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July-August 2009



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Lorenzo Coppini MD of B&C Speakers outside new factory

ITALY: Nine years after laying initial plans for a new purpose-built plant, Italian transducer manufacturer B&C Speakers has pulled its HF and LF assembly production lines under one roof. Situated in Bagno a Ripoli against the stunning backdrop of the Tuscan hills on the outskirts of Florence, the new 7,500-sq-m facility replaces four separate plants within the same industrial zone, amounting to 3,000-sq-m of space. Sales, marketing, R&D

B&C OPENS NEW FACILITY

and administration will remain in the company's original 3,000-sq-m headquarters, adjacent to the new three-storey factory. B&C has enjoyed extraordinary growth during the past 10 years and the endured growing pains that accompanied it – leading to the construction of the new factory. This incorporates extensive incoming parts and shipping bays in the basement, together with semi automated LF and HF production loops on the ground and first floors.

'We had to wait five years for planning permission,' said MD Lorenzo Coppini. 'Once the local government gave us the green light, it took a further three-and-a-half years of construction. However, we can now consolidate all our production under one roof, which is helping us speed up our production quotas and has made us much more efficient. One of the LF driver production loops, for example, can produce more than

1,200 units per day.'

In addition, B&C has built two anechoic chambers for testing and measurement and has invested in a huge inventory of hardware and software in order to maintain its enviable market position. 'We can now build up stocks of finished

products, although we normally manufacture to order,' added Mr Coppini. 'All facets of our manufacturing have been updated and improved including quality control, production, shipping, R&D and testing.'

www.bcspeakers.com



HF compression driver area

MUSIC RÉPUBLICAIN WELCOMES COMMUNITY

INDONESIA: Located in South Jakarta, the Music Républiquein Performance Hall is a new 140-seat multi-purpose facility within the Music Républiquein school for music. It was completed at the end of 2008 and is now open for public events. Recognising that there are few performance halls in Indonesia with good acoustics, owners Ivonne Atmojo and Hadi Sumoro planned the hall to stage events ranging from small ensembles, through theatre, opera and Broadway shows to music concerts.

A member of Community Professional Loudspeaker's Technical Application Group (TAG), Mr Sumoro shared Ms Atmojo's aim that the hall should have good reverberation control and even sound coverage, turning to Community SLS920 loudspeakers for sound reinforcement due to their compact

dimensions, high power output and tight dispersion pattern.

With a Yamaha MG24/14FX desk, the main FOH system uses Community SLS920 full-range loudspeakers, with additional low-frequency extension from a custom dual 12-inch subwoofer, designed by Atok Purnomo. The system is driven by Dynacord S-1200, Absolute Design AD5000 and DJ1200 amplifiers, with DSP processing from Electro-Voice DC-One and dbx Driverack.

With the system installed and tuned, the loudspeakers have justified their selection with the hall's owners, and 'give crystal clear sound and even coverage throughout the audience area'.

www.music-republic.com
www.communitypro.com

NEW ASIA NETWORK FOR MIDAS AND KT

ASIA: Midas and Klark Teknik have appointed new distribution companies for Thailand, Indonesia and India. In Thailand, audio sales, design, consultancy and installation specialist Patararungroj is Bangkok-based and operates a network of dealers covering the country, while MRH India, which launched in 1972 and has grown with the country's burgeoning audiovisual industry, becomes the new distributor for India and Gracia Auvindo has been appointed in Indonesia.

The move comes in a bid to offer superior, dedicated sales and support across the region. 'With these new appointments, we have honed our distributor network in Asia to reflect the developments which have taken place with Midas and Klark Teknik in recent years, in particular the rapid uptake, growth and popularity of our digital systems,' said Midas and Klark Teknik sales and marketing director David Cooper. 'All companies have ordered Pro6s for their demo stock, so they can immediately start introducing customers to Midas systems.'

In April this year Midas and Klark Teknik announced that Rightway Audio Systems, the brands' China, Hong Kong and Macau distributor, had also been appointed to represent them in Taiwan.

Patararungroj, Thailand:
+66 2410 8288
MRH Digital Systems, India:
+91 80 4120 0571
PT Gracia Auvindo, Indonesia:
+62 21 2664 7383

ROCK HARDER

INDIA: The Sennheiser You Know You Can Rock Harder G3 Challenge! has been launched in association with popular music director trio Shankar, Ehsaan, Loy to encourage young bands looking for success in the Indian music industry.

Sennheiser launched the hunt for the best band in the country at the Grand Hyatt, Mumbai, looking to create 'an innovative and collaborative environment' that nurtures talent, encourages training and gives the best rewards for people to achieve their dream of making it big in the music industry'.

The event was opened by Paul Whiting, global president of sales for Sennheiser Electronic, and Sharmila Sahai, managing director of Sennheiser Electronics India, who presented a personalised microphone to Shankar, Ehsan and Loy in appreciation of their association with the Sennheiser brand. 'You Know You Can Rock Harder G3 Challenge aims to find the best of young Indian music among the talented gamut of amateur bands who have found local success in the country,' said Ms Sahai. 'Sennheiser India is committed to providing the best of sound and audio to the Indian music industry, to enable a play of outstanding quality, in sync with international standards.'

'We are very happy to be here with the Sennheiser family,' added lead singer Shankar. 'Great music needs great sound, and Sennheiser has always lived up to its promise of creating magic with its sound equipment. The challenge is a unique initiative to bring the young Indian talent of this nation to the forefront and nurture and develop music in India.'

The contest will run until 15 July.
www.g3rocks.co.in
www.sennheiserindia.com

SOUNDBITES

MID WEST ALIGHTS ON DB TECHNOLOGIES

AUSTRALIA: Based in Geraldton, Mid West Sound and Light is the latest Australian production company to purchase a dB Technologies DVA line array system.

'The cost of local events will now come down because organisers won't be paying to transport PA systems up from Perth,' said MD Darryl Ingvarson, who was the owner of the local musical instrument shop before moving on to run the local production company. 'This means there will be more opportunity to put on shows and festivals here in Geraldton. To have a high-end Italian line array system as good as the DVA on offer for touring artists will greatly improve local events, and bring more shows through town.'

The system was supplied to Mid West Sound and Lighting by CMI Music & Audio.

CMI Music & Audio, Australia:
+613 9315 2244
www.cmi.com.au

PHILIPPINES CONSIDERS DIGITAL BROADCAST OPTIONS

PHILIPPINES: Competition between the European Digital Video Broadcast Handheld or DVB-H platform and the Integrated Services Digital Broadcast (ISDB) technology for Philippine broadcasters continues, with the Japanese Government pushing its case – to date, DVB-H has appeared to be the preferred option.

A technical working group (TWG) has been set up by the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) to determine the programme of implementation of Digital Terrestrial Television technology in the country. The group's recommendation will form the basis of the rules governing the use of a preferred technology. Japanese officials recently made a detailed presentation of ISDB's strengths to industry stakeholders. 'One reason why our technology platform was not recommended was because there was little information about ISDB,' said Yasushi Furukawa, deputy director for international relations. 'The information was not really disseminated to the Philippines, particularly during the time when the Europeans came to the Philippines to promote their own standard. It is only now that we are here to explain what our technology can really do. The Philippine Government has allowed us to explain this matter.'

Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) members have also endorsed DVB-T as the common digital TV broadcasting standard during the 9th conference of ASEAN Ministers Responsible for Information, held in Jakarta in May 2007.

www.dvb-h.org
www.dibeg.org



The Music Républiquein Concert Hall