quality of equipment that has been installed, the auditory and visual experience is compelling. Sitting at the central bar, customers are surrounded by different visual elements wherever they look. Meanwhile, the focused point source system, fine-tuned by Funktion One's John Newsham and the

Audiotec Group team, envelops the clientele within an even soundfield.

Core to this customer experience are DJ Ahmad Ajam, better known as maDJam, and Eye See Experience's VJ Mosig - Moses Magharian. The pair are regular performers at White, and as such they both know the new systems intimately.

'I've been friends with the guys at White for many years, I joined them this year mainly because they decided to upgrade their sound system,' says Mr Ajam. 'For them to get a Funktion One system was a serious investment, I saw the plan and decided to join for the summer.'



Lighting control is via Avolites Pearl Expert Pro

The club moved to a point source solution from its previous line array system due to issues it was having with noise spillage and coverage within the club. While White is in an industrial area, sound was leaking from the roof-top club into residential parts of Beirut on the surrounding hills. The change has certainly found the approval of the resident DJ.

'In general, it's got to be the best sound system in any club in Lebanon. It's a really good system,' states Mr Ajam. 'The balance is pretty good. John Newsham came to Beirut the day before they opened and did a sound check and they fixed up the delays. The sound is quite well balanced everywhere across the whole club, but we have one side of the tables that are quite high above the rest and I'd love to get a few extra subs added there.'

While the DJ is impressed with the overall sound of the venue, the real highlight for Mr Ajam can be found in the newly repositioned DJ booth which this season can be found much closer to the dancefloor. 'Another main

feature that I love about being here is that they have the PSM318s. Even if it's just a warm-up set and there's not that many people here, at least in the DJ booth, we have our own party going on.

'The monitors to me are the winner, there are frequencies I don't hear in my home studio that I hear here, real mid and mid-low frequencies that I don't get to hear anywhere else,' he smiles. 'These monitors just sound so good. They are the reason we are so motivated, and if you have a DJ that's happy, you get a club that's happy. It's a real pleasure to play here.'

The new setup has also seen changes on the visual side. 'For me it's a new playground,' says Mr Magharian. 'I work with White as a company. We are creating content specially designed for the space and we are trying to get away from the traditional content. There is also some really good stuff that we buy from the market. The main screen here is pretty thin compared to how wide it is, so we use a very thin layer of the video itself. The content has to be high quality. We are obliged to use only 1080p plus content, mine usually ranges between 1080p and 4K.'

While the VJ is very positive about the overall setup, he does note that the main challenge can come with having so many Lumens at his disposal. 'There is a density of light



The screen under the VJ booth is also put to use



The White rack



The main LED screen behind the DJ booth

in the club, if you turn on everything it can get really bright. Even the LED washes are on low and the same goes for the screens, they all go much higher. We are only using 40 per cent of it,' he explains. 'We have a lot of LED lights around the place. The challenge is keeping the mood right while not getting too bright.'

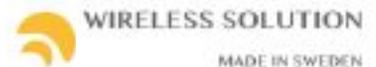
From an artistic point of view, the VJ has the full palette available to him and uses it to work with the DJ. 'We are working to create another trip, built on the trip of the DJ. You work with the beat of the DJ, it's quite mathematical, you can count them. But once you get into the DJs head it's quite natural, it just goes. The interesting part is when guest DJs come along,' he explains. 'I usually switch between three layers of visuals within a track, but guest DJs have made me change up to seven

or eight layers. What we are doing is expressing tunes, we're expressing beats with colours and movements.'

It is not only the new video system where visual performers can work with the DJ. 'For the lighting, we go manual most of the time as we try to hit the beat, we like to play with the music,' notes Mr Magharian. 'The Avolites desk does pretty much everything we need for that. It's user-friendly and easy to learn, you can do whatever you want with it. Of course, bigger consoles can do more, but for a club like this, it is more than enough. The lighting system here has all the colours you need and it's very flexible.'

As Mr Ajam pointed out, the atmosphere of any venue is dependent on the happiness of its performers. White has clearly paid close attention to this and is now reaping the rewards of installing high-quality systems that people enjoy using. For the suppliers and manufacturers too, this has become a reference project to celebrate. The pride that everyone involved takes from this installation is clear to see and translates into a truly unique Beirut experience.

www.prolites.com
www.audiotecgroup.com
www.eyeseexperience.com
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