

L-Acoustics expands in region

Contributed by Julius Grafton
Sunday, 22 November 2009

L-Acoustics kicked off the line array generation with the V-dosc, and enjoyed considerable success on concert riders for the first half of this decade. Now the firm's audio systems are more available in Australia as it winds back its territorial partnership scheme.

Under the scheme, the V-Dosc was only made available to network partners in defined territories. This led to other audio rental firms outside the network importing used V-Dosc systems, in Australia this was typified by Johnston Audio Services who then competed against Jands Production Services. Now Norwest have acquired a V-Dosc system on dry hire from Rat Sound in the USA. The Norwest V-Dosc system is based in Auckland.

Jands Production Services have just invested around \$2 million in the new K-Array system from L-Acoustics. The K-Array is designed to hang 24 cabinets deep, whereas a V-Dosc is limited to 16 cabinets which produces a power cutoff that newer arrays from other firms like Adamson have exploited.

The JPS K1 system will consist of 48 of the new K1 line source cabinets along with K1-SB and SB28 subwoofers, KUDO line source boxes and LA-RAK touring racks fitted with LA8-amplified controllers.

The new K1 isn't intended as a replacement for V-DOSC, instead the combination of K1 and KUDO is aimed at providing a scaled solution for large venues with KUDO providing a flexible horizontal and greater vertical dispersion, while the K1 offers fixed horizontal dispersion with a maximum of 5-degree inter-element angles for larger venues.

The K1 enclosure includes dual 15-inch woofers, a re-engineered mid/high section that includes a third compression driver, and comes with internal captive rigging. The K1 is designed to hang 24 enclosures deep, creating much longer arrays than is possible with V-DOSC. The new dual 15 K1-SB subwoofer is also fly-able providing system designers with longer LF throw and cardioid pattern physical arrangements and presets to suit the SB28 subwoofers.

The K1/KUDO system is powered by the new LA-RAK, a 9U touring rack, incorporating three LA8 amplified controllers, and space for dual Ethernet switches for control and monitoring (L-NET) and digital audio (L-DGA). The LA Network Manager software, running on a PC, offers a graphic interface for control and monitoring of up to 253 units. The software also includes EQ balance tools to adjust for array height, listening distance and line source type.

More information : www.jps.com.au

