



PALM EXPO MAGAZINE

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EXPO PROMOTION MAGAZINE

PALM Expo 2025 Show Review

PALM EXPO AFFIRMS ITSELF AS INDIA'S PRO AUDIO AND ENTERTAINMENT LIGHTING PULSE POINT



Vidhan Soudha's Illumination Project

Ronald D'Souza on Leksa Lighting's blend of heritage and design

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- S/N Ratio: >105dB
- T.H.D Distortion: <0.5%
- Frequency response: 20Hz – 18KHz
- True diversity, distance: 80-100meters approx.





49 Supratik Das with the Avid S6L, credits Ansata's stellar support on Prateek Kuhad's Silhouettes Tour

Features

14 **Company Spotlight: Sennheiser**

Sennheiser celebrates 80 years of pioneering audio innovation, guided by legacy, learning, and a passion for sound that continues to shape the future

18 **Show Review: PALM Expo 2025**

PALM Expo 2025 acted as a definitive barometer for India's professional audio and lighting landscape

40 **Lighting Project: Government**

Leksa Lighting transforms Vidhana Soudha building in Bangalore with technical finesse and meticulous execution

42 **Lighting Industry: Trends and Tech**

Renowned Lighting Designer, Sohail Mansuri spotlights India's entertainment lighting with insights on tech and design evolution

49 **Live Sound: Concert Tour**

An exploration of Prateek Kuhad's Silhouettes Tour, powered by Supratik Das' FOH finesse and Ansata's ongoing technical support



58 Taketsoshi Yamamoto, Anthony Paul Cox, and Shigenobu Namikawa officially inaugurate Yamaha Music's Experience Centre, an advanced showcase of seamless AV integration, underscoring the brand's commitment to India's professional audio-visual landscape

CONTENTS

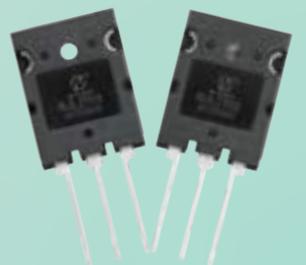


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CONTENTS

News

08 Stage Sound:

Mega Sound Debuts L-Acoustics L-ISA In India at WOW Awards Asia 2025; POPE Professional Redefines Sonic Precision with ML Series Line Array Systems; SNL Pro Acquires DiGiCo Quantum 852 Launched By Hi-Tech Audio & Image LLP; Reynold's Powers Sunidhi Chauhan with Full-Scale Audio-Visual Deployment; Live Sonic Arena at PALM Expo 2025 Powered by Beta3 Waveline Series; Tathastu Sound Adds Yamaha Rivage PM4 Console to Rental Inventory; dbTechnologies and Trimac Mark India Launch With VIO Series Demo

16 Audio Music Production:

EVE Audio Introduces EXO Series Studio Monitors; Harrison Audio Unveils D510 Versatile 500 Series System

44 Lighting:

Big Bull Chooses Obsidian as Lighting Control Partner; Elation Launches OPS Series for Outdoor Installations; HARMAN Launches Martin P3 Software Update with Real-Time Visualisation Integration; Claypaky Announces Ultimo Sharpy Release

52 Audio Install:

Dusit Princess Kathmandu Elevates Guest Experience With HARMAN; EAW Adds UX4807D to Fixed Installation Amplifier Line; Beta3 Transforms Soundscapes at DPS Gaya; Pink Noise Delivers Premium Audio Infrastructure at DPS Ahmedabad; Eminent AV Delivers Premium Audio at Studs Sports Bar; VMT Powers Baaroq's Sonic Upgrade

56 Industry:

J Davis Prosound & Lighting Joins d&b Audiotechnik Family With Investment In The Latest CCL And XSL Series; Meyer Sound Brings Pro Audio Training to Mumbai with Sun Infonet; Yamaha Music India Ushers in New Era of Audio Innovation; Linea Research Appoints Vardhaman Megatech As Distribution Partner In India

61 Appointments:

Neutrik Group Appoints Lukas von Arx as CEO; Sonova Consumer Hearing, India Appoints Saahil Kumar as General Manager for Sennheiser Consumer Business In India; d&b Audiotechnik Appoints Jocelyne Bückner as VP of Global Marketing



44 Deployed by VMT and White Noise, the Big Bull is equipped with an ONYX Control setup, consisting of Obsidian NX2, NX P fader wings and Netron devices

Columns

48 Bright Spark: Lighting in the Age of AI

Viraf Pocha enlightens readers on how AI could reinvent entertainment lighting, championing artistry over automation and hype

55 Live Sound: Longer, Louder, Smarter

Vishrut Joshi breaks down how line array length affects frequency control, directivity, and SPL

57 Stage, Sound & Tech: Hearing Health

Jon Burton sheds light onto a lesser-known occupational hazard for live sound enthusiasts and professionals

60 An Unequal Music: India's Latest Rhythms

A spotlight on India's independent music scene, this edition of Unequal Music explores the latest tracks in India



42 Sohail Mansuri explores emerging trends, advancements, and evolving design philosophies shaping India's burgeoning entertainment lighting industry



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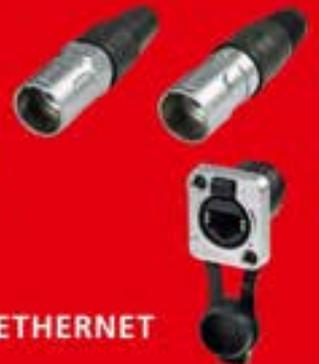
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MEGA SOUND DEBUTS L-ACOUSTICS L-ISA IN INDIA AT WOW AWARDS ASIA 2025

The 2025 edition of the **WOW Awards Asia** held in Mumbai, brought together the region's most respected event professionals to celebrate innovation, creativity, and execution excellence across experiential domains. Contributing to the technical backbone of the show, **Mega Sound India Pvt. Ltd. (MSIPL)** delivered comprehensive audio production support across the multi-day event.

A highlight of this year's edition was the introduction of **L-Acoustics L-ISA**, an advanced spatial audio technology, for the first time in India. Its deployment at WOW 2025 reflects the evolving expectations of audiences and producers alike for elevated audio environments in live productions. **Hi-Tech Audio & Image's** collaboration and support was instrumental in implementation of the L-ISA system. The company's contribution to WOW Awards Asia 2025 is part of a broader initiative to introduce internation-



With precise sound object placement and 360 audio imaging, L-ISA spatial technology allows for a richer auditory experience during live events

al-standard audio solutions to India's fast-growing live events ecosystem.

With over two decades of experience in large-format event audio production, MSIPL engineered and managed sound reinforcement throughout key zones of the WOW Awards, including the Awards stage (L-Acoustics L-ISA Setup), conferences, panel discussion areas, and special speaker's sessions. The company deployed industry-standard equipment and a skilled crew to ensure seamless sonic coverage, clarity,

and reliability.

Key equipment that enabled this execution comprised of:

Rigging Overview: 5 Scene Hangs, 2 Extension Hangs, 6 Surround Hangs, 2 Outfill Hangs, 2 Subwoofer Cardioid Endfire Hangs

PA Package: 30 L-Acoustics K2, 40 L-Acoustics KARA, 04 L-Acoustics A15, 08 L-Acoustics KS28, 10 L-Acoustics LARAK II AVB

Immersive Control: 01 L-ISA Processor II, 01 L-ISA Studio (Playback),

30 L-Acoustics LS10, 04 Luminex Gigacore 10

Front of House: 01 DiGiCo Quantum 5, 01 DiGiCo SD10, 02 DiGiCo SD Rack

Wireless Package: 16 Axient AD2 / AD1, 24 Sennheiser 2000 IEMs

The system design and execution were handled by a team of qualified engineers, sound designers, and technical coordinators, who followed rigorous planning and calibration processes to align with the dynamics of the show venue and programming flow.

The event also hosted an Expo zone, where top production companies showcased new technologies. Here, MSIPL highlighted its active role in the production community and its focus on staying ahead of industry trends. As live shows continue to scale in both size and sophistication, technical partners like MSIPL play a crucial role in putting India's live events industry on the map.

POPE PROFESSIONAL REDEFINES SONIC PRECISION WITH ML SERIES LINE ARRAY SYSTEMS

In the fast-moving world of live sound, precision, power, and portability are everything. **POPE Professional**, known for its innovations in audio engineering, unveils the **ML Series Line Array Systems**, a versatile range of loudspeakers built to meet modern professional demands.

ML-210 & ML-210P: Compact Power

The ML-210 is a compact two-way Line Array system with a proprietary 10" Neodymium woofer and 1.4" compression driver. It features Directivity Correction Horn (DCH) and Waveguide Physical Driver (WPD) technologies for consistent high-frequency coverage and improved low-end control. The ML-210P adds a passive crossover, simplifying deployment. Both offer 1310W continuous power, 127dB SPL, and 135dB peak

output, ideal for touring and fixed installs. Neodymium drivers enhance efficiency and reduce weight. A rugged bass reflex cabinet with internal heat-dispersion design ensures durability, while the rigging hardware supports up to 16 flown cabinets with a 1:9 safety ratio.

ML-112: Precision for Smaller Spaces

The ML-112 is a two-way unit with a 12" Neodymium woofer and 36mm compression driver, using separate bass reflex enclosures. Its Line Source Former Horn ensures a coherent wavefront, delivering 126dB SPL, a true 90° horizontal pattern, and frequency response from 80Hz to 20kHz. Quick-rigging hardware ensures rapid and intuitive setup, making it ideal for front fills, small venues, or distributed systems.

ML-12: Three-Way Performance

The ML-12 offers a high-output three-way design with a 12" woofer, four 6.5" high-mid drivers in V-configuration, and two 36mm compression drivers. It delivers 125dB continuous and 136dB peak SPL, with wide, clear coverage across the 80Hz–20kHz range. Whether flown or stacked, the ML-12 balances clarity and control for demanding shows.

ML-212: Built for Big Stages

The flagship ML-212 is a four-way Line Array designed for large concerts and outdoor events. With dual 12" woofers, four 6.5" mids, and two 36mm drivers, it pushes 138dB peak SPL. Its robust birch plywood construction, precision waveguides, and adjustable splay angles (0°–10° in 1° steps) offer the ruggedness and flexibility needed for massive setups.



All ML systems are designed to pair with POPE Professional amplifiers and XT Series DSP processors, powered by DFM Audio, Germany

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SNL PRO ACQUIRES DIGICO QUANTUM 852 LAUNCHED BY HI-TECH AUDIO & IMAGE LLP

Hi-Tech Audio & Image LLP, the exclusive India Partner and Distributor for DiGiCo, officially launched the DiGiCo Quantum 852 at PALM Expo 2025 in Mumbai. Hailed as the world's most powerful live digital mixing console, the Quantum 852 made a strong debut with SNL Pro becoming the first company in India to invest in the flagship system.

Known for delivering sound for top-tier global acts like *Coldplay*, *Ed Sheeran*, *Hans Zimmer*, and *Muse*, and used at festivals and events such as *Coachella*, *Rock in Rio*, *Montreux Jazz Festival*, and the *UEFA Champions League*, the Quantum 852 now takes its place on Indian stages. As the country's live entertainment industry embraces large-format productions, the demand for scalable and future-ready audio solutions has grown. From multi-city festivals like *Lollapalooza India* and *Sunburn* to high-profile concerts by *Arijit Singh*, *AP Dhillon*, and *Coldplay*, and events like the *IPL* and *World Cup ceremonies*, *G20 summits*, and the *Kumbh Mela*, the need for robust infrastructure

is unprecedented.

"Expanding the inventory featuring two DiGiCo SD10's and a Quantum 338, SNL Pro's acquisition of the Quantum 852 is a natural progression. The investment is proof of our dedication to delivering world-class audio and strengthens our leadership in India's professional sound industry. Every addition to our portfolio reflects our commitment to elevating Indian events to global audio standards," revealed **Manish Mavani**, Director of SNL Pro. Built for the most demanding environments, the DiGiCo Quantum 852 features 2,000 dynamic signal paths powered by dual redundant FPGA engines, ensuring fast processing and 64-bit audio quality. Engi-

neers benefit from Nodal Processing and True Solo to hear what the audience hears, imperative in multi-console, multilingual FOH setups. Navigation is enhanced by three ultra-bright 21.3" multi-touch screens, with Wave Integration, Tearsheets, and fully adaptable workflows. Hi-Tech Audio & Image LLP has played a leading role in shaping India's pro audio industry. Beyond distributing major brands like DiGiCo, the company actively contributes to technical education and community building.

"Hi-Tech Audio & Image's vision is to be a catalyst for transformation. The arrival of the Quantum 852 reflects a shift toward scalable systems and internationally benchmarked

sound design. With SNL Pro leading the way, we're confident that India is ready not only to keep pace with global trends, but to help set them." elaborated **Rajan Gupta**, CEO and Founder.

Building on the launch, Hi-Tech Audio has begun a nationwide rollout of product immersion programmes, allowing engineers, freelancers, rental firms, and system technicians to work hands-on with the console.

"Our goal is to ensure tools like the Quantum 852 are well understood and widely applied. From spiritual gatherings to international tours, this console is built for every challenge. Through workshops, demos, and training, we're building a knowledgeable and forward-facing audio community," added **Nirdosh Aggarwal**, Managing Partner.

With SNL Pro's early adoption and Hi-Tech Audio's strategic focus, the Quantum 852 represents a pivotal moment for India's live production scene, one that signals readiness for the demands of today and the ambitions of tomorrow.



The DiGiCo Quantum 852 delivers 2,000 dynamic signal paths powered by dual redundant FPGA engines, with Nodal Processing, True Solo monitoring, and triple 21.3" multi-touch screens

REYNOLD'S POWERS SUNIDHI CHAUHAN WITH FULL-SCALE AUDIO-VISUAL DEPLOYMENT

Sunidhi Chauhan's live concert at **Leela Bhartiya City**, witnessed a massive turnout and an equally massive production, with **Reynold's Sound and Lighting** delivering an all-encompassing technical solution for the show. Known for their precision-driven approach, Reynold's handled the entire sound, lighting, video and trussing.

To meet the demands of the large outdoor venue, the audio system featured an extensive **d&b audio-technik** rig: 32 **KSL** tops (16 per side) for the main **PA**, 24 **SL**-subs stacked for powerful low-end reinforcement, 16 **KSL** tops for delays, 12 **XSL** tops for outfills, and 8 **AL90s** for centre fills. Sidefills consisted of 8 **KSL** tops paired with 4 **KSL**-subs, ensuring stage coverage was tight and artist-friendly. FOH was mixed on a **DiGiCo Quantum 5**, while monitors ran on a **DiGiCo Quantum 338**,

delivering pristine clarity and control across the board. System tuning and optimisation were carried out using pre-planned **ArrayCalc** simulations, with a focus on consistent coverage and **SPL** uniformity across the venue.

Despite weather and rigging challenges typical of outdoor setups, Reynold's came prepared. All audio signals were distributed over **DANTE**

via optical lines, ensuring lossless data transfer, and were backed with AES and analogue fallbacks for redundancy. Power distribution units featured automatic transfer switches (ATS) for uninterrupted flow, while amp channels were backed with mirrored inputs as part of a fully fail-safe system design.

Reynold's deployed over 260 fixtures including 54 **Clay Paky X Frame**

3-in-1 moving heads, 48 **Cyan-6000 LED washes**, 36 **four-way blinders**, 33 **EK Terminator moving heads**, and 42 **Montana LED battens**. The lighting rig was programmed to complement Sunidhi's dynamic stage presence, with layered textures and rich visual transitions enhancing the mood of each track.

On the AV front, high-resolution **3.9mm LED walls** made a visual statement, featuring a massive 40x20 ft centre wall, 20x10 ft pillars on both sides of the stage, and 20x26 ft **IMAG walls** off-stage, giving every attendee a crisp visual of the performance, regardless of their position in the crowd.

The standout highlight was Reynold's ability to deliver a complete, high-performance system tailored to the show's scale, acting as a single point of contact for all AV, lighting, and rigging needs.



Reynold's rolled out a full-scale portfolio of d&b audiotechnik, Claypaky 3 in 1 moving lights, DiGiCo and more for Sunidhi Chauhan's Bangalore concert

LIVE SONIC ARENA AT PALM EXPO 2025 POWERED BY BETA3 WAVELINE SERIES

At the forefront of innovation in professional audio, **Beta Three Audio** presented the **Live Sonic Arena** at **PALM Expo 2025**. The arena served as a live demonstration of the capabilities of the newly launched **Beta3 Waveline Series**, tailored for large-format concerts and touring applications. Designed to deliver uncompromising clarity, power, and control, the Waveline system was the centerpiece of attention,

garnering praise from audio professionals, musicians, and visitors across the three-day event.

The Live Sonic Arena was fully powered by Beta3's flagship technologies, including:

- **Main PA:** Waveline Series Active Line Array Speakers
- **Low Frequency Support:** Waveline Series Dual 18" Powered Subwoofers
- **Stage Monitoring:** TW Series Active Floor Monitors

This integrated system was meticu-

lously configured to ensure high SPL output, consistent tonal balance, and broad coverage - even in a dynamic and acoustically challenging expo environment.

Performance Highlights

Day 1 – 29 May: *The Euphonious Band* kicked off with a high-energy set, showcasing the Waveline system's handling of complex instrumentation and dynamic range.

Day 2 – 30 May: *The Storyteller*

Band delivered an emotionally rich performance, highlighting the system's vocal clarity and acoustic detail.

Day 3 – 31 May: *Aaryan Banthiya Live* closed the arena with a powerful set, where the Waveline Series brought every vocal and guitar nuance to life.

On **Days 1 and 2**, Beta3 hosted in depth sound engineering workshops led by a renowned industry engineer **Sunil Pandaya**. The sessions covered critical areas like speaker calibration, live-mixing techniques, and acoustic optimization. Attendees also enjoyed interactive Q&A moments, offering apprentices and enthusiasts behind the scenes insight into pro level audio production.

The Live Sonic Arena consistently received high engagement across all three days, with positive feedback from both general visitors and industry professionals. The Waveline Series demonstrated its reliability, flexibility, and performance in a live, high-pressure environment. Beta3 further strengthened its position as a leading provider of high-performance professional audio solutions.

The Live Sonic Arena at PALM Expo 2025 successfully showcased the power and precision of the Beta3 Waveline Series. By combining world-class engineering with stellar live performances, Beta3 reaffirmed its commitment to elevating the live sound experience in India and beyond.



The Beta3 Live Sonic Arena at PALM Expo 2025 showcased the power, precision, and performance of the Waveline Series across three days of electrifying live acts and hands-on pro audio training

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**NEW
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TATHASTU SOUND ADDS YAMAHA RIVAGE PM7 CONSOLE TO RENTAL INVENTORY

Ahmedabad-based rental company **Tathastu Sound** has expanded its technical capabilities with the recent addition of the **Yamaha Rivage PM7 digital mixing console**, paired with the **RPIO622 I/O rack**. Known for providing professional audio solutions for a range of events, corporate shows, touring concerts, festivals, and houses of worship, Tathastu Sound's latest acquisition reinforces its focus on high-end sound reinforcement.

The system was supplied by **Vibration Sound Design**, an authorised Yamaha partner. The PM7's user-friendly interface and redundant fibre connections were central to Tathastu Sound's choice, offering robust and reliable performance for large-scale, long-distance audio setups.

The RPIO622's "Silk" feature, which enables engineers to shape the sonic texture of the audio signal, has been particularly appreciated. The feature allows Tathastu Sound to adapt tonal

characteristics to suit varied production demands, enhancing the flexibility of their mix output. Technically, the PM7 Surface supports 120 inputs, 72 mix buses, and 36 matrixes at 96kHz. The RPIO rack delivers 72 mic/line inputs and 40 outputs, also at 96kHz and 24-bit resolution. The console connects to

low-latency signal transmission and interoperability in complex system setups.

The PM7 is also equipped with Waves plug-ins, adding further creative flexibility for sound shaping and effects processing.

"We're honoured to add the Yamaha PM7 console to our rental stock," said **Nikhil Patel** of Tathastu Sound. "With its high input and output bus counts, reliability, and Yamaha sonic character, this console is the perfect fit for our needs. The ease of use and flexibility of the PM7 will undoubtedly enhance our ability to deliver exceptional sound for our clients."

This investment positions Tathastu Sound to meet the rising demands of professional live events with greater technical finesse and operational efficiency.



Tathastu Sound's new Yamaha Rivage PM7 console in action – bolstering their rental inventory with 120-input, 96kHz power and seamless Dante integration for high-demand live productions

the rack via Twinlane, a high-speed fibre link. Integrated Dante networking further streamlines connection with other audio devices, offering

characters to suit varied production demands, enhancing the flexibility of their mix output. Technically, the PM7 Surface

DBTECHNOLOGIES AND TRIMAC MARK INDIA LAUNCH WITH VIO SERIES DEMO

Held at The Westin, Mumbai, on 29th May 2025, the **dbTechnologies** event, organised by **Trimac Products Pvt. Ltd.**, offered industry professionals hands-on exposure to the **VIO Series** line array system. A live band performance on the **VIO L1610** with eight **S218 subwoofers** captivated attendees, while the newly launched **IG5T-R** from the **Ingenia** series made its India debut. A fifty Line system was also deployed, adding depth to the demo.

Industry veterans, rental owners, engineers, and artists lauded the fully powered system for its efficiency and sonic precision. The event was graced by **Stefano Bini**, Head of Marketing, and **Andrea Salvioli**, Application Engineer from dbTechnologies.

"We wanted to honour the true warriors of live audio," said **Pankaj Kumar**, COO, Trimac.

"Seeing the community grow like this is overwhelming, we hope to continue supporting this evolving industry."

At **PALM Expo 2025**, Stefano Bini, Head of Marketing at dbTechnologies, shared: "This event is to officially

launch our partnership with Trimac. We've been working together for a few months, but this is our first formal introduction to the Indian market. It's also the debut showcase here for products like the **Ingenia 5TR** column

speakers and **IGS2** subwoofers, along with our touring staples, the **VIO L1610** line array and **VIO S218** subs."

Discussing the significance of the partnership, Bini reflected: "India has always been a tough and unique market, but since joining hands with Trimac, things have really shifted. Our systems are now showing up on tech riders, we're doing joint events, and even hosting Indian clients in Italy. The progress in under a year is incredible."

He also commented on their presence at the **PALM** show itself: "We visited the expo this morning. Thanks to Trimac, we have a strong presence, about two-thirds of their booth is dedicated to dbTechnologies. I've heard the turnout's been great!"



Stefano Bini showcases dbTechnologies' vision in motion, as the VIO L1610 line array and S218 subs take the spotlight, culminating years of development, engineering precision, and unwavering pro-audio passion



WAVE LINE

PREMIUM ACTIVE LINE ARRAY



LARGE-SIZE GYMNASIUM



THEATER



ARENA



LIVE EVENTS



SLA212P



SLA218SP



SLA210P

Beta Three Audio India Pvt. Ltd.

INTERNATIONAL RELIABLE PROFESSIONAL AUDIO SYSTEM



Daniel Sennheiser and
Andreas Sennheiser, Co-
CEO's of Sennheiser

As the iconic German brand celebrates its 80th anniversary this year, its story is not merely one of longevity, but of continuous evolution, marked by bold innovation, unwavering values, and deep-rooted connections with audio professionals and listeners worldwide. In a conversation with PALM Expo Magazine, Daniel and Andreas Sennheiser, Co-CEOs and stewards of the family-led legacy, shared the philosophies that have powered the brand's meteoric rise and continue to anchor its position at the forefront of global audio technology.

SENNHEISER TURNS 80, CELEBRATING EIGHT DECADES OF SONIC EXCELLENCE

Since 1945, the name **Sennheiser** has stood for flawless audio engineering, fuelled by an unwavering passion for sound. What began as a small laboratory in Wennebostel, founded by **Dr. Fritz Sennheiser** just weeks after the end of World War II, has evolved into one of the world's pioneering audio technology companies. From revolutionising wireless technology to redefining reference headphones, Sennheiser's journey has been marked by milestones that shaped professional and consumer audio alike.

Reflecting on this journey, **Daniel Sennheiser**, Co-CEO of the **Sennheiser Group**, shared, "It's been 80 years of successes, yes, but also of struggles, trying, failing, standing up again. That spirit of learning has kept us close to our customers, and it's shaped us into a deeply research focused company."

Trajectory Propelled by Innovation

The foundation for Sennheiser's legacy lies in bold technical exploration. As early as 1947, the company introduced its first microphone, the **DM 2**. Over the decades, landmark innovations followed, like the **MD 421** in 1960, still a studio staple; the **HD 414** in 1968, the world's first open-back headphones; the **HD 25** in 1988, which became iconic among DJs; the **HD 800** in 2009

for audiophiles; and the legendary **HE 1** in 2015, a successor to the **Orpheus** headphones.

Sennheiser's contributions to wireless technology also remain historic. In 1957, the brand, in collaboration with a German broadcaster, introduced the first wireless microphone system for stage and TV. That spirit of innovation continues in 2024 with the launch of **Spectera**, a next-generation bidirectional, digital, wireless broadband ecosystem designed to redefine professional audio.

"Spectera brings together years of experience into a single system," Daniel elaborated. "It's a radical innovation, born of the courage to question the familiar. Then as now, the system was developed together with our users."

Learning from the Past

Both Daniel and Andreas emphasised that their 80-year celebration is less about marking time and more about reflecting on lessons. "The successful products of the past are our inspiration, but also our toughest competitors," Daniel said. "We celebrate not just what succeeded, but also the products that didn't make it, because they were often the seeds of our boldest developments."

This mindset supports Sennheiser's unique ability to balance tradition with innovation. While modern tools like Spectera lead the charge into the future, classic microphones like the MKH 416 and MD 441 remain in production, still trusted by professionals decades later.

Diversity and R&D at the Core

A defining trait of Sennheiser's journey has been its commitment to giving engineers the space to think differently. "Fritz Sennheiser once said engineers need room for crazy ideas," Andreas Sennheiser, Co-CEO, recalled. "That spirit still characterises Sennheiser today. Owing to our creativity and passion, we have repeatedly brought groundbreaking products to the market."

With its core R&D operations spread across Germany, along with a dedicated software team in Poland and partnerships in India, the company thrives on a hybrid, multinational collaboration. "At our HQ alone, we have over 33 nationalities working together," Andreas elucidated. "It's a diverse and distributed network that's essential to creating products with global relevance."

The company continues to invest more than 8% of its annual turnover into R&D, focusing not only on new hardware but also on software, service integration, and next-gen technologies.

Expanding in Indian Markets

India has emerged as a key growth market for Sennheiser. Andreas highlighted, "Indian users demand reliability and strong service. That's why India is the only country where we have three service centres. The ambition and professionalism we see in India is remarkable."

Daniel added, "Nothing is easy in India, but everything is possible. We want to help bring the right audio tools to every corner of this music-rich country."

Sennheiser's presence in India extends to R&D partnerships and a growing footprint in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, with an eye on expanding distribution, e-commerce, and local collaboration.

Sennheiser's presence in India extends to R&D partnerships and a growing footprint in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities, with an eye on expanding distribution, e-commerce, and local collaboration. The Co-CEOs also noted the rise of immersive audio and hybrid workflows as major trends, areas where India is steadily advancing.

"Immersive formats like AMBEO are already in many Indian studios," Andreas pointed out. "Automotive adoption is still ramping up globally, but the potential here is strong."

Success without compromising on Sustainability

Sustainability is another core pillar of the brand's philosophy. Sennheiser's commitment lies not only in eco-conscious practices, like solar energy, sustainable packaging, and emission tracking, but also in designing long-lasting products. "Our biggest contribution is longevity," Daniel explained. "Products like the HD 25 or MD 421 are used for decades. We provide spare parts and service support, which drastically reduces the need for replacement."

Looking Forward

As the next generation of audio technology unfolds, the Sennheiser legacy continues to be shaped by passion, resilience, and relentless curiosity.

"In a fast-paced world, we're committed to true sound and the professional experience," Daniel concluded. "As stewards of a legacy brand, Andreas and I are here to grow it, stay true to our values, and eventually hand it over, stronger than ever, to the next generation."

An anniversary of 80 years, for Sennheiser, is not a destination. It's a milestone along a path paved with stories, sound, and the spirit of never standing still.



Z-SERIES

**FEEL EVERY DROP, LIVE EVERY BEAT
WITH OUR Z-SERIES SUBWOOFERS**



EVE AUDIO INTRODUCES EXO SERIES STUDIO MONITORS FOCUSED ON PRECISION AND CONTROL

EVE Audio has announced the release of its new **EXO Series** of nearfield studio monitors, comprising four models, **EXO 24**, **EXO 25**, **EXO 27**, and **EXO 28** developed to address a range of monitoring requirements in professional studio environments. Each model in the series features a distinct sonic profile and physical footprint, with a shared emphasis on detailed sound reproduction, consistent imaging, and operational versatility.

The EXO 24 is designed for compact studio setups where space is a constraint, while still delivering the accuracy required for critical listening. The EXO 25 offers increased depth and detail for users needing greater articulation across the frequency range. The EXO 27 serves as the series' high-output option, with higher SPL handling and linear performance. The EXO 28 is positioned as the most robust model, engi-



EVE Audio's EXO Series nearfield monitors feature EXO Precision AirMotion tweeters with GDC Waveguides, CAL woofers, and integrated OLED/SMART controls for high-SPL precision

neered for full-range applications in demanding studio workflows.

At the core of all EXO models is EVE Audio's newly developed EXO Precision AirMotion tweeter, paired with a Guided Directivity Control (GDC) Waveguide to maintain wide and even high-frequency dispersion. Low-end response is handled by the CAL (Coated Aluminium) woofer, which incorporates an Air Stream

Optimized Voice Coil Design to balance minimal air resistance with extended dynamic performance.

Physically, the EXO monitors adopt a low-diffraction design, employing curved panels and rounded edges to reduce distortion caused by edge reflections. A mounting option is integrated into the underside of each unit, allowing flexibility in studio placement.

Rear-panel control is managed through an OLED display combined with a SMART Control Knob, enabling detailed adjustment without the need for a computer. An illuminated logo on the front face of the monitors functions as a multi-colour status display, indicating operational states. All monitors are equipped with analogue XLR and RCA inputs, in addition to S/PDIF digital in/out (192kHz/24-bit).

Additional features include a high-resolution A/D converter, an internal DSP engine, a low-distortion amplifier, and a robust power supply designed to support high dynamic range. The series also includes a soft fade-in circuit to avoid abrupt signal peaks on startup. A dedicated software application namely EVE Control, will be made available shortly, allowing centralised management of all EXO units via a single interface.

HARRISON AUDIO UNVEILS D510 VERSATILE 500 SERIES SYSTEM

Harrison Audio has introduced the **D510 500 Series System**, a flexible and powerful modular solution that aims to be more than just a 10-slot rack. Designed for both studio and live sound applications, the system includes the **D510r** rack chassis, optional **D510mx** 10x2 analogue summing mixer, **D510Dante** AoIP interface, and upcoming **D510usb** USB/ADAT interface – creating a comprehensive hub for analogue and digital workflows alike.

At its core, the D510r provides 10 powered slots in a rugged 3U 19" rackmount format. With 30% more power per slot than standard 500 Series racks, it's built to handle high-performance modules in demanding touring or studio conditions. The system reflects Harrison's storied legacy, bringing the same sonic DNA used by legends like **Michael Jackson** and **Steely Dan** into modern production

environments.

The optional D510mx mixer card turns the unit into a 10x2 summing mixer with individual pan and level controls per channel, plus dual headphone outputs with mix blending options. The summing path delivers Harrison's trademark

analogue warmth and depth, ideal for adding character to digital stems or assembling a portable tracking rig.

Uniquely, the D510r is the only 500 Series rack offering **Dante AoIP integration**, via the **D510Dante** interface. This allows seamless connectivity

with Dante-enabled consoles and studio systems, offering 10 in / 14 out of high-quality conversion. Users can easily patch 500 Series modules into mix buses, subgroups, or inserts, expanding hybrid workflows with minimal latency and maximum routing flexibility.

With the future addition of a **USB/ADAT card**, the D510 System is positioned as a long-term, scalable centrepiece, whether for mobile rigs, sidecars, console extensions, or fully modular studio setups.

The D510 ecosystem also complements Harrison's own 500 Series modules, including the 32Cpre+ mic pre, MR3eq, and Comp compressor, all based on its iconic console technology.

With rugged construction, modular expandability, and hybrid integration, Harrison's D510 redefines what a 500 Series rack can be.



The D510 combines Harrison's analogue legacy with Dante flexibility, offering pro-grade power in a rugged 500 Series frame, for unparalleled perfection

To showcase your **Stage Sound innovations and Stories** in **PALM Expo Magazine**, contact: **Shanaya Sequeira** - shanaya.sequeira@informa.com or **Ritika Pandey** - ritika.pandey@informa.com

TK SERIES

Performance Microphone



TK-280
TK-350
TK-600
TK 608

The JTS TK Series dynamic cardioid live microphones are equipped with the most popular capsule. They provide excellent performance for lead and backup vocals, and instrument miking.



INDIAN BRANDS SHINE BRIGHT AT PALM EXPO 2025

PALM Expo Affirms Itself as India's Pro Audio and Entertainment Lighting Pulse Point

Since its pioneering edition in 2001, PALM Expo has evolved into Asia's largest and most influential trade show for professional audio and lighting. In its 23rd edition, held from 29th to 31st May, 2025 at NESCO Mumbai, the Expo reinforced its role as a catalyst for industry learning, professional exchange, and the continuous evolution of India's pro audio and entertainment lighting landscape.

With a staggering 26,251 unique visitors and a total footfall of 39,734, PALM Expo 2025 unveiled its largest expo footprint yet, spanning over 40,000 sqm across four expansive halls, a high-energy HARMAN Live Arena, and four purpose-built Demo Qubes. This record-breaking turnout paints a vivid picture of an industry in rapid acceleration, fuelled by rising domestic demand, a maturing ecosystem of talent, and a decisive push toward Indian innovation and manufacturing. India's pro audio sector is no longer a follower; it is fast becoming a formidable force to be reckoned with. PALM Expo 2025 underscored this

shift with a strong showing of homegrown manufacturers showcasing internationally competitive products, distributors presented solutions catering to Indian live events demands. Driven by quality, design sophistication, and an increasingly self-reliant production framework, Indian brands stood shoulder to shoulder with global giants, proving that the 'Make in India' wave is gaining momentum. Nearly 300 exhibitors, representing over 1,000 brands, presented thousands of products ranging from audio install solutions and broadcast tools to immersive live sound rigs and lighting control systems. Notably,

[back to Content](#)

40 first-time exhibitors debuted at PALM this year, reflecting sheer enthusiasm of new players entering the space with high-end, innovative solutions tailored for the Indian market.

The diversity and depth of product categories were staggering, as state-of-the-art PA systems, amplifiers, mixing consoles, DSPs, audio interfaces, microphones, cables, stage trussing, motorised rigging, and intelligent lighting, all made appearances in a tightly packed, high-energy showcase of what's next in pro audio and AV tech.

ACTION ON THE SHOW FLOOR

Covering the full spectrum of pro audio, lighting, installed sound, immersive experiences, networked audio, and beyond, this year's PALM Expo, highlighted growing consumption of immersive audio and networked audio technology. The PALM Expo has become a launchpad for distributors, dealers and manufacturers to network with a unique audience of veterans and eager professionals. The attendees expressed a growing interest in live and immersive sound.

POPE Professional made a bold statement at their booth with the launch of three cutting-edge innovations: the IC Series subwoofers, TT Series Line Array systems, and the new MA & MF Series amplifiers. The TT Series turned heads with high-output transducers, advanced acoustic design, and integrated networking, featuring SoundNet, AES, AESOP, and Dante via German-built DFM SN modules, demoed live on the floor. Completing the showcase, the MA-82, MA-92, MF-38, and MF-50 amps impressed with stable, high-fidelity output and efficient Class H and TD architecture.

This year, ATI Pro took a significant leap forward with the launch of two new brands, ATI Acoustics and ATI SFX. ATI Acoustics marks ATI Pro's foray into the commercial sound segment, offering solutions for home installations, and



PETER HALL
PRESIDENT – MIDDLE EAST,
INDIA, TÜRKIYE AND AFRICA, INFORMA MARKETS

Peter Hall, acknowledged the efforts of the organisers in ensuring the timely commencement of the event and welcomed the audience to the PALM & AV-ICN Expo 2025, marking a significant moment in the event's history as it officially came under the Informa Markets banner. Earlier this year, the company completed the acquisition of all Hyve India businesses, making this the first edition of the PALM & AV-ICN Expo brought to audiences directly by Informa Markets.

"Informa Markets is the world's largest organiser of B2B trade exhibitions. In India alone, we host 25 large-scale trade expos, and globally we organise over 500 events, spanning industries from construction and pharmaceuticals to manufacturing. We are deeply invested in major geographic regions, and India is very much at the top of that list," Hall noted. "Our core objective is to connect buyers and sellers. Increasingly, however, we are committed to elevating the customer experience by creating events that are immersive, inspiring, and engaging. We firmly believe in the power and influence of live events and festivals, and that's why professional AV and live sound production sit at the very heart of our business," Hall elaborated.

Remarking upon India's expanding influence in the global AV landscape, positioning the country as a frontrunner in innovation and integration. "India has rapidly grown into an innovative hub for professional audio, AV integration, and lighting technologies. PALM & AV-ICN serves as a powerful crescendo in the annual cycle of this remarkable industry."

Highlighting the scale of this year's expo, Hall added, "This year, we are proud to host over 300 exhibitors representing more than 1,000 global brands, and we expect to welcome over 25,000 industry professionals, from integrators and manufacturers to system designers and event technologists."

In conclusion, Hall encouraged attendees to immerse themselves in all the experiences on offer. "Over the next three days, there is so much to experience – from HARMAN's Live Arena and the Sound Reinforcement Demo Qubes, to outstanding conferences featuring over 80 speakers, as well as hands-on workshops covering trussing, rigging, and lighting design. The entire expo is a dynamic canvas, a space to showcase cutting-edge products and exchange visionary ideas."





YOGESH MUDRAS
MANAGING DIRECTOR,
INFORMA MARKETS

Yogesh Mudras, reflected on the long-standing evolution of the **PALM Expo**, describing it as a platform that has grown over the past 25 years into a central force within India's professional AV and audio landscape.

"The PALM Expo has evolved over the past 25 years into a credible, influential platform for India's AV and pro-audio industry, where talent, technology, and trade converge to shape the future," he stated, outlining the significance of the Expo's continued growth and relevance in today's market.

With the Indian AV, pro audio, and lighting sector reaching what he described as a critical turning point, Mudras cited an upward trajectory for the industry:

"The lighting market alone is projected to grow at a 19% CAGR, expanding from USD 5 million today to USD 26 million in the next eight years. This growth fuelled by the infrastructure sector, the booming entertainment industry and government initiatives for smart cities and smart schools, positions this sector in a way that meaningfully contributes to India's growth story."

Mudras explained that the show has been curated with a clear intention to reflect this transformation. Drawing attention to the show's experiential highlights, namely the **HARMAN Live Arena**, **Sonic Arena by Beta 3**, **Demo Qubes**, **Star Dimensions Lighting Showcase**, **EESA Rigging and Trussing Workshops**, and the **CAVS Training Program**, all expertly crafted to engage attendees in ways never seen before.

He also drew attention to the ambitious scale of the **PALM Conference Series**, which features over 80 speakers sharing insights across disciplines. Mudras highlighted that this year holds particular importance for the PALM & AV-ICN Expo, as it marks the first edition held under the Informa Markets banner following the acquisition of **Hyve India's** business. "PALM AV-ICN Expo is now a vital part of our portfolio, and we are committed to enhancing it with deeper resources, stronger networks, and a long-term vision centred on collaboration and community."

The above is an excerpt, view the full Keynote session on PALM Expo's official YouTube channel.

earned ATI Pro a good response on the showfloor. With ATI SFX, ATI Pro steps into the spotlight with a dynamic range of fog, bubble, and lighting effects designed to elevate event production.

Ansata's booth saw enthusiastic footfall from rental companies, sound engineers, and artists, all eager to experience the latest offerings from brands like **d&b audiotechnik** which launched its **CL-series** earlier this year with **CCL System (Compact Cardioid Line Array)** which is a flagship solution for focused spaces. Attendees could also experience consoles like **AVID's S6L-32D** with newly launched E6LX-256 engine and **Waves eMotion LV1 classic** which attracted most of the eyes for its compact design and user friendly UI. Live demos generated valuable conversations about intuitive workflows, immersive audio, and the growing importance of networked solutions. On the studio side **Trinnov's NOVA** was a major highlight proving to be best in class for room optimisation. **AVID Protools**, **DPA for Microphones** and **RME for Converters and Interfaces** also gained a lot of traction for their exceptional quality, further cementing Ansata's position as a true solutions partner.

Eminent AV proudly launched several new products from **Amate Audio** in India, including the **X102FD Active High Performance Point Source**, **XA211 Active Line Array**, and the **XW218 Active Subwoofer**. In addition, Eminent AV showcased its new brand association with **Louis Martin**, an esteemed Italian

manufacturer known for delivering high-quality products at highly competitive prices.

Narain Audio and Lighting LLP, an esteemed exhibitor at PALM Expo since 2001 showcased their ever-expanding range of products at the 2025 Expo with the **Nx Audio** booth, including the popular **MT Series**, **DJ Series** and **RX Series** under the **Proton** brand and, for the first time in India, the **Lavoce Italiana** booth, bringing 100% Italian Electroacoustic Excellence to **PALM Expo**. Along with the newly launched amplifiers including the **Class D SMPS DGN Series**, **4-channel RX2004** and **RX5004** and **CA12** and **CX4000** now upgraded with **Bass Boost**, Nx Audio launched the **Vulcan Series Line Array**, the compact and budget-friendly **Melody12 Live Mixer** and new microphones including the **UHF200 Dual Gooseneck**. At the Lavoce booth, Narain launched the 2025 catalogue with 20+ models new to the Indian market, including the **SAN216.00iP**, a high-powered 21" Subwoofer, and the **Linare Line Arrays** that are designed for India but loaded with Lavoce Italiana.

Pink Noise Professionals showcased a broad selection, this year, with **Apo-gee's Symphony Studio Series**, **EAW's RSX systems**, and **WorkPro's wireless NEO 5 AIR**. The **LightShark LS Series** brought hands-on digital lighting control to mid-sized productions.

Sonotone and its sister brand **Stagemix** were proud participants at PALM Expo 2025. The brands drew significant attention from visitors, professionals, and peers, serving as a testament to their strong presence in the pro audio and stage solutions space. Under the Sonotone banner, brands like **P.Audio**, **Dynatech**, **JTS**, **Mackie**, **Unika**, and **Marani** were showcased, each contributing standout technologies across speakers, mixers, microphones, and processors. Visitors praised the brand's consistent performance, innovation, and commitment to quality sound.

Lewminadio launched its Techversity platform at PALM Expo 2025, introducing specialised courses like **MFS (Mastering the Foundations of Sound)**, **ADF (Audio Design & Fundamentals)**, and hands-on workshops such as M&O and SDO, aimed at building strong AV foundations for aspiring professionals. The flagship MFS course, a one-year programme beginning this August, is open to learners from diverse backgrounds, from students and technicians to AV designers and audio enthusiasts. Lewminadio also hosted a live **RITA** workshop at their booth, which received an enthusiastic response, reflecting growing interest in practical AV education.

HARMAN's booth offered a comprehensive showcase of its leading brands, including **JBL Professional**, **Martin Professional Lighting**, **AKG**, **Soundcraft**, and **Crown**. Visitors had the opportunity to explore and interact with cut-



Ahuja Radios showcased latest solutions at PALM Expo



HARMAN's booth attracted visitors in droves with their newest launches

Lavoce

I T A L I A N A

THE TRANSDUCER FOR YOUR MOST CHALLENGING PROJECTS



PRO **WAVE** EXPO

Hall: 3
Booth: PW57



SEE
US AT

INDEAN
DJ EXPO

Hall: 3
Booth: B1-15

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Narain
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ting-edge products through hands-on demonstrations, highlighting versatile solutions across a variety of professional audio and lighting applications.

Generation AV's booth highlighted flagship offerings from **Optimal Audio** and **Sonance Commercial**, including Sonance's invisible speaker range and Optimal Audio's new compact subwoofers. Also featured were **HH Audio's** compact column arrays and the Aptur install series, launched for the very first time. More notable launches included the **NST Audio DM48 DSP**. Generation AV also showcased **LEA Professional's** compact half-rack amplifiers which continued to impress, with RCA and balanced inputs, built-in mic preamps, and mixing capabilities. Under Generation AV, **SurgeX** introduced its Defender+ and Vertical+ series with remote cloud control, enabling power cycling of individual outlets, ideal for AV systems maintenance.

Most notably, Generation AV debuted two new brands in India: **iFi Audio**, known for high-performance DACs, showcased the flagship **Valkyrie** to great interest; and **Silent Power**, which tackles electromagnetic and RF interference in audio and network systems, ensuring clean, distortion-free performance.

Sun Infonet Private Limited made a commanding statement at their booth, with an impressive showcase of innovations from **Shure**, **Meyer Sound**, and **Allen & Heath**.

From Shure, the trailblazing **Axient Digital PSM system**, redefined wireless in-ear monitoring, and was launched exclusively by Sun Infonet to the Indian market. The **SLX-D4Q+ Quad Receiver** brought seamless digital wireless solutions into tighter spaces, while the **Nexadyne Dynamic Microphone Series**, featuring Shure's revolutionary **Revonic** dual-engine tech, delivered stunning accuracy and reliability for vocals, drums, and amps. In addition to launching these in the Indian market, Sun Infonet demoed these at their booth, in a remarkable sound-proof recording room, where a live band performed with the Axient Digital PSM and Nexadyne instrument microphones. The attendees on the showfloor were able to witness this outside the performance room with headphones, that conveyed the sound from inside, through ingenious engineering.

Sun Infonet also showcased **Meyer Sound's ULTRA-X80**, with its dual 12-inch drivers and refined waveguide design. And finally, Sun Infonet showcased Allen & Heath's reimagined **Qu 5, 6, and 7 mixers**.

Sennheiser, celebrating 80 years this year, showcased their recently launched – **Spectera**: the world's first wideband, bidirectional digital wireless ecosystem. Spectera brings together microphones, in-ear monitors, and control data in a single wideband channel, supporting up to 64 bidirectional audio links within just 6–8 MHz. It's a breakthrough that significantly improves spectrum efficiency while simplifying setup and reducing interference. Along-



LBT Electronics' booth at PALM Expo 2025



LD Systems' booth at PALM showcased cutting-edge technology



ANIL CHOPRA
FOUNDING DIRECTOR,
PALM AV-ICN EXPO

Anil Chopra began his keynote this year with an emphatic announcement in regards to PALM's success over 25 years: "The partnership between **Informa Markets** and the PALM Expo comes at a defining moment. Over the past 25 years, PALM has evolved into an international brand, just as India's pro audio, lighting, and AV industries have matured into global contenders. It feels like poetic justice that Informa now carries this legacy forward. PALM is ready to flex its muscles and, in doing so, showcase the depth of Indian talent to the world. India's pro audio industry stands at an inflection point. With Informa Markets on board, the stage is set for PALM to scale up, delivering bigger, better, and more globally relevant shows in the years ahead."

Last year, Chopra gave a shoutout to Indian distributors. This year he encouraged Indian manufacturers to harness the potential in Indian manufacturing, stating, "Before investing abroad or distributing foreign-made goods, consider the strength of India's open and rapidly developing economy. The quality available here now rivals the best in the world. It's time for PALM to be recognised as India's flagship event, and a global platform. My message to international brands is clear: consider manufacturing in India. The opportunity is vast, and the timing is right."

He concluded by affirming that PALM has evolved into a global brand, and asserted with conviction that, as it celebrates its 25th year under the stewardship of Informa Markets, PALM Expo is poised for exponential growth.

The above is an excerpt, view the full Keynote session on PALM Expo's official YouTube channel.

side Spectera, Sennheiser presented a wide range of professional solutions including the **Digital 6000 wireless system**, **EW-DX Series**, **2000 Series IEMs**, wired and gooseneck microphones, and professional monitoring headphones.

DEV Electronics used the PALM Expo platform to launch India's first and largest 50-inch subwoofer. This monumental loudspeaker, model 50INCH, is engineered to redefine the low-frequency audio experience in the Indian market. With a nominal diameter of 50 inches, power handling of 4000W AES, and a massive 345 mm (13.6 in) voice coil, the subwoofer delivers 102 dB sensitivity and operates within a frequency range of 25–200 Hz at 4 ohms impedance.

At **Decibel Pro's** booth, they proudly marked **Celestion** entering its 101st year with the showcase of Celestion's latest **TSQ Series speakers**, featuring powerful 24", 21", and 18" neodymium magnet drivers designed for high-performance professional audio systems. A major highlight was the India debut of bamboo speakers under the **Provoice** brand, an industry-first initiative toward a greener future. The **BM Series speaker columns**, crafted entirely from sustainable bamboo, are fully recyclable, representing a significant leap towards eco-conscious audio technology. In the amplification segment, Decibel Pro launched the new **DC Series** amplifiers under the Provoice banner. These compact 1U, 4-channel amplifiers deliver an impressive 20,000 watts, garnering strong interest from industry professionals seeking sustainable and high-performance solutions.

Trimac launched **Hawk's Vibe**, **Pulse**, and **WDH Series** of speaker solutions. **dBTechnologies' VIO Series** was a crowd-puller with **L212**, **L1610**, **S218**, and **S118 models**. **RØDE's** latest creations, **Wireless GO Gen 3**, **Wireless Micro**, and **RØDECaster Video**, were unveiled for the first time in India.

Stage Illumination introduced the rugged **NPF-03** and **CPF-03 DMX splitters**, dual-universe **ABN-03** and **ABC-03 DMX units**, and the **6U ARTNET** rack featuring 8 DMX outputs—ready for versatile lighting control.

Celto Acoustique LLP introduced the **VAL Audio X-Line12**, an all-in-one



DJ Series



DJ-801

800 + 800W RMS @ 4 Ohms

DJ-501

500 + 500W RMS @ 4 Ohms

DJ-1104

1100 RMS x 4 @ 4 Ohms

DJ-804

800 RMS x 4 @ 4 Ohms

DAMPING >700 (DJ804 \ DJ1104)

OVER98% RELIABILITY

SUPERB FOR MIDS & HFs

PRO **WAVE** EXPO

Hall: 3
Booth: PW69



SEE
US AT

INDIAN
DJ EXPO

Hall: 3
Booth: B1-15

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portable **PA system** with onboard DSP and remote control, and the **S Series** touring amplifiers, capable of delivering up to 12kW RMS with high signal-to-noise ratios.

Yash Enterprises launched a line of 400A industrial connectors in multiple colours, built for rugged installs and featuring high-current brass contacts for reliability.

4 Square Corporation unveiled **JBL's new Control 400 Enhanced Coverage Series**, a follow-up to the classic **Control 20**, upgraded with **CRBI baffle** and enhanced mounting.

Audio Plus introduced **Studiomaster Professional's ADI 24.12**, a 24-channel digital mixer with multi-FX and recall, and the **SMS 480 speaker management system** with a 16-band PEQ and PC connectivity.

Candescent Lighting launched the **Aero Max Roof AM25** by **Tiger Truss**, supported by **LL40S** towers and **MS6555/SS40S** modular trussing, offering high-load capacities for outdoor concerts.

Clarion showcased its **JM KAL passive speaker range**, the **JM 4D12000 Class-D amplifier** with **GaN** and **PFC technology**, and the **JM KDL210**, a high-powered 1400W active line array.

Davdajis Pluto revealed new lighting hits for the stage: the **LongLife Beam 550 Prism King** and the **BSW 580 multifunction** moving head for club-style atmospheres.

Imax Lighting brought the big guns with the **Marvel 440 BSW** and **Beam, FX STROBE 1500IP** (IP65-rated), and the **EYZ 2/300 LED fixture**, along with the **MAGIC BAR 66** and **MAGIC CUBE 46**.

PLS Instruments launched the **PLS 1940 moving head light**, featuring 19 x **40W RGBW QCL LEDs** powered by an **OSRAM** source for impressive colour performance.

HiFiDeco unveiled a new series of high-performance DSP/touring amplifiers and premium loudspeaker components under the **MYS** banner.

Liftket introduced the **CHAINMASTER D8 2000 electric chain** hoist engineered for precision rigging in high-demand touring and install scenarios.

Giant Truss pulled focus with the massive **GT 15 Truss** and **DDR 86 Roof System** designed for extreme load-bearing applications and large-format stage builds.

SHOWSTOPPERS AT PALM EXPO

In its essence, the PALM Expo continues to be a dynamic global platform that fosters connection, collaboration, and innovation in the pro audio, light-

ing, and AV industries. As the definitive meeting ground for manufacturers, distributors, dealers, and end users, this year's PALM Expo played a pivotal role in propelling the industry forward. The show delivered world-class experiences through standout features such as, not one, not two, but four high-impact **Demo Qubes** showcasing leading brands. Complementing the technology on display was the inspiring **PALM Sound and Light Conference Programme**, which hosted a distinguished roster of speakers. The **Lighting Design Showcase** also took centre stage, offering a prestigious platform for emerging lighting designers to demonstrate their creative prowess.

Demo Qubes Dazzled with Powerhouse Showcases

At the **Demo Qubes**, four major players, **AERONS**, **Funktion 1**, **POPE Professionals** and **N-Labs**, commanded attention with their cutting-edge showcases. **N-Labs** made a striking impression, unveiling their **QLA Active Line Array System** and a suite of new models, offering audiences a firsthand taste of their live sound capabilities. The brand also pulled back the curtain on its much-anticipated **DNA Series** amplifier, keeping exact specs under wraps but leaving a lasting impact. The product lineup was replete with performances by renowned artistes like, **Bhagirathi Bhatt**, **DJ Sasha**, **DJ Shanaya** and **Esani Dey**.

AERONS shook the stage in their Qube with a compelling demo of newly launched products, further elevating the listening experience at this dynamic space. Their latest line arrays, **HDLA8055 V2** and **NOVA122LA**, received an excellent response for their clarity and throw. They also introduced powerful subwoofers like the **SUB821** and the upgraded **SUB828 V2**, alongside their newest amplifiers, **HD14001** and **SIGMA12000**, which stood out for their performance under pressure. A special highlight was the display of Audiocenter's flagship **AVANDA210A line array** and **K-LA218DSP subwoofer**, which drew a lot of attention.

Funktion-One turned heads in their Demo Qube with a refined display of precision-engineered loudspeakers and accessories. On demo were compact powerhouses like the **F101.2**, **F81.2**, **F5.2** and the weather-resistant **F55WR**, delivering signature **Funktion-One** clarity and control. Bass duties were handled by the punchy **SB12** and the low-profile **SB212LP**, demonstrating tight, impactful low-end response. The brand also showcased a versatile range of wall-mount brackets, underlining their commitment to both performance and installation flexibility.

POPE Professional made a powerful impact with the launch of three major



Narain Audio enthralled attendees with products from Nx Audio And Lavoce Italiana



Robe Lighting Illuminated the showfloor with spectacular displays at their booth



N-Labs attracted attention with showstopping experiences at both their Demo Qube and main booth



Vardhaman Megatech showcases a host of brands' technologies at their booth

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N-Labs' Demo Qube garnered large crowds replete with performances from talented artists



Funktion-One's Demo Qube featured a host of powerhouse amplifiers and subwoofers like F10.12, F55WR and more



Beta3's Sonic Arena wowed crowds with its latest high-powered launches



HARMAN's Live Arena showcased their largest immersive experience executed by them to date

“Aerons India’s participation at PALM Expo 2025, especially within the Demo Qube, turned out to be one of our most impactful showcases to date. Even with a slow start due to unexpected rain, the energy quickly built up, and the venue transformed into a high-energy zone where we connected directly with DJs, installers, and audio professionals. The feedback, real-time demos, and strong bookings made this event a significant success, reinforcing our belief in innovation driven by real-world performance.”

ANKIT GUPTA
DIRECTOR, AERONS

innovations: the **IC Series subwoofers**, the **TT Series Line Array systems** and the new **MA & MF Series amplifier** range. The IC Series impressed with its deep, distortion-free bass, thanks to a unique isobaric design using dual or quad 18” ferrite transducers. Compact yet powerful, it’s built for touring, installs, and live sound, especially when paired with MF Series amplifiers. The new TT Series Line Arrays showcased advanced transducers and integrated networking, with **SoundNet**, **AES**, **AESOP**, and optional Dante via DFM SN-2 & 4 modules demoed live. Also on display were the new MA and MF amplifiers, delivering efficient, high-fidelity power through Class H and Class TD technology.

GRAND AMBITIONS AT GRANDE C: BETA3 SETS THE SONIC STANDARD

Beta2 Professional Audio outdid itself this year, transforming the show floor into a powerhouse with the electrifying **Live Sonic Arena**, powered by its all-new **Waveline Series**. From thunderous sub-lows to pristine vocals, the system delivered flawless audio across three days of live performances and hands-on workshops. Garnering a steady flow of praise from both general industry professionals to veterans, Beta3 led charge in next-gen touring sound, raising the bar for what live audio can and should be.

For more information on the performances and products demonstrated,

please see page no. 11

THE ULTIMATE IMMERSIVE EXPERIENCE AT HARMAN LIVE ARENA

The 14th edition of the **HARMAN Live Arena** once again stood as a marquee attraction, this year with a clear focus on immersive audio technologies. With its longstanding presence at the show, HARMAN transformed the arena into a multi-sensory showcase of spatial sound, reinforcing its position as a leader in professional audio innovation.

The arena featured a dynamic lineup of performances from both emerging talents and established artists. Each act harnessed HARMAN’s immersive audio technologies to create memorable live experiences. Notably, every day’s grand finale was mixed live using **FLUX:: SPAT Revolution**, demonstrating real-time immersive spatialisation. Equipped with state-of-the-art gear from HARMAN’s extensive portfolio, including JBL Professional, Soundcraft, and Crown, the arena delivered powerful, real-world audiovisual showcases that captured the attention of professionals across the show floor. Following HARMAN’s acquisition of FLUX:: in late 2023, the company used this platform to present a unified vision of immersive sound through SPAT Revolution, FLUX::’s real-time 3D audio engine. With the India launch of MiRA, FLUX::’s new analyser and visualisation software, now integrated into HARMAN’s growing ecosystem spanning design, control, monitoring and analysis, HARMAN amazed attendees of the arena.

Live demonstrations across all three days reflected how these technologies are being applied in real-world touring and performance environments. On Day 1, **Himanshu** performed a live immersive electronic set, followed by **Bombay Bandook**, **Wild Wild Women**, and a spatial choral showcase by **The Indian Choral Ensemble**, all powered by SPAT. Between sets, short immersive audio and light demos allowed visitors to engage directly with the system’s capabilities. Day 2 opened with a **Martin Professional lighting workshop**, followed by immersive performances from **TaFMA’s Street Stories**, **Merkaba**, and a headline set by **Two Summ (Viveick Rajagopalan & Anantha Krishnan)**, again using SPAT for real-time spatial mixing. Day 3 featured **Selva’s ECM**, **Sutej Singh**, and **FLUET ft. Rasika Shekar and Ashwin Srinivasan**, closing the arena with an immersive flute and vocals performance mixed entirely on SPAT.

By putting FLUX:: SPAT Revolution and MiRA into the hands of engineers and artists in a live context, HARMAN demonstrated how immersive sound is

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NOM. BEAMWIDTH: VERTICAL: 10°
HORIZONTAL - NARROW 80° - WIDE 110° -
ASYMMETRICAL (95° LEFT OR RIGHT OF CENTER)



“This is our 14th year partnering with PALM Expo, and for us, this is a must-attend show. Everything that we get in terms of partnerships, for conferences, and thought leadership, allows us to work closely with the community across audio, video and lighting sectors. At the Harman Live Arena, we were able to bring our product portfolio from the booth to life at live showcases, featuring 9 live performances, replete with Martin Lighting demonstrations and live immersive audio. It’s an incredible experience and we really value and thank the PALM Expo team, for this opportunity to engage with our partners and customers at a whole new level.”

ELIZABETH CIBOR

GLOBAL VICE PRESIDENT, HARMAN

not only possible, but also accessible, scalable, and ready for integration across India’s pro audio landscape.

VISUAL MASTERY TAKES CENTRE STAGE AT THE LIGHTING DESIGN SHOWCASE

The **Lighting Design Showcase**, was curated and executed by leading event technology specialists **Star Dimensions India**. This live demonstration space pushed the limits of lighting design through a striking blend of art, technology, and innovation. The showcase drew crowds of lighting designers, engineers, rental professionals, and production creatives, all eager to witness the future of lighting in action. The dedicated zone transformed into a pulsating arena of synchronised lighting, rich colour palettes, precision programming, and dazzling visual effects.

The spectacle featured curated shows that highlighted next-gen **DST Automation Systems**, cutting-edge fixtures, and high-powered laser technology. **Mesh LED** screens added another layer of immersive design, blending seamlessly with the scenic environment to deliver a powerful audiovisual statement.



Warren D’Souza of SOUND.COM moderates a panel discussion titled ‘System Engineering for Touring in India and Abroad’ with panellists Cijith Oliikal, Dr. Rajesh Khade, Joyjeet Panday, and Neil Lean



Moderated by K.J. Singh, the panel session “Revolutionising Independent Music” captivated a packed house, featuring Meghdeep Bose, Karan Kanchan, Mali, and Sunny M.R.

TECH AND TALENT COLLIDE AT THE PALM 2025 CONFERENCE SERIES

Live Sound

Once again, this year the **PALM Conference Programme** was a resounding success. In the live sound segment, *“The Indian Event Industry Market – Tech Trends & Growth,”* moderated by **Meghaa Ghosh** and a panel comprising **EEMA stalwarts, Harshal Kothari, Ravi Mehta, Rahul Soni, and Dhruv Davar,** explored how experiential design and immersive technologies are shaping weddings, concerts, and corporate events across the country.

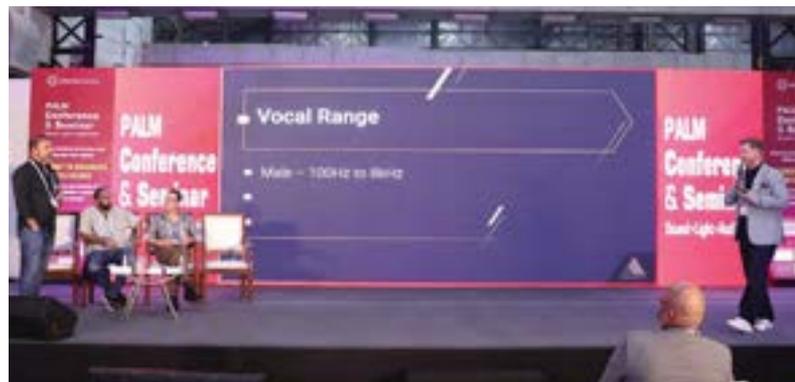
From macro to micro, the spotlight shifted to *“Maximising ROI for Small & Medium Events,”* a grounded and insightful session moderated by **Circle Pro Audio’s Sachit Subramanian**. With industry experts **Arvind Singh** from **Giant Truss**, **Rajan Gupta** from **Hi-Tech Audio and Image**, **Kalpesh Ajara** of **SOUND.COM**, and **Siddharth Chauhan** from **Mega Sound**, the discussion demystified production economics, highlighting strategic gear choices and risk mitigation for budget-conscious event professionals.

One of the most anticipated discussions followed with *“Systems Engineering for Touring in India & Abroad,”* led by **Warren D’Souza** of **SOUND.COM**. Alongside **Neil Lean, Dr. Rajesh Khade, Joyjeet Panday,** and **Cijith Oliikal**, the session examined the complexities of cross-border logistics, scalability, and system design for touring audio teams. Each panellist dove into some (not all, naturally) tips of the trade that led them to execute the country’s largest touring productions, including those of **Diljit Dosanjh, Yo Yo Honey Singh** and many more, while an enamoured audience engaged with insightful questions that the panellists were happy to answer.

Technical depth came into play with *“Importance of Measurement & Optimisation,”* a masterclass by **Sudarshan Srinivasan** of **Lewminadio**. From tuning techniques to system alignment, the session stressed that great sound isn’t only about gear, but also calibration, mathematics, and methodology. Dissecting the talent

“The Reference is the Voice,” a session sponsored by **Adamson System Engineering**, featured an expert panel including **Carlos Sallaberry, Kiran Tauro, Pieter Van Hoogdalem,** and **Lee Stevens**, from Adamson. The talk explored education, tuning workflows, and the evolution of Adamson’s systems in delivering reliable performance across climates and genres.

Live sound engineers took the stage next with *“The Art & Science of Monitor Mixing,”* moderated by **Supratik Das**. With insights from **Hardik Keshan,**



Adamson Systems Engineering’s Carlos Sallaberry, Kiran Tauro, Lee Stevens, and Pieter Van Hoogdalem enlighten audiences with their session, “The Reference is the Voice”



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VOICES FROM THE FLOOR: EXHIBITORS REFLECT ON PALM EXPO 2025

"PALM Expo 2025, was the best show that we have experienced in our long history with PALM. The quality and magnitude of visitors was very good this year. And the facilities, amenities and support received this year by the PALM team was phenomenal. We're incredibly satisfied with PALM's response this year, and have big plans for next year!"

HEMAL BHATT
FOUNDER, N-LABS

"With ComConnect2025 and our fourth year at PALM Expo, we've continued to invest in what matters most. We were honoured to celebrate 50 years of Neutrik showcasing the mc236 console for the first time in India was a proud moment. These milestones reflect our ongoing commitment to bringing best-in-class products & technologies to the Indian market. Comcon also reaffirmed its strong alliances with Belden, Optocore, Canare, and Partex, underlining its position as a streamlined procurement and local support."

GAURAV AGGARWAL
DIRECTOR, COMCON TECHNOLOGIES LIMITED

"The kind of response we've got from visitors is very good. At this show, we've launched dbtechnologies and Hawk products. This year has been a great experience, we are back in PALM after 2019. We hope this continues, in the future editions of PALM as well."

RAVI AGARWAL
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER, DIRECTOR, TRIMAC

"Fantastic Show! We've been exhibiting at PALM for the last 20+ years, and this year, I can confidently say it's one of the best that we ever had. We've had great feedback from customers, and had good business this year as well. Kudos to the PALM Team for pulling this off!"

NEERAJ CHANDRA
DIRECTOR OF OPERATIONS AT SUN INFONET

"This is our 7th time at PALM, and we're excited to keep coming back. We eagerly await the opportunity to showcase ourselves in the exhibition, PALM AV-ICN Expo is an amazing show where we meet a lot of potential customers!"

RONALD SILVAN D'SOUZA
FOUNDER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, LEKSA LIGHTING

"One of the highlights for Ansata was the consistent appreciation visitors expressed for its dedication to robust after-sales support and in-depth training. This recognition underscores the market's increasing value for dependable service alongside advanced technology. Overall, PALM 2025 met Ansata's expectations, reinforcing its belief in sustainable, relationship-driven growth. The event energised the team to continue empowering India's pro audio community with world-class products, and the prompt service culture that has been the company's hallmark for over thirty five years."

LESLIE LEAN
DIRECTOR, ANSATA

"We are delighted to have participated in this year's PALM Expo. The response we received was truly overwhelming, and we were proud to launch several new products from Amate Audio in India, including the X102FD Active High Performance Point Source, XA211 Active Line Array, and the XW218 Active Subwoofer. Additionally, we have also showcased our new brand association with Louis Martin. PALM Expo continues to be an exceptional platform for audio professionals, DJs, AV rental companies, and sound engineers. Our participation has significantly increased our visibility and engagement within the industry."

AKHILESH PRAJAPATI
CO-FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR, EMINENT AUDIO VISUAL, PVT LTD.

"We've been with PALM Expo since the first year, and we're back again! We have exciting launches from the Nx Audio and Lavoce Italiana series, this year. Our new launches are based off of feedback we get from customers at the Expo itself, so this year's launches are motivated by last year's Expo! PALM is invaluable to us, this year's it's the biggest show we've been a part of"

SIMI MOTWANI
SOCIAL MEDIA CO-ORDINATOR, NX AUDIO

Ashish Saksena, Piyush Joshi, Raghu Ramankutty, and Anupam Roy, the panel tackled everything from creative routing and artist psychology to the digital tools transforming stage mixes today.

"Advancements in Live Sound Technology," by Chris Lambrechts of Avid Technology focused on immersive audio, IP-based signal flow, and acoustic modelling, all increasingly critical for scaling live productions with precision.

The day concluded with a forward-looking PALM x EEMA session, "Gen Z and the Future of Live Experiences: Tech × Culture × Emotion × Design," moderated by Devinder Sablok. Featuring Shubham Patnekar, Ramnarayan KG, Swarupa Ananth, and Rahul Dhir, the talk examined how storytelling, lighting, and audio must evolve to meet expectations of India's digitally native



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On a memorable night, the PALM Sound and Light Awards celebrated the luminaries and legends of the pro audio and lighting industry, honouring the crème de la crème of the sector's top achievers



Outstanding Audio FOH Engineer of the Year - RIYASDEEN RIYAN



Outstanding Audio Monitor Mix Engineer of the Year - PIYUSH JOSHI



Outstanding Audio Systems Engineer of the Year - NEIL LEAN



Outstanding Lighting Designer of the Year - BALA SUBRAMANYA SOMU - 369 DESIGN LAB



Outstanding Sound Rental Company of the Year (National) - SOUND.COM



Contribution To Live Sound Rental Industry - MEGA SOUND INDIA



Outstanding Lighting Rental Company Of The Year - STAR DIMENSIONS INDIA



Outstanding Video Display Rental Company (Regional) - PXL MEDIA INDIA

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Outstanding Technical Production of Live Events - NMACC (NITA MUKESH AMBANI CULTURAL CENTRE)



Indigenous Manufacturing of Microphones - ERTHPOT



Outstanding Innovation in Lighting Technology - ROBE Lighting



Outstanding Innovation in Audio Technology - SENNHEISER



Immersive Sound Technology - HARMAN



Outstanding Distributor of the Year - SUN INFONET



Corporate Executive Excellence In Indian Pro Sound & Light Industry - VIPIN PUNGALIA



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audience. Citing famous projects that the panellists themselves spearheaded.

Andy Cooper of Yamaha R&D London held a session on *“Immersive Experiences for Everyone,”* presenting accessible Yamaha solutions for immersive audio in small to mid-sized venues, making multidimensional sound a viable goal for more users than ever before.

Studio Recording

The studio track of the conference was no less exciting.

The one generating the most buzz, was *“Revolutionising Independent Music: The Impact of Technology on Creation and Production,”* moderated by **KJ Singh**. Artists and producers **Meghdeep Bose, Sunny M.R., Mali,** and **Karan Kanchan** unpacked how AI, VR, and portable interfaces are enabling indie musicians to achieve professional outputs from lean setups. With a jubilant, enthusiastic and packed audience, the panel answered questions on personalised production styles, the AI revolution (whether good or bad) and more.

PA Deepak moderated the riveting session *“Shaping the Future of Music: Innovations in Immersive Sound,”* with an international panel featuring **Vijay Dayal, Bjorn van Munster, Antal Sebok, Riyasdeen Riyan,** and **Ravisankar Nadiyam.** Dolby Atmos, binaural rendering, and spatial audio workflows took centre stage as the panel envisioned a multidimensional future for music creation and consumption.

AES India’s Stan Alvares hosted *“Beyond the Box: Pushing the Boundaries of Music Production with Next-Gen Workflows,”* with panellists **Advait Nemlekar, Alphons Joseph, Mahesh Raghvan, Reena Gilbert,** and **Vijay Thomas Kurien.** The conference session featured a highly interactive demonstration by **Raghvan,** showcasing his talent in producing classical Indian music using digital tools on an iPad. The panel elucidated how one can leverage traditional methods of learning, with technology like cloud-based collaboration and AI-assisted mastering, bridging the gaps between experienced maestros and Gen-Z professionals looking to break into the field of music production.

The studio sessions wrapped on an uplifting note with *“Sound Futures,”* a talk by **Vinay Prabhakar** of **True School of Music.** His reflections on education, creativity, and curriculum innovation offered a hopeful roadmap for aspiring audio professionals in India. He highlighted the need for Indian education systems to prioritise a mentor-mentee model, to truly overcome the chasms in knowledge levels in the industry.

The Conference Program also featured luminaries and industry veterans from the lighting industry, who took audiences through creating and producing high calibre events.

The *“Intelligent Lighting Evolution,”* by **Rasesh Parekh** of **Integrated Entertainment Solutions,** explored sustainability, modular design, and automation. The session featured revolutionary automation techniques, with Parekh displaying a recent voice-activated lighting technology from China, which could improve accuracy and efficiency in large-scale shows.

Production design met effective execution in *“Lighting Fixtures as Aesthetic Accessories,”* a vibrant session led by **Viraf Pocha.** With **Yash Gupta, Kekul Sheth, Deepak Sharma,** and **Sohail Mansuri,** the panel argued that lighting hardware no longer hides in trusses but now plays a visible role in stage architecture and design identity. Fielding questions from an audience made up of establishment owners as well as professionals looking to break into live event production, the panel revealed industry tips and tricks to design experiences catering to both aesthetics and functionality.

RIGGING & TRUSSING WORKSHOP: RAISING INDUSTRY STANDARDS THROUGH SAFETY

At PALM Expo 2025, the **Live Rigging Workshop,** curated by **EESA (Event Equipment Services Association),** brought together professionals from across the entertainment industry, including event planners, production companies, and equipment suppliers, to focus on one shared goal: delivering safe, innovative, and world-class experiences. With the mission of setting safety standards and creating awareness around best practices in the Indian entertainment sector, EESA hosted a comprehensive schedule of presentations and live demonstrations.

Running daily from 11 AM to 5 PM at 30-minute intervals, the workshops covered a range of essential topics. **Mankaran Singh** from Men at Work led an introductory session on safe trussing and temporary structure setup, reviewing ground support systems and rigging hardware. **Avishkar Tendle** from Natura delved into the use of load cells and how to interpret truss load tables. **Sameer Sawant,** Consulting Structural Engineer, discussed the importance

of stability certificates through a detailed case study. **Adam Beaumont** of **Chainmaster GmbH** presented a session on the safe and proper use of electric chain hoists, highlighting common mistakes and critical dos and don’ts.

Rohan Oberoi from **Momentum India** addressed fire chemistry, hazard management, electrical safety, and the concept of Behaviour-Based Safety. **K.P. George,** CEO of **COATSMAN,** shared insights on high safety standards for scaffolding and decking using certified, quick-build stage decking systems meeting international benchmarks.

One of the most talked-about experiences was the “Leap of Faith,” where participants leaped from a 20-foot platform, showcasing the real-time loads exerted during a fall and the effectiveness of properly rigged safety systems. Team Natura also conducted a focused demo on working at height and truss safety protocols, reinforcing the importance of proper systems and simple safety guidelines.

Through this powerful initiative, EESA and PALM Expo 2025 set a new benchmark in safety education and awareness for India’s Pro Audio and Live Production industry.

CELEBRATING EXCELLENCE WITH A NIGHT TO REMEMBER

Among the many standout moments of PALM Expo 2025, the **PALM Sound & Light Awards** shone brilliantly as a celebration of excellence, innovation, and artistry. Organised by **Informa Markets,** this prestigious evening honoured the trailblazers of India’s pro audio and lighting landscape, from pioneering rental companies and cutting-edge brands to legendary live event producers and masterful engineers.

Held amidst a packed house and high anticipation, the awards ceremony lit up the night with energy and emotion. Accolades were presented across 18 dynamic categories, recognising the very best in sound and light production. From immersive audio experiences to stunning visual execution, each award represented the industry’s relentless pursuit of perfection.

The PALM Sound & Light Awards 2025 added a touch of glamour and gravitas to the Expo, cementing its place as the night the industry paused to applaud its own, and dream even bigger.

Congratulations to our winners, *see winner pics on page nos. 32 & 34.*

PALM 2025 CLOSES ON A HIGH NOTE

PALM Expo 2025 dazzled with scale, style, and substance. From the moment the doors opened, the energy was electric, with industry giants, trailblazing startups, and creative disruptors all converging under one roof at the NESCO, Mumbai.

The show floor sparkled with innovation, state-of-the-art gear, next-gen technologies, immersive demos, and bold new launches that set the tone for what’s next. Conversations sparked, partnerships were forged, and the future of sound and light was quite literally on display. Across packed Demo Qubes, buzzing booths, and thought-provoking conference sessions, PALM 2025 was a celebration of ingenuity and ambition. PALM Expo 2025 proved to be a powerful business catalyst and networking hub, reinforcing its reputation as the most influential platform for India’s pro audio, lighting, and AV industry. From major international brands to homegrown innovators, the show floor was alive with meaningful connections, serious deal-making, and forward-looking conversations.

This year’s edition saw a sharp rise in high-quality visitors, from rental company heads and AV integrators to venue consultants, system designers, and sound engineers, driving focused interactions that translated into tangible business outcomes. Exhibitors reported a steady flow of decision-makers, with many securing new partnerships, distribution leads, and long-term clients.

Beyond the impressive technology on display, PALM 2025 was about the people behind the products, those shaping the future of live events production, lighting and installation. With its unique convergence of networking, and market insight, the Expo enabled stakeholders to not only showcase innovations but also understand evolving market demands and prepare for what lies ahead.

As India’s professional entertainment tech ecosystem continues to grow rapidly, PALM Expo remains the definitive annual touchpoint to stay connected, stay competitive, and stay inspired.

The next edition of PALM Expo returns to Mumbai from **28th to 30th May 2026,** bigger and bolder. Mark your calendars and we’ll see you there!

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JAN 2025			1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	JAN 2025			
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APR 2025		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	APR 2025					
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JUL 2025		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	JUL 2025				
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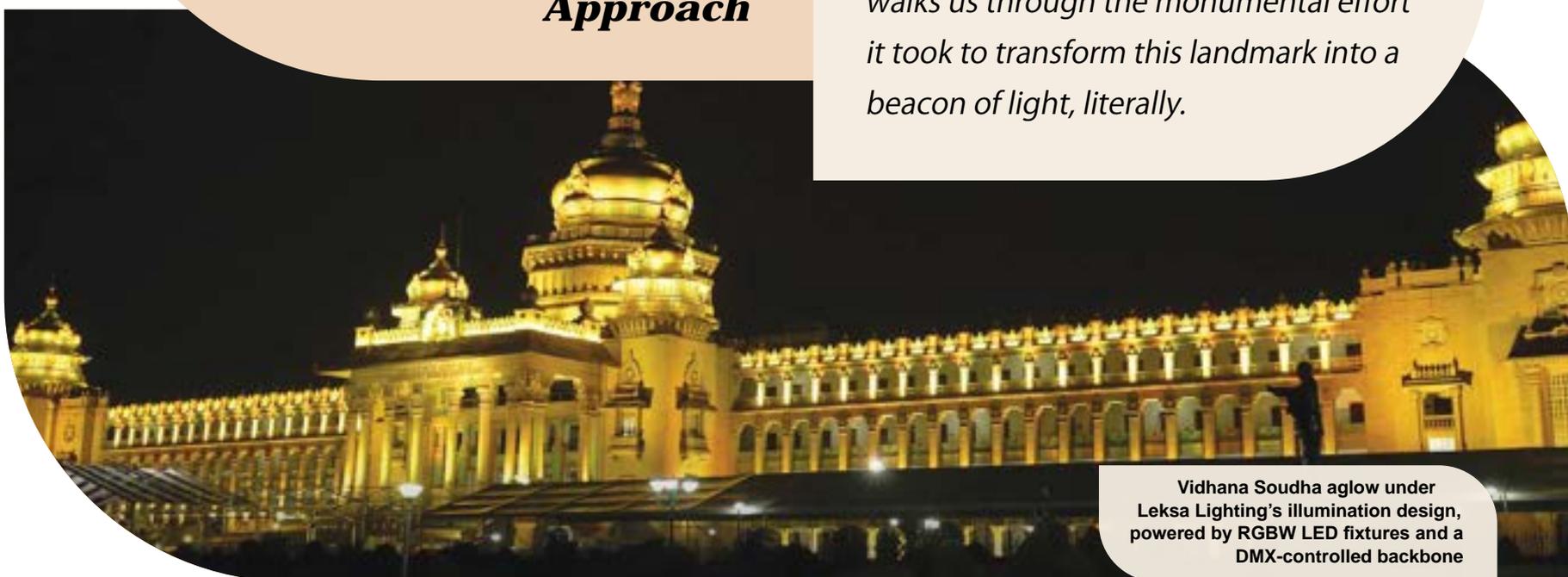
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VIDHANA SOUDHA ILLUMINATION PROJECT

**Unpacking Leksa Lighting's
Innovation-Driven Design
Approach**

Lighting a monument as iconic and historically significant as Bengaluru's Vidhana Soudha is no ordinary project. It requires a delicate balance of technical finesse, heritage preservation, and meticulous execution. In an exclusive conversation with PALM Expo Magazine, Ronald D'Souza, Founder and Executive Director of Leksa Lighting walks us through the monumental effort it took to transform this landmark into a beacon of light, literally.



Vidhana Soudha aglow under Leksa Lighting's illumination design, powered by RGBW LED fixtures and a DMX-controlled backbone

Vidhana Soudha is an iconic heritage building, deeply rooted in Karnataka's cultural and political history," explains **D'Souza**. "Given the building's significance, we exercised utmost care during the lighting installation to preserve its structural integrity and heritage value."

Heritage-Sensitive Design Brief

Designed under the leadership of **Chief Minister Kengal Hanumanthaiah** and led by architect **B. R. Manickam**, Vidhana Soudha required an approach rooted in creativity and responsibility.

"All work was carried out without any drilling or cutting that could potentially damage the original façade. Mock-up was conducted at various stages, and we worked in close collaboration with the concerned authorities to secure approvals at each phase."

According to D'Souza, the brief prioritised both aesthetics and sustainability. "The lighting design brief was twofold. Specific directives from the authorities included maintaining a dignified and elegant tone, achieved using warm colour temperatures such as amber," he said. "The system was designed with the flexibility to incorporate dynamic colour-changing effects during festivals, allowing millions of colour combinations while still preserving the monument's integrity."

Fixture Selection and Technical Detailing

"For the Vidhana Soudha project, we used **RGBW LED fixtures**, carefully selected to complement the architectural character of the building while

offering both functional and celebratory lighting options," revealed D'Souza.

"The fixtures were equipped with precision-engineered lenses to deliver optimized beam angles, ranging from narrow to wide, ensuring uniform light distribution across various surfaces without compromising the visual appeal, especially during dawn and dusk."

Energy efficiency was central to the lighting scheme. "To ensure energy efficiency, LED technology was used throughout, offering high lumen output with minimal power consumption. The fixtures are powered by high-efficiency drivers with a power factor of ≥ 0.9 , ensuring reliable performance and minimal energy loss."

Environmental durability was another key factor. "Given Bengaluru's varied climate, all fixtures conform to **IP66** or higher for protection against dust and heavy rain, and **IK08** or above for impact resistance. The system also considers color rendering with high CRI values, ensuring true color visibility on the granite surface."

Fixtures are connected through a DMX-based control system. "Each fixture is connected through dedicated decoders, allowing individual control over intensity, colour mixing, and programming. This enables highly customised lighting scenarios, from static warm tones to dynamic, multi-colour displays for festivals and national events, without compromising operational efficiency or structural aesthetics."

"The best part is all these fixtures are completely **Made In India** at our **Leksa Lighting factory** located in Moodbidri, Mangalore, Karnataka," added D'Souza.

(Continued on page 50)

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Designed by Sohail Mansuri, the Bismil Ki Mehfil Tour featured a 15-metre-wide structure rigged at 12 points, brought to life with advanced tools like Claypaky Tamboras, GobelinTulle, Vectorworks, Depence R4, and more

THE SPARK IGNITED: PASSION, PRECISION AND INDIA'S LIGHTING FRONTIER

Sohail Mansuri on Previsualisation, Immersive Shows, and the Road Ahead

*The professional lighting market in India is poised to make strides, in tandem with India's booming live events sector. On the cusp of this evolution, stand India's lighting professionals, whose experimentation, expertise and creativity prove vital for the next phase; international recognition. In an exclusive conversation, PALM Expo Magazine sits down with **Sohail Mansuri**, one of India's leading lighting designers, to discuss the tech redefining the field, from pioneering previsualisation studios to intelligent follow-spot systems.*



Sohail Mansuri has designed some of India's largest productions,

According to a 2024 report by **PwC India**, the live events and production technology sector in India is projected to grow at over **11% CAGR** through 2028, fuelled by a surge in artist tours, IP-driven festivals, and an escalating demand for immersive audiovisual experiences. Few professionals are more attuned to this momentum

than **Sohail Mansuri**, whose lighting designs have illuminated stages across more than 20 countries. His collaborations read like a who's who of the music world, **Salim-Sulaiman, Badshah, Sunidhi Chauhan, Vishal Mishra, Sid Sriram, DJ Chetas** among them. Making him the natural choice to illuminate where India's live production industry is headed next.

Rewriting Rules

Opening the conversation on automation, Mansuri notes a decisive shift in the industry: "We've started accommodating automation in our designs. We use kinetic technologies from **Kinesys System Elevation Hoists** and **Movecat** systems for our lighting rigs." These systems enable fluid movement and dynamic rigging, elevating show design to new heights.

Mansuri lauds intelligent tracking systems for their efficiency. "I prefer **Zac-track** and **Robe RoboSpot** for their intelligent follow-spot solutions. I love it when things move automatically. I'm a gadget freak, anything with parts that can be controlled excites me. That mindset, I believe, is an asset in this line of work," he explains.

Wireless control and remote access to the systems are fast becoming a more and more crucial element in the lighting design. LDs and operators need more mobility, flexibility and freedom to streamline their workflows and easily access the functionalities they need.

Systems like the **GrandMA3** provide operation via tablets and phones with a direct access to all console features. Mansuri has fully integrated this workflow into his studio. It allows his team to move freely during rehearsals and setups, something he believes is crucial for refining cues on the fly.

Battery-powered and RF operated fixtures such as the **Astera Titan Tubes** and **Xylo Bands** are also gaining popularity, thanks to their wireless DMX support and quick setup advantages. "They're ideal for outdoor shows and tight turnarounds," notes Mansuri, who sees these technologies becoming standard across productions.

India Levels Up

Globally, pixel mapping, micro-LED panels, and dynamic content playback through media servers are making shows more immersive than ever. Mansuri believes India has what it takes to compete with international standards, stating, "India is stepping up to meet international standards. I already have access to fixtures like the **GLP JDC2**, which is a hybrid strobe with DG effects and 12 control segments, and the **Martin MAC Aura Raven XIP**, featuring 234 individually controllable LEDs positioned behind the front lens to create an enhanced pixelated aura backlight."

These high-spec fixtures are making their way into Indian productions, and Sohail is eager to use them more widely. "These are among my favourite fixtures. I'd love to incorporate them into more of our upcoming shows."

Rising to the Moment

Mansuri lifted the curtain on a recent triumph, one that dazzled audiences but was not without its trials, none other than the lighting design for India's leading Sufi sensation, **Bismil ki Mehfil's** tour. "This was a very unique project," he begins. "We had a big circular structure that had to be mounted and rigged. It had a 15-metre diameter truss. This circular structure was lifted at a 50-degree incline using twelve rigging points. The structure weighed about 2.9 tonnes. Distributing that load safely was of paramount importance," he reveals.

The lighting rig featured **Claypaky Tambora** pixel-controlled curtain lights and **Claypaky Sharpy X Frames** as hybrid moving heads for dynamic linear effects. Mesh LED screens and **ECO2JET** jets added depth and texture. Surrounding the audience, a 360° laser show with **12 X 40 W RGB Kvant lasers** created an immersive lighting experience. For a next-level visual experience, holographic 3D projections were layered onto **GobelinTulle** scrim cloth. The

Mansuri's studio pioneers previz technology in India, offering artists a 360-degree, immersive preview of their concert experience



entire design was on **Vectorworks**, and the programming pipeline ran on **Depence R4 by Synchronorm**. Two **GrandMA3** full-size consoles handled the lighting control, with **Resolume** for video playback, **Aran** for SFX, **Beyond** for lasers, and several other tools ensuring tightly integrated show control.

Designing Tomorrow, Today

"One of the most important technologies we use is called **previz**," Mansuri explains. "I own a lighting studio in India, possibly the first of its kind, where we previsualise entire concert production and experience." With connected lighting consoles and programming systems, they deliver complete show planning ahead of time.

Mansuri's studio employs virtual reality headsets, allowing artists and directors to experience their shows from a virtual venue, providing a 360-degree perspective. "We show the artist what the audience will see. The moment they put on the VR glasses, they're transported right into the heart of the design. From there, we build the experience together. It's this level of care, intention, and tech-driven immersion that makes our previz meetings far more impactful. Though previsualisation is still rare in India, other studios and designers are following suit."

Next Steps and the Way Forward

As India's live entertainment ecosystem rapidly expands, the appetite for intelligent, immersive lighting design is growing just as fast. With experimental professionals like Sohail Mansuri embracing technologies like previsualisation, automation, wireless control, and intelligent tracking, the future of lighting in India looks bright.

Mansuri also leaves a word of encouragement for the next wave of designers: "You have an obligation to double your efforts, stay curious, stay inquisitive. The onus is on us to ensure that India graduates to the next level, on the global stage. The tech is there, the talent is there, the demand is there, all that remains is for us to execute this."

His optimism is grounded in experience, and his passion is matched by a deep technical understanding. If the future of Indian lighting design had a name, it would be innovation, and Sohail Mansuri is already sketching out its blueprints.

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**NEW
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BIG BULL CHOOSES OBSIDIAN AS LIGHTING CONTROL PARTNER

Big Bull is a 30,000-square-foot entertainment destination in Hyderabad, setting new standards for nightlife in India. Designed as a multi-sensory venue, it features a double-height dance floor, panoramic LED screens, and over 250 lighting fixtures.

To elevate patrons' experiences, Big Bull needed a lighting control system that could handle over 250 fixtures, kinetic ceiling elements, and dynamic lighting zones with speed, reliability, and adaptability. Hence, the technical team selected the **ONYX** platform from **Obsidian Control Systems**, renowned for stable performance and integration with complex visual setups. At the centre of the system is the Obsidian **NX2 console**, delivering advanced programming tools and real-time control. To enhance live operation, the **NX P motorised fader wing** was added, giving operators immediate access to playback functions and smooth manual control for on-the-fly adjustments.

For DMX distribution across the venue, the team relied on

Netron's range of data devices to ensure stability and flexibility. The **Netron DMX 10.3** was deployed to handle signal splitting, offering ten assignable 3-pin outputs with dual-input redundancy for clean and isolated routing. To cover high-output areas, the **Netron EN12** and **EN12-45** were used, both providing twelve RDM-compatible outputs via XLR and RJ45 respectively, with Artnet input support to handle large fixture

groups efficiently. For smaller zones and targeted control, the **Netron EN4** served as a compact 4-port Artnet-to-DMX gateway, maintaining clarity and responsiveness where needed. This combination created a decentralized, scalable, and high-performance lighting network that meets the daily demands of Big Bull's high-energy events, giving the technical team the confidence and control to deliver consistent, show-ready results.



The **ONYX** control ecosystem at Big Bull replete with **Obsidian NX2** and **NX P fader wing**, paired with **Netron** devices drove over 250 fixtures with precision, enhances performances each night

"The lighting system has become an essential part of how we deliver energy and emotion at Big Bull. It allows us to shift atmospheres instantly, keeping every event fresh and dynamic. The control is smooth, responsive, and incredibly reliable. It's elevated the experience for both performers and guests."

Shashidhar Kasi, Co-founder, Big Bull, Hyderabad.

"This is one of the most technically sound lighting systems I've seen in a venue of this size. The control is sharp, DMX flow is uninterrupted, and the user interface is seamless. It's a dream to program and operate. The lighting install here truly brings the venue to life."

Palagani Dushyant Reddy, System Designer and Consultant, **White Noise**.

"The lighting installation at Big Bull is a powerful example of design meeting purpose. It gives the venue the ability to transform, react, and tell a visual story in real-time. Every event feels elevated, intentional, and unforgettable. We're proud to have enabled that possibility." - **Jeff Mandot**, Director, **Vardhman Megatech**.

ELATION LAUNCHES OPS SERIES FOR OUTDOOR INSTALLATIONS

Elation to announced the launch of its new **OPS Series (Outdoor Permanent Specification)**, a durable, long-lasting solution for permanent outdoor installations. The OPS series enhances some of Elation's most popular IP65/66-rated lighting fixtures, providing a rugged version designed specifically for demanding environments such as theme parks, cruise ships, and other marine environments, museums, experiential installations, and more. Built for long-lasting performance in harsh conditions, the OPS Series ensures consistent, reliable use in both indoor and outdoor settings.

The OPS Series incorporates



Elation's OPS certified series incorporates durable, robust materials making it a reliable solution

more durable, robust materials, including corrosion-resistant components and protective finishes, to create a hardened version of the fixtures. The OPS Series is ideal for permanent installations requiring superior performance and long-term durability.

Eric Loader, Elation's Global Vice President of Sales, emphasised: "Extensive customer research and feedback clearly show that customers in these markets have been wanting a more rugged version of lighting fixtures with an extended warranty. We are experts in IP-rated lighting fixtures for entertainment, and with the PROTEUS series established as the most successful IP-rated line in our industry, having

been used on projects the world over since 2017, we have a wealth of real-world data that no other manufacturer can match. We've applied that expertise to the OPS Series to ensure that customers get the superior performance they demand, even in the most challenging environments."

The initial products receiving the OPS specification include the **PROTEUS LUCIUS OPS**, **PROTEUS RAYZOR 760 OPS**, **SIX+ PAR S OPS**, and **SIX+ PAR L OPS**, with more fixtures set to follow soon.

Elation's OPS Series offers lighting professionals the durability and reliability they need for permanent installations in tough environments, ensuring optimal performance and long-lasting value.



FROM STAGE CONTROL TO PIXEL PERFECTION.

MA Lighting grandMA3 Full Size and MADRIX STELLA 8
together redefine what's possible in lighting control.

From commanding complex stage productions to delivering flawless pixel mapping, this duo empowers lighting professionals with unmatched precision, flexibility, and creative freedom. The grandMA3 Full Size sets the global benchmark for show control with its intuitive workflow and scalable architecture ideal for touring, broadcast, and large-scale installations.

Meanwhile, MADRIX STELLA 8 delivers ultra-low latency and perfect Art-Net/sACN synchronization across 8 DMX universes, unlocking breathtaking LED pixel experiences.

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HARMAN LAUNCHES MARTIN P3 SOFTWARE UPDATE WITH REAL-TIME VISUALISATION INTEGRATION

HARMAN Professional Solutions has announced the release of **Martin P3 System Controller Software 6.2.0**, introducing the powerful new P3 Visualiser Protocol that brings real-time 3D visualisation capabilities into the P3 ecosystem. Designed to integrate seamlessly with third-party visualisation platforms, this update allows lighting designers, programmers, and system technicians to preview complex show environments with accurate fixture behaviour using data directly from P3 controllers.

By enabling visualisers to receive real-time fixture data—including video pixels and patch information—the new protocol allows accurate replication of how lighting systems will perform in real-world scenarios. Whether fixtures are controlled by lighting consoles, P3 System Controllers, or both simultaneously, users can visualise their shows with greater precision and creative control.

The software's plug-and-play setup ensures quick and easy integration. A Martin P3 System Controller can be connected to a computer running compatible 3D visualisation software via a single network cable, streamlin-

ing the design-to-execution process. Leading visualisation software provider Capture has already implemented the protocol in its Capture 2025 platform, and Martin is actively encouraging other developers to adopt

the open standard.

“Our mission is always to provide our design and programming community with the most intuitive tools to translate their visions into unforgettable experiences,” said **Wouter Verlinden**, Product Manager Creative LED, **Lighting and Control**. “By integrating real-time 3D visualisation, we’re expanding creative possibilities much further. This new capability eliminates guesswork, greatly accelerates the creative process, and we couldn’t be more excited to share it with our partners.”

Martin’s P3 System Controller Software 6.2.0 is compatible with the full range of Martin P3 controllers, including the P3-050, P3-150, P3-175, P3-275, and P3-300, and is also available as a free download through the P3-PC System Controller software. With this update, Martin empowers professionals to bridge creative design and live execution more efficiently than ever.



The Martin P3 System Controller Software 6.2.0 brings real-time 3D visualisation into the heart of show design, bridging creative intent and technical execution with unprecedented clarity

CLAYPAKY ANNOUNCES ULTIMO SHARPY RELEASE

Claypaky has announced the **Ultimo Sharpy**, a modern IP66-rated beam moving head that builds on the original Sharpy’s legacy with updated power, optics, and durability. Designed for challenging production environments, it features a new 250W Ultra-High Performance short-arc lamp, delivering 100,000 lux at 20 metres.

Key upgrades include precision optics for a crystal-clear, halo-free beam, and ultra-fast tilt and infinite pan for precise, dynamic movement. The fixture includes a Pro mode, allowing the lamp to reach up

to 6,000 hours of life through smart dimming that reduces stress during low-intensity cues.

For colour performance, Ultimo Sharpy features true CMY colour mixing for smooth transitions and a wide range of tones. A built-in frost

filter allows it to switch between tight beams and softer washes, and a 14-colour wheel is included for legacy Sharpy users. Dual rotating prisms with independent control and layering capabilities enhance beam shaping, offering more cre-

ative flexibility.

To assist integration into existing setups, the Ultimo Sharpy includes a Sharpy Emulation Mode, enabling users to replicate the speed and characteristics of the original model. The IP66 rating ensures resilience in outdoor and rugged conditions, making it suitable for large venues, touring, or broadcast setups.

The Ultimo Sharpy retains the original’s compact form but introduces higher output, longer lamp life, enhanced motion control, and improved optics, positioning it as a viable successor for demanding lighting applications.



Claypaky’s iconic Ultimo Sharpy is replete with IP66 protection, true CMY colour mixing, and a new 250W lamp delivering 100,000 lux at 20 metres

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by Viraf Pocha



Does it frighten you? Challenge you? Or like me you are wondering what the hell it means.

First of all, let's admit that lighting control systems and lighting fixtures carry mostly outdated tech. Please don't cancel me. I'm saying this with a great spark because maybe AI will help us leap generations.

Even in war, (as the world has sadly seen.) Real people get killed by video game operators from far away. Terrible. Must stop.

Get all these guys to stop this mayhem and use their tech skills in the benign and crowd pleasing world of events.

I recommend we re-purpose all those drones from the battlefield to carry our lights into their positions across the rig. No scaffolding. No cherry pickers. Drones lift all lights into position.

Let's do away with all wires. Batteries and wireless signals.

On to the control side.

All lighting designers MUST certify themselves as artists first. The syllabus will include a study of light in all its forms and textures. The material will go onto understanding how each quality of light can be adapted to individual situations.

The course will envelope a study of light in paintings. How shadows can accentuate the material and crafting of stone sculpture. The troubled relationship between colour on paper and colour in the atmosphere. To be topped by a practical exam.

Only then can you be allowed free access to a lighting board. Sort of like a driving licence.

Lighting Boards.

1. ALL buttons banned. No buttons allowed on lighting boards.
2. ONLY – touch screens and

faders.

3. Commands must be typed and or voice controlled.
4. Especially patching & grouping.
5. Once a rig is installed. Operator just clicks photos of the rig with a special camera that captures all data off bar codes / sensors in each light. Once these images are fed into the board the board must automatically align fixtures, label them provide access to them on one of the touch screens.
6. Operator then Names each fixture or group as per his design and can then call them up by name. Foot-lights group 1 + side lights group 6 cross fade to mid lights group 3 + backlights group 16 & 19. Crossfade 3 seconds with outfade lag of 2 seconds. Got it.

Then assign program to page 3 fader 18.

Hope you next gen board designers get my drift. I mean in your past lives if you could land a bomb into a 2 ft. square area from a distance of many miles, at least you can land my backlights on the lead singers head from 30 feet away. Right?

About time you guys did some-

thing useful with your killer technology.

If all this happens I feel lighting designers will have far more time to program on site. Setting up takes up a lot of money and so we are always squeezed for time. If our set up time line is crashed to a fraction of what it takes now – We can actually see and tweak our ideas live.

In my opinion – programing off line tends to make shows inorganic and impersonal. I feel it misses the immediacy that a well busked show creates.

Today's audiences are blasted by massive LED screens and within moments of a band taking off – the cameras come out and the viewer is glued to that tiny screen through the evening. That same viewer who has taken all that trouble to book tickets in advance, find parking miles away, got shoved around as they find seats in the venue. Sit in a seat that usually too small and jammed up close to the next guy.

As I've aged (disgracefully) I still feel that spring in my step return as

I enter the arena. At times I find that I am one of the youngest in the audience. The 70 year olds around me come alive to the first strains of our familiar bands. We become teens again. At least in our heads if not in our limbs.

On the other hand, I have teen daughters. To date, I am still of use as they need daddy to drive them to concerts. I've had to sit through a range of boy bands and scantily clad ladies prance through pre-recorded tracks. I speak from experience.

I just don't see that passion for the music around me. Toilet breaks get extended into make up repair stretches. The queues for cold pizza, warm drinks and over priced T-shirts gets longer and longer. I just don't see that rush to get back to their seats in these kids.

That can't be healthy for the business.

I honestly believe great light shows. With atmosphere and taste, can push a performer along. It has to be unnerving. I honestly feel it is time for a change and a hard re-look at the performance space before everybody falls asleep.

Enhancing the experience of live events has to pay off rich dividends to both producer and artist.

I sincerely hope artificial Intelligence and all it encompasses, makes that happen for our health and wellbeing.



Bringing Emotion on Stage: Prateek Kuhad's Silhouettes Tour



Das opted for an in-the-box workflow on the Avid S6L console, using third-party plug-ins like Oxford Dynamic EQ, McDSP, and Soothe Live to achieve optimal sound on the Silhouettes Tour, citing Ansata's impeccable support as integral to the process

Prateek Kuhad, widely recognised for his emotive songwriting and distinct sonic identity, elevated his artistry to a new level on "The Silhouettes Tour". The tour became an exercise in faithfully translating the emotional depth of his studio recordings for expansive live audiences. Central to achieving this was FOH engineer **Supratik Das**, who brought a fresh perspective, sharp musical intuition, and the versatile Avid S6L system to the stage. Supporting this technical vision was **Ansata**, who pulled out all the stops to ensure that Kuhad's artistry and Das' sonic vision were realised with precision.

The Indian leg of the tour visited the cities of Ahmedabad, Bangalore, Delhi, Guwahati, Hyderabad, Indore, Jaipur, Kathmandu, Kolkata, Lucknow, Mumbai and Pune. The **Avid S6L** system served as the mixing console of choice for **Das** for the entirety of the tour. The console setup featured an elegant combination of 32D and 24D surfaces, seamlessly paired with the powerful **E6L 144/192** engine, a configuration designed to deliver precision, flexibility, and sonic finesse at every stop of the tour.

The Challenge: Scale, Compatibility and a Fresh Approach

With each show drawing a whopping average of **6,000 to 7,000 attendees**, the scale of the production was enormous. Spanning nearly **80 events** and requiring **56 snapshots**, the technical foundation needed to be both adaptable and rock solid.

One of the biggest challenges lay in ensuring that the show file remained compatible across a range of surface sizes, engine configurations (given the varying I/O counts), and stage rack availability.

Das was not travelling with a familiar setup, making a clean-sounding preamp that could be customised on demand essential. The Avid S6L checked all the right boxes.

Having worked with the band for nearly six years, previously using a different platform, Das sought to shake up his mixing process. He cited the S6L's mix-in-the-box features as a major factor in the console's selection.

"The fact that I could add third-party plugins from manufacturers like **Oxford**, **McDSP** and **Soothe Live** were definitely a bonus I was looking for. I also needed a lot of customisability in the workflow because the show is a complex one where I am also

mixing monitors from Front of House for a 7-piece band," Das emphasised.

Maintaining Consistency

It was essential that the emotional nuance of Kuhad's music, so familiar to fans streaming it through their phones, was preserved in the live setting. Capturing and delivering that same feeling on stage was the central challenge, and Das was determined to meet it. To ensure a consistent experience across cities, the same console setup had to be available at every venue, a logistical feat on a multi-city tour. That's where **Ansata** stepped up, providing crucial support to make it all possible.

Collaborating with Ansata

Ansata played a key role in supporting the tour, assisting with

critical data on the availability of consoles and engines. Application Specialists at Ansata are particularly crucial in addressing technical queries during the setup and preparation phases. Das described working with Ansata as a consistently reliable and wholesome experience. Having collaborated with them for many years, he also expressed enthusiasm about continuing the partnership in future projects. Snapshots took on a bulk of workload for the show. The prep was primarily done offline, with the help of virtual soundchecks across three months.

“As we neared the end of the tour, there was a show where we voluntarily cancelled soundcheck because we just thought we didn’t need them. My key takeaways would be that the S6L is one of the most capable and reliable platforms to use on a large-scale event because everything is so well built and contained within that no external computers or hardware units are needed for a major part of it.”

“The events feature has to be one of my favourites in the S6L ecosystem. Being able to program colour switches, function switches and X/Y switches to perform various tasks and having a function pad on the iPad with all the function key events on it, made it feel easy from gig to gig. Another feature that I absolutely love that no other console currently has, is snapshot recalled layouts. This is a game changer especially for someone like me who doesn’t like changing a lot of pages but also needs to access a large number of inputs,” Das emphatically noted.

The feature that stood out the most for Das was the ability to record up to 128 channels at 96kHz using a single cat6 cable via AVB. This also swayed Das’ decision in favour of the S6L further, considering the other consoles on the market offered 64 channels out of the box, and engineers had to employ external devices to expand recording capability.

Memorable Reactions and First Impressions

The crew was genuinely surprised and impressed by the outcome achieved at the very first gig in Nepal. It marked the debut of a new band lineup, a redesigned set, a fresh stage layout, and new members in the crew, with excitement running high. Hearing the clarity and depth from the PA system came as a huge relief to Das and a pleasant surprise to the entire team, as it delivered a sonic experience they hadn’t encountered before. One of the defining moments came in Kathmandu, where the first performance with the new band and stage design unfolded. “There was a collective moment of surprise and relief,” says Das. “It was something we hadn’t heard before.”

With Supratik Das leading the mix and Ansata ensuring technical continuity, the tour managed to translate the emotion of Prateek Kuhad’s soulful ballads to an audience of thousands. The Avid S6L proved itself a reliable partner throughout, offering the flexibility and precision the production demanded. In the end, what stood out wasn’t just the scale of the tour, but how closely it resembled the feeling that first drew in Kuhad’s fans.

VIDHANA SOUDHA ILLUMINATION... *(Continued from page 40)*

Design Simulation and On-Ground Execution

Advanced simulation tools were crucial in developing and presenting the lighting design.

“A detailed 3D lighting concept was developed using advanced lighting design and visualization platforms during the initial stages of the project. We have inhouse expertise in it,” D’Souza noted. “These tools allowed us to analyse fixture performance based on lux levels and lumen output, which helped us accurately select the appropriate wattages and beam angles for each application area.”

Simulated walk-throughs and IES-based renderings helped secure approvals and set clear expectations. “The actual on-site execution was very much in line with the simulated visuals or even better, demonstrating a high level of accuracy and ensuring the design intent was faithfully achieved.”

Navigating Architectural Complexity

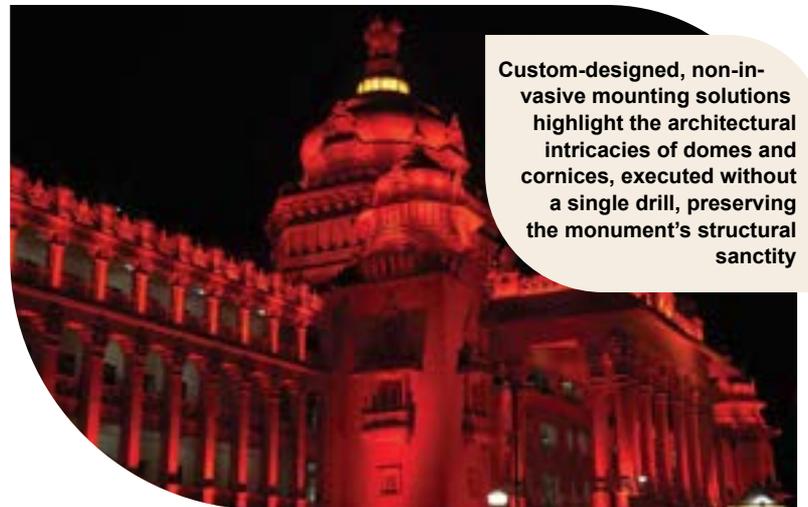
“Since the use of drilling or cutting was strictly prohibited to preserve the heritage structure, we developed custom-designed clamps and mounting solutions tailored for each application,” said D’Souza.

“Each lighting position was carefully finalised after multiple on-site assessments and mock-ups. The goal was to highlight architectural elements like the domes, columns, and cornices with precision, using focused beam angles and discreet mounting, so that the light enhanced the grandeur of the structure without overpowering it.”

A robust, flexible control backbone supports daily and event lighting scenarios.

“We have deployed a DMX protocol-based control system across the entire façade lighting installation,” said D’Souza. “This system is fully programmable and reprogrammable, allowing lighting themes to be updated or changed as per specific requirements or occasions.”

Once the fixtures are mapped within the control software, the entire building is programmed scene by scene. These pre-configured lighting scenes are then stored in the central control unit. The system supports both automated



triggering, where lighting scenes are activated based on pre-set calendar dates (such as Independence Day or Republic Day), as well as manual triggering, which can be done through a simple interface or control panel for real-time activation. Moreover, the lighting can be easily synchronised with the music.

Learnings from a Landmark Project

“The Vidhana Soudha project has been one of the most prestigious and challenging lighting installations our team has completed,” elaborated D’Souza. “One of the biggest lessons we learned was the value of non-invasive installation methods. We developed special clamps and mounts that didn’t require any drilling or damage to the building, something we now plan to use in future heritage projects.”

Overall, this experience has strengthened our skills and increased our confidence in lighting up the iconic structures with both technical precision and respect for heritage, something we are proud to carry forward. Finally, we are very glad that our work and creativity was liked by all and well appreciated.”

With this venture, the Vidhana Soudha Illumination Project is a veritable jewel in Leksa Lighting’s crown of accomplishments.

DUSIT PRINCESS KATHMANDU ELEVATES GUEST EXPERIENCE WITH HARMAN

Set in the upscale Lazimpat district of Kathmandu, **Dusit Princess Hotel** offers a blend of Thai elegance and Nepalese charm. To complement its luxurious ambiance, the hotel partnered with **Zerone Technologies** and **HARMAN Professional** to deploy a cutting-edge system tailored for immersive guest experiences across its lounges, dining spaces, banquet halls, and rooftop club.

At the heart of the upgrade is a carefully curated **JBL** audio ecosystem. **JBL Control 12C/T, 14C/T, and 8124 ceiling speakers** deliver warm, consistent tonality throughout public areas, while **JBL C65P/T** pendant speakers with **RBI** technology provide precise, immersive sound in open spaces. The dining areas benefit from high-sensitivity **JBL 8124s**, ensuring refined sonic presence. For the rooftop, **JBL Control 85M** garden speakers project 360-degree sound without disturbing the

open-air vibe. **WeatherMax**-equipped **Control 25-1s** ensure long-term outdoor reliability.

The grand banquet hall features **JBL CBT 70J-1** and **CBT 50LA-1** line arrays for focused coverage, complemented by **AC15 loudspeakers** that maximise the room's acoustic depth.

Audio control and amplification are powered by **Crown CDi** and **DCi** series amplifiers, along with **JBL CSA 2120Z/240Z**, ensuring distortion-free output across zones. **BSS BLU proces-**

sors and **EC 4BV** wall controllers enable seamless, intuitive multi-zone management, with precise calibration for every event.

The hotel's event and meeting spaces are equally refined with **AMX VPX-1401 switchers**, **DUX transmitters/receivers**, and **CTP-1301** presentation kits enabling smooth 4K signal distribution. The **AMX ACV-2100 Acendo Vibe bar** with **JBL** sound brings crystal-clear conferencing to life, while **AKG WMS470 wireless systems** and **AKG D5 wired microphones** ensure flawless vocal clarity.

This holistic AV deployment turns each hotel moment into a layered sensory journey—where luxury meets cutting-edge technology. The scalable design offers future-proof reliability and allows staff to adapt ambience with ease.

By integrating technology seamlessly into its cultural and design narrative, **Dusit Princess Kathmandu** has set a new benchmark in modern hospitality, where sound becomes an experience and every detail resonates with thoughtful precision.



Dusit Princess Kathmandu elevates guest experiences with a premium AV overhaul featuring JBL, Crown, BSS, AKG, and AMX systems, integrated by Zerone Technologies

EAW ADDS UXA4807D TO FIXED INSTALLATION AMPLIFIER LINE

Eastern Acoustic Works (EAW) has added the **UXA4807D** to its successful installation amplifier line. With this addition, **UXA** installation amplifiers are perfectly matched with **EAW's** Engineered Solutions Loudspeakers for fast, seamless system integration and reliable performance for years to come. The **UXA4807D** was debuted at **InfoComm 2025**.

UXA installation amplifiers offer onboard processing that includes **FIR** and limiter settings called **Greyboxes**. **Greyboxes** come preloaded and can be assigned to each output from a pull-down menu using intuitive software. Ample user-adjustable **EQ**, limiter/compressor and delay

settings are available to fine tune the installation.

"Through the creation of the **UXA** Installation Series and specifically the

UXA4807D, we are making it easier and faster to specify and integrate **EAW** systems," says **TJ Smith**, President of **EAW**. "We understand that today's consultants and integrators do not have time to review moun-

tains of specifications and download settings. **EAW** **UXA** installation amplifiers save time during specification, integration and commissioning to provide trustworthy and long-lasting results."

The **Power Factor Corrected (PFC)** universal power supply is efficient and tolerant of mains disturbances. **UXA** amplifiers operate from mains voltages of 100-240 volts and 50 or 60 Hertz. **ErP** and **EnergySTAR** compliance mean operating costs are reduced. **UXA** amplifiers recover from a loss of mains power quickly, passing audio from the analog inputs within 10 seconds from application of power.



UXA4807D features a versatile input matrix mixer with built-in support for Dante, four analogue channels, and SPDIF

BETA3 TRANSFORMS SOUNDSCAPES AT DPS GAYA

Delhi Public School, Gaya, envisioned a top-tier audio upgrade for its 400-seater auditorium. Often hosting cultural events, seminars, and educational programs that demand high speech intelligibility and consistent audio coverage, their existing system fell short in delivering the clarity and punch required for such a versatile venue.

DPS Gaya approached **Beta3 Audio** with the goal of creating an immersive sound environment that would elevate the overall impact of its events. The challenge lay in providing clear front-of-house audio coverage while ensuring that every seat received a balanced, high-quality sound. The solution had to be future-ready, reliable, and capable of handling all forms of events.

Beta3 deployed a hybrid audio system tailored to the auditorium's dimensions and acoustic needs. The **VR110 Line**



Beta3 deployed the VR110 Line Array, QS600, and Sigma C2600 Digital Crossover, driven by DT Series Class-D amps at DPS Gaya for unmatched efficiency and clarity, powering flawless live performances

Array System was chosen as the Front of House (FOH) solution, renowned for its clarity, throw, and even sound distribution. For side and rear-fill, **QS600** full-range speakers were installed to maintain a uniform sound field throughout the space. To ensure optimal system tuning and signal routing, the powerful **Sigma C2600 Digital Crossover** was integrated. All components were powered using **DT Series Class-D amplifiers**, ensuring energy efficiency and consistent performance.

Post-installation, DPS Gaya witnessed a significant enhancement in audio quality. The system now delivers crystal-clear sound with rich lows and smooth highs, creating an engaging experience for students, staff, and guests. The auditorium has become a testament to modern audio technology's benefits in educational infrastructure.

PINK NOISE DELIVERS PREMIUM AUDIO INFRASTRUCTURE AT DPS AHMEDABAD

Delhi Public School, Ahmedabad, added to its auditorium recently with a full professional audio system, catering to everything from cultural activities to regular assemblies. The installation was carried out in association with **Pink Noise Professionals** and system integrator **Trijiv Technology Pvt Ltd**, combining premium equipment with professional installation.

The sound system is bridged by **EAW RS121 (x4) full-range speakers**

and **RS118 (x2) subs**, bringing clean high-quality sound and low, powerful bass. **EAW LA121 (x2) speakers** also guarantee concentrated coverage, especially for bigger events. Supporting the centre of the system is the **Erthpot Keyer 88**, a top-of-the-line DSP that offers optimal control and tuning versatility. For vocal reinforce-



DPS Ahmedabad auditorium now powered by EAW and Erthpot, with a pro-grade audio install by Pink Noise Professionals and Trijiv Technology Pvt Ltd

ment, a wide range of microphone types were installed to suit diverse scenarios:

The audio setup includes two **Erthpot VC1** wired condenser microphones, ideal for delivering clear speech and announcements, alongside three Erthpot VD1 wired dynamic microphones for versatile,

general-purpose use. For wireless flexibility, two **Erthpot AR31** handheld microphones with single-channel diversity receivers were deployed, ensuring mobility and interference-free performance. A single **Erthpot AR32H** headworn microphone system, featuring a bodypack transmitter and diversity receiver,

was also included, perfect for hands-free presentations. Additionally, two **Erthpot V1522GN** gooseneck microphones paired with **V150DSR** receivers provide focused and articulate speech capture for podium use.

Designed for both performance and practicality, the system includes pre-set configurations, enabling effortless operation by school staff without requiring technical expertise.

This installation stands as a strong example of how thoughtful planning, high-quality products, and skilled execution can transform an institutional venue. With advanced features and easy usability, the auditorium is now equipped to deliver professional-grade audio for every event, large or small.

EMINENT AV DELIVERS PREMIUM AUDIO AT THE STUDS SPORTS BAR

The **Studs Sports Bar**, All Day Diner & Taproom in Pune's Baner Road has recently elevated its AV infrastructure with a complete professional audio system designed and executed by Delhi-based integrator **Eminent AV**. The scope included full-system design, installation, and commissioning.

Responding to the brief for top-tier audio technology, Eminent AV deployed a hybrid solution comprising **Amate Audio** and **Louis Martin** systems. "Amate Audio has long been trusted in the hospitality sector for its reliability and sonic quality," said a company spokesperson. "Pairing it with Louis Martin allowed us to provide premium European performance at a competitive price."

The audio system at The Studs Sports Bar features a front-of-house setup comprising 4 x **Amate Audio Nitid**



Amate Audio and Louis Martin systems deployed by Eminent AV ensure full-range coverage and low-frequency depth across The Studs Sports Bar's 2,000 sq. ft. space

S15P loudspeakers, supported by 2 x **Amate Audio Nitid S26P** units serving as fill speakers. For the outdoor zones, the installation includes 8 x

Amate Audio G7 speakers to ensure seamless coverage. Low-frequency reinforcement is handled by 2 x **Louis Martin S218 subwoofers**. Amplifi-

cation is delivered through 2 x **Louis Martin TIP1002**, 1 x **Louis Martin TIP1602**, and 1 x **Louis Martin D4200 power amplifiers**. The entire system is managed by a single **Amate Audio LMS206 digital signal processor**, enabling fine-tuned control and performance optimisation.

While the project's Pune location presented logistical challenges for the Delhi-based team, local vendors were brought in for wiring. "Speaker placement required close coordination with electricians on site, but our team ensured the design was implemented as intended."

Following a successful installation and training session, the client awarded Eminent AV a second upcoming project, cementing the strength of the partnership and performance delivered.

VMT POWERS BAARQ'S SONIC UPGRADE

Baaroq is a vibrant culinary destination in Andheri, Mumbai, where design, flavour, and energy collide. Spanning 3,500 sq. ft. with seating for 120, its setting is inspired by Baroque grandeur. At its core, Baaroq treats sound not as background, but as a storytelling tool, driving mood and elevating emotion.

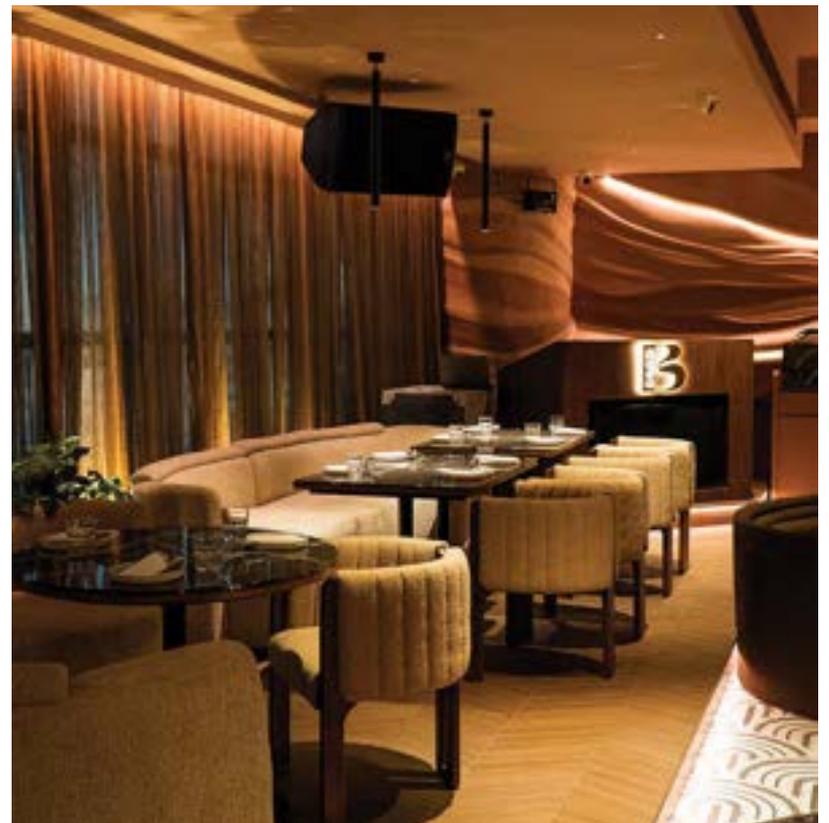
Baaroq's sound system was designed to match the venue's luxurious tone and fluid energy. **CDD15** and **CDD12 loudspeakers** were installed, bringing **Martin Audio's** signature wide, even coverage to every corner. The system is powered by **British Acoustics 2XL** and **2XM amplifiers**, offering consistent and distortion-free output. A **Delta 48X DSP processor** was implemented for zone control and precise EQ tuning, allowing the system to adapt effortlessly to shifting atmospheres. From subtle ambient tracks to energetic late-night playlists, the sound at Baaroq remains clean, dynamic, and

undeniably expressive.

To ensure clarity and balance throughout the venue, **Martin Audio's Blackline X218 subwoofers** were chosen for their ability to produce rich, extended low-end that anchors the sonic experience, while **X118 subwoofers** complement them with tighter, more directional bass perfect for high-traffic areas like the bar and lounge. This dual-subwoofer approach allows the system to deliver both warmth and definition across various moods and times of day.

"The audio system has become a defining part of Baaroq's identity. It not only enhances the guest journey but also supports the way we program music and experiences. It's refined, flexible, and incredibly reliable," - **Rahul Rai**, Director, Baaroq.

"Baaroq shows how the right audio system can strengthen a venue's brand identity. The installation is not just technically sound it's emotionally



Martin Audio CDD Series and dual-sub configuration installed at Baaroq, engineered for immersive, emotionally dynamic sound across zones

resonant. It captures the essence of the space and elevates the entire

guest journey," - **Jeff Mandot**, Director, VMT.



LONGER, LOUDER, SMARTER: THE SCIENCE BEHIND LINE ARRAY LENGTH

by Vishrut V. Joshi, (Head of Operations - MEGA SOUND)

Vishrut V. Joshi, a veteran in the live sound industry in India, breaks down the science behind one of pro audio's most defining technologies, the line array. In this insightful column, he explores how the length of a line array system impacts directivity, SPL consistency, low-frequency control, and overall system intelligence.

In the world of live sound, few technologies have revolutionized concert audio like the line array. From festival stages to indoor arenas, line arrays are the go-to solution for delivering powerful, clear sound across large audiences. But there's one critical factor that can make or break their performance, length.

So, why does the length of a line array matter? What's the science behind stacking more boxes in the air? Let's unpack how going longer leads to louder and smarter sound reinforcement.

Understanding Line Arrays: The Basics

A line array is a vertically stacked series of loudspeakers designed to work together as a single, coherent source. The goal is to produce a more controlled and predictable sound field, especially in large venues where traditional point-source speakers fall short.

Unlike a single speaker that radiates sound in all directions (a spherical wave), a line array aims to create a cylindrical wavefront. This has two main benefits: More even sound pressure level (SPL) over distance. Tighter vertical directivity, reducing sound waste. But the magic really happens when you stack more boxes.

Why Length Matters: Four Key Reasons

1. Vertical Directivity and Beam Control

The longer the array, the narrower the vertical beam. This isn't just about loudness—it's about control. With more elements, the system can better focus sound energy where it's needed (the audience) and avoid where it's not (ceilings, walls, or the back of the stage).

A short array might spill sound into balconies or floors unintentionally, creating muddy reflections. A longer one can deliver a laser-like beam of sound that cleanly covers even complex venue geometries.

2. Low-Frequency Pattern Control

One of the biggest challenges in live sound is managing low frequencies. Bass tends to go everywhere, bouncing off walls and ceilings and creating a mess of phase cancellations and standing waves.

Here's where length becomes a game-changer. Controlling low frequencies requires array lengths that are comparable to the wavelength of the frequencies in question. For example: 100 Hz has a wavelength of about 3.4 meters. A line array needs to approach or exceed this length to effectively steer and narrow the low-end beam.

That's why short arrays often suffer from omnidirectional bass spread, while longer arrays can contain and shape low-end energy much more effectively.

3. Improved Throw and SPL Consistency

In ideal conditions, a line array can exhibit -3 dB drop per doubling of distance, compared to the -6 dB drop of a point source. This makes a huge difference in large venues, allowing the back rows to receive nearly the same clarity and volume as the front.

However, this only holds true while the array behaves like a true line source, and that's directly tied to its length. The longer the array, the longer it maintains cylindrical wave behavior, resulting in better long-range performance.

The Limits of Going Long

Of course, longer isn't always better without context: Rigging constraints may limit height. Venue acoustics and audience layout determine ideal coverage. Phase interference from

poorly configured arrays can cause lobing or cancellations. Smart design balances array length with other system elements, amplification, DSP, room acoustics, and human ears.

Role of Simulation Software in Line Array Design

Designing a line array system isn't just about adding more speakers to a stack. Thanks to simulation software like **Soundvision**, **ArrayCalc**, **Blue Print** engineers can predict how the array will perform in a particular space before deployment. These tools take into account: Room geometry (size, shape, and reflective surfaces). Speaker placement and array curvature. Environmental factors (humidity, temperature, etc.)

Simulation software allows sound engineers to predict obstacles like unwanted reflections, phase issues, or coverage gaps and make adjustments in real time. For instance, it can show how a slight change in array height or angle might drastically improve the distribution of sound energy. By simulating different configurations, engineers can achieve the most efficient setup with minimal trial and error.

Differentiating Line Array Lows from Subwoofer Lows

While line arrays are excellent at controlling mid range and high frequencies, low-end frequencies (sub-bass and bass) require a slightly different approach.

Line array lows tend to behave like a distributed source, meaning they have a tighter vertical beam but are still more directional than subs.

Subwoofers, on the other hand, are designed to handle extremely low frequencies, often below 100 Hz, where the wavelength is much longer. This means subwoofer arrays are more prone to omnidirectional dispersion.

To manage both, many systems

use subwoofer arrays alongside line arrays: Subwoofers are often placed in a stacked or cardioid array configuration, which helps direct bass towards the audience and reduce unwanted reflections off the stage or walls. Line array subs focus more on maintaining directivity at the higher bass frequencies, ensuring the clarity of the low-mid range while still controlling the spread of low frequencies.

By differentiating the two, engineers can achieve a more seamless blend of high and low frequencies, ensuring full-range clarity across the venue.

Real-World Impact

Whether you're mixing a rock band in a stadium or reinforcing a speech in a convention hall, understanding the role of array length gives you a major advantage. You can: Avoid coverage gaps. Minimise reflections. Deliver clearer, more consistent sound.

In short, going longer makes your system not just louder, but smarter.

Final Thoughts

The length of a line array is far more than a visual cue, it's a crucial design parameter that affects everything from low-end control to SPL consistency. For sound engineers and system designers, mastering the science of array length is essential to delivering world-class audio.

Thanks to simulation software and a greater understanding of how subwoofers differ from line array lows, you can fine-tune your setup for the perfect balance of clarity, punch, and throw. So, next time you're under a towering stack of speakers, remember: size really does matter.

J DAVIS PROSOUND & LIGHTING JOINS THE D&B AUDIOTECHNIK FAMILY WITH INVESTMENT IN THE LATEST CCL AND XSL SERIES

With over two decades of leadership in premium audio solutions through **L-Acoustics systems**, **J Davis Prosound & Lighting** has made a strategic expansion by adding **d&b audiotechnik's** latest technologies to its inventory, further strengthening its position in India's live sound rental market.

The company has invested in d&b's newly launched **CCL8** and **CCL12** point source systems, accompanied by the CL subwoofers, as well as the highly regarded **XSL8** and **XSL12 line array systems**, paired with **XSL subwoofers**, all driven by the advanced **D40 amplifiers**. This comprehensive package ensures exceptional sonic performance, energy efficiency, and versatility for a wide range of productions, from corporate events to large-scale tours.

A standout feature of both the CCL and XSL systems is their cardioid design, present in both

the main tops and subwoofers. This cardioid functionality offers significant real-world advantages

By adding these cardioid-enabled systems, J Davis Prosound & Lighting now offers clients unprecedented control over their acoustic environments, delivering clearer sound, tighter low end, and an overall more enjoyable listening experience across any event format.

Commenting on this milestone, **Santana Davis**, Managing Director of J Davis Prosound & Lighting, shared: "We've proudly relied & still continue to rely on L-Acoustics for over 20 years, building a reputation on clarity, consistency, and trust. Bringing d&b audiotechnik into our fold now gives us the best of both worlds. With this dual-brand powerhouse approach, J Davis Prosound & Lighting will now stand in providing tailored, world-class audio experiences across rental market in India."

"Congratulations to Santana Davis and the entire J Davis Prosound & Lighting team on this exciting



Santana Davis, MD of J Davis Prosound & Lighting, with Leslie Lean of Ansata and Santiago Alcalá, Product Manager at d&b audiotechnik, celebrates a key milestone in their collective journey within India's live sound market

addition to your rental inventory! It's been a pleasure working with you on this milestone, and I'm confident this strategic investment will set new

benchmarks in sonic excellence across your projects. Wishing you continued success!", commented **Leslie Lean of Ansata**.

MEYER SOUND BRINGS PRO AUDIO TRAINING TO MUMBAI WITH SUN INFONET

Ahead of the **PALM Expo** in May, **Meyer Sound** and their Indian distributor **Sun Infonet** conducted a focused three-day training programme at NESCO, Mumbai. Led by **Mauricio "Magu" Ramirez**, Senior Instructor at Meyer Sound, the sessions attracted close to 100 audio professionals including engineers, integrators, and consultants.

The training covered **Portable System Deployment** and **Low-Frequency Control**, blending theory with real-world application. Attendees engaged in hands-on exercises using Meyer Sound equipment and software.

"I often gauge the effectiveness of a training session by the number and depth of questions I get during and between the sessions," said Magu. "In Mumbai, I was constantly engaged with attendees. That level of interac-



Mauricio "Magu" Ramirez of Meyer Sound leads a packed 3-day masterclass in Mumbai, hosted by Sun Infonet, to a full house of eager industry professionals, wrapped with sharp Q&As and vibrant networking

tion tells me the audience was both interested and eager to learn."

Also present was **Andrea Granata**, Meyer Sound's Sales Manager MEA & India. "Years ago, when we began offering trainings in India, we weren't sure how the community would respond," he recalled. "Now, we're seeing full attendance from seasoned professionals, even on a Sunday morning. It's a clear reflection of how Meyer Sound has evolved in the region, and a testament to the vital role Sun Infonet has played in fostering that growth."

"This focus on education will continue to be a key part of our vision for the future," added **Neeraj Chandra**, Director, Sun Infonet. "At Sun Infonet, our commitment goes beyond product distribution, we believe in empowering professionals through knowledge."

HEARING THE CHANGE: ENGINEERING SAFER SOUND EXPERIENCES

By Jon Burton

This month, I find myself in the middle of the music festival season. For me, this has always been a seemingly continuous round of trains, buses, flights and hotels. Stages can be found in parks, town squares, and airfields, anywhere an audience can gather and enjoy music. Inevitably, for me, as a sound engineer, this means early mornings and late nights. The summer is a dynamic mix of exciting shows, boring travel, and unpredictable weather. This cycle is repeated around the world at different times of the year as we struggle to put on shows of increasingly complex scale. However, it is not the technology I want to discuss, but a subtle shift in attitudes that I have been noticing over the last few years.

In 2019, as the world began to wake up to the reality of a global epidemic, my colleague, **Adam Hill**, was sitting in Geneva at the **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, talking instead about hearing health. Ten years ago this month, the WHO launched its "Make Listening Safe" campaign. The aim was to address the growing problem of hearing loss, particularly among young people, worldwide. The first campaign they launched, you may have witnessed, was the addition of safer hearing features in your mobile phone and other listening devices. However, it was our world of musical events that was on the agenda of the working group Adam had been invited to join.

Returning to the **University of Derby**, where we both work, Adam was concerned. Faced with a room of well-meaning medical practitioners, audiologists, and hearing experts, Adam felt like a minority voice representing the audio engineering community.

Having worked in the States as an audio technician before moving into education, Adam was very much aware of the wishes and needs of audiences. These did not appear to align with some of the conversations happening in the room. The result was that Adam and I, and a small group of colleagues, began conducting academic research into the current state of legislation regarding noise limits worldwide. A survey was conducted among audio engineers to gauge their current levels of interest in, and knowledge of, subjects such as sound pressure levels, weighting, rolling averages, and the like.

I must, at this point, thank the many Facebook groups, such as Indian Sound Engineers, who kindly



allowed me to become an honorary member in aid of research. All in all, over 2,500 engineers contributed to a survey that formed one of a suite of three papers published by the Audio Engineering Society on 'Sound Level Monitoring at Live Events' [1] [2] [3]. These papers helped shape what would become the 'WHO Global Standard for Safe Listening Venues and Events' [4]. Released in March 2022, its impact is just beginning to be felt worldwide.

So, what does a document like this mean to us, the engineers, technicians and production companies? How will it affect our day-to-day

work? That is a valid and challenging question to answer. It is worth checking out what is in the standard. It is a very readable document, written in easily understood text. I was not one of the authors, but I broadly support much of what it contains, which is mostly common sense and examples of good practice. I won't dwell on the specifics, but I do not doubt that many of the points in the standard will gradually work their way into legislation across the globe.

It is the legislation that has been the conversation I have been hearing over the festival season. Well, to be more accurate, the lack of cohesive legislation or guidance across most festival sites. Many festivals now operate with sound level limits to help mitigate off-site issues with

neighbours. The issue of high sound levels inside festivals remains largely unaddressed. However, what I have been hearing from fellow engineers is an increasing interest in what is considered a 'safe level' for audiences.

It is easy to overlook that, as engineers, we are, for the most part, responsible and safety-conscious individuals. This is being reflected in the comments appearing on social media, which is a sign of a shift in attitudes from our community.

Just 18 months ago, a key event in the festival calendar, the **Serendipity Arts Festival** in Goa, actively engaged with the recommendations of the WHO Global Standard for Safe Listening Venues and Events. Stages were monitored for sound levels to see if they complied with the WHO recommendations. Being a city-wide event, there were quiet areas where audiences could rest their ears. Earplugs were available for purchase. Education was provided to festival workers and attendees on how to protect their hearing. That this happened at such a major festival, across so many

stages and sites, is incredible and should be celebrated [5].

Are we seeing a new wave of more responsible action at events? I hope so. We need to protect our audiences and ensure the sustainability of our industry. I encourage you all to learn about your hearing. High sound pressure levels are not the same as loudness. Loudness is perceptual; you do not need high SPLs to have a loud show, you need dynamics! I have been mixing since 2023 to the WHO standard, I recommend you give it a go too! Let's look after ourselves, our audiences, and have great sounding but safer shows! Roll on the festival season!

[1] A. J. Hill, J. Mulder, J. Burton, M. Kok, and M. Lawrence, 'Sound Level Monitoring at Live Events, Part 1--Live Dynamic Range', *JAES*, vol. 69, no. 11, pp. 782-792, Nov. 2021.

[2] A. J. Hill, J. Mulder, J. Burton, M. Kok, and M. Lawrence, 'Sound Level Monitoring at Live Events, Part 3--Improved Tools and Procedures', *JAES*, vol. 70, no. 1/2, pp. 73-82, Jan. 2022.

[3] J. Mulder, A. J. Hill, J. Burton, M. Kok, and M. Lawrence, 'Sound Level Monitoring at Live Events, Part 2---Regulations, Practices, and Preferences', *JAES*, vol. 70, no. 1/2, pp. 62-72, Jan. 2022.

[4] WHO, 'WHO global standard for safe listening venues and events'. Accessed: Jan. 21, 2024. [Online]. Available: <https://www.who.int/publications-detail-redirect/9789240043114>

[5] WHO, 'WHO hearing guidelines implemented at major arts festival'. Accessed: Jul. 09, 2025. [Online]. Available: <https://www.who.int/newsroom/feature-stories/detail/who-hearing-guidelines-implemented-at-major-arts-festival>

YAMAHA MUSIC INDIA USHERS IN A NEW ERA OF AUDIO INNOVATION

Yamaha Music India officially opened the doors to its new Experience Center in Bengaluru on June 2, 2025. The facility was designed to bring customers closer to the full value of Yamaha's integrated professional audio solutions, featuring the combined technologies of Yamaha and NEXO within a unified audio ecosystem. *PALM Expo Magazine* team had an opportunity to witness the launch of the Centre.

The Experience Centre offers

Centre is set to evolve into a comprehensive showcase of Yamaha's musical excellence, featuring pianos, guitars, and other instruments to provide a complete music experience under one roof.

"Yamaha Music India was pleased to inaugurate our Experience Centre in Bengaluru. Recognised as the hub of technology and innovation in India, Bengaluru is also a strategic location where many of our key industry partners are based. With this new

our customers in India through innovative technologies and high-quality musical instruments and professional audio solutions," said **Taketoshi Yamamoto**, Managing Director of Yamaha Music India.

"We were truly delighted to open our Experience Centre in Bengaluru, India. India is a vital and strategic market for our audio business, with enormous potential for future growth. Bengaluru is not only a hub for IT and innovation but also the

ted to creating greater value for our customers in India and will continue to work together to realise that goal," said **Keigo Hatano**, General Manager of Global Marketing & Sales Department at the Professional Solutions Division of Yamaha Corporation.

"It's not just about seeing or touching a product, it's about truly understanding it. That's what we're focusing on here. Our experience encompasses various applications: recording, education institutions,



Taketoshi Yamamoto, Anthony Paul Cox, and Shigenobu Namikawa officially inaugurate Yamaha Music's Experience Centre, replete with seamless audio-visual infrastructure



Taketoshi Yamamoto, Managing Director of Yamaha Music India, elaborates upon the technologies and market potential of the Experience Center for Yamaha Music India



Shigenobu Namikawa, the Assistant General Manager, Audio Marketing Department, conducted a live demonstration of the centre's LAN-based control system, and many more pro audio solutions



Andy Cooper from Yamaha R&D conducts live demonstration for professionals at the Experience Centre

demonstrations with permanent and flexible equipment and system setups for demo and training, equipment verification, and the production of promotional material such as webinars, equipment training video content, and technical documentation. At the heart of this initiative was the implementation of a **LAN-based control system (AV over IP)**, enabling seamless, scalable, and centralised control of the audio-visual infrastructure. This architecture ensured both high performance and adaptability for a wide range of applications.

Looking ahead, the Experience

facility, we have further strengthened our connection with customers by offering faster and more personalised product demonstrations and technical support. This initiative reflected Yamaha's long-standing commitment to reliability in the professional audio domain and our ongoing efforts to enhance our support infrastructure. The Experience Center was designed to provide an immersive product experience, fostering deeper engagement with industry professionals such as system integrators and sound engineers. Yamaha stays committed to delivering valuable experiences to

epicentre for ability and demand in the professional audio industry. Establishing a base in such a forward-looking and dynamic city stood for an exciting challenge for us and a crucial step toward deepening relationships with our customers. Through the Experience Center, we aimed to provide firsthand access to Yamaha's advanced technologies and integrated solutions, while delivering tailored proposals that address real-world challenges. We stay commit-

hospitality facilities, places of worship, event spaces, and more. This is what we are offering here today in our Experience Centre. There is nothing more convincing than a demonstration that immerses customers in a real environment," elaborated **Shigenobu Namikawa**, the Assistant General Manager, Audio Marketing Department, Yamaha Music India.

At the launch, the Yamaha Music team demonstrated the aspects of

(Continued on page 59)

LINEA RESEARCH APPOINTS VARDHAMAN MEGATECH AS DISTRIBUTION PARTNER IN INDIA

Linea Research has announced the appointment of **Vardhaman Megatech Pvt. Ltd (VMT)** as its exclusive distribution partner for India, extending the global reach of the UK-based manufacturer of advanced amplifiers, DSP platforms, and networked audio

solutions. The exclusive distribution partnership is effective immediately and VMT took the opportunity of the recent **PALM Expo** in Mumbai, India, to showcase Linea Research.

Martin Hildred, Sales and Marketing Director for Linea Research, confirmed the appointment. "VMT is a well-respected and established

distributor operating throughout India with strengths in all the markets Linea Research operates in, including both touring and installation.

With teams and satellite offices across the country, linked closely to its Head Office in Mumbai, VMT can quickly provide Linea Research customers with the level of support we expect for them, in all regions nationwide."

VMT Director, **Jeff Mandot**, commented, "We are proud to add the exclusive distribution rights to Linea Research to our professional audio portfolio. The brand, which is trusted by professionals in touring, fixed installations, and premium venues, strengthens our offering and demonstrates our commitment to delivering world-class technology.

"Recognised globally for the innovative design and manufacture of advanced amplifiers, DSP platforms, and networked audio solutions, Linea Research is known for its products that deliver exceptional clarity, reliability, and efficiency. The full range is now available exclusively through our

network."

VMT will receive the full support of **Generation AV**, who manage the distribution of the Focusrite Group products throughout Asia. At the recent APAC distribution summit held in Singapore, VMT were recognised with the Distributor of the Year award for the third consecutive year.

Generation AV Managing Director, **Dave McKinney**, said, "This is exciting for Linea. They are the perfect match for the other brands in VMT's distribution range and in terms of both sales and service, Linea Research could not be in better hands."

Martin Hildred commented, "With the recent launch of System Engineer 8 which adds an extra dimension of intuitive control to our comprehensive range of power amplifiers, this is a great time to extend our reach with the support of such a highly regarded distributor."



Dave McKinney, MD, Generation AV; Dinesh Mandot, MD, VMT; Jeff Mandot, Director – Sales, VMT; and Ness Mandot, Marketing, VMT

THE YAMAHA MUSIC INDIA USHERS IN A NEW ERA... *(Continued from page 58)*

the Experience Centre and showcased a sound system powered through a single network cable, equipped with intelligent features such as auto-tracking and noise reduction. It was shown to connect seamlessly to PCs, Microsoft Teams, or Zoom, without requiring any

complex configurations. To address challenges in larger spaces, where a speaker's voice might not carry effectively to the entire audience, the team demonstrated the use of a ceiling-mounted microphone. This microphone captured the speaker's voice and reproduced it clearly

through the in-room speakers, eliminating the need for larger loudspeakers or handheld mics. This approach, referred to as "distance voice reinforcement," ensured intelligibility and consistency throughout the space.

With its future-proof design and emphasis on real-world application,

the Yamaha Experience Centre in Bengaluru is a space built for meaningful engagement. Whether for system integrators, engineers, or educators, the centre marks a step toward deeper collaboration and innovation in India's growing pro audio landscape.

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An Unequal Music

IN THE MIX WITH INDIA'S LATEST RHYTHMS

*In an industry still largely playing to the algorithms of big-budget cinema and corporate-safe playlists, independent music in India continues to raise a different kind of flag, one stitched together with raw honesty, rooted traditions, and sonic craft that refuses to be background noise. In this edition of **Unequal Music**, we bring you songs, engineers and producers who understand the power of detail. Let's dive in.*

Ishq Bawla by Dhanda Nyoliwala and Xvir Grewal

Coke Studio Bharat, a champion of independently produced music from lesser known artists in India, returns with "Ishq Bawla", a Haryanvi head-nod to love, reimagining centuries of folklore into a modern anthem. Written and composed by **Dhanda Nyoliwala**, who also lends vocals alongside **Xvir Grewal**, the song is elevated by the textured production of **Romeoz**, with traditional flourishes by vocalists **Vandana and Suman Devi**. The mix and master were handled by **Ashock**, whose engineering has become synonymous with folk-modern hybridity done right. Featured in our previous edition, Ashock's work here is equal parts polish and presence preserving

the raw inflections of rural performance while giving them the sonic weight to compete in a contemporary mix. His ability to sculpt sound around rich vocals and acoustic elements is what makes "Ishq Bawla" linger in the ears long after the fade.

Swiping Left by Rapper Big Deal x Arjun Kanungo

Bold, brash, and dripping with

post-breakup confidence, "Swiping Left" is as much a mood as it is a track. **Rapper Big Deal** and singer-songwriter **Arjun Kanungo** come together on this unapologetic banger, backed by a production that fuses pop, trap, and just enough venom. Behind the board is **Asad**, pulling double duty as producer and mix engineer. His mix keeps the beat taut, the bars in

your face, and the transitions smooth without over-stylising the grit. It's that minimal intervention approach that lets the song stay raw, while **Hanish Taneja's** mastering brings the sheen and volume to make it club-ready. Together, they've crafted a track that sounds clean without losing its punch.

Bloodbath by Dizlaw, Tienas, Kim The Beloved, Ranj, Jelo, and Clifr

With "Bloodbath," **Azadi Records** returns to familiar terrain: fierce, unflinching lyricism draped over a minimalist, hard-hitting beat. The track assembles an ensemble of firepower, **Dizlaw, Tienas, Kim The Beloved, Ranj, Jelo, and Clifr**, with Clifr also producing.

But what keeps this lyrical labyrinth from collapsing under its own weight is the mix and master by **Vivek Thomas**, tracked at **VTP Studios**. Thomas's seasoned engineering allows every verse to land with clarity and purpose. His spatial balancing carves room in the mix for each artist without forcing a compromise in tone or energy. The result is dense, but never cluttered, a hallmark of Thomas's ability to engineer

intensity with restraint.

Saare Jag Mein by Abhay Jodhpurkar and Aanandi Joshi

Though technically in the Bollywood orbit, "Saare Jag Mein" earns a place here for its honest production and spiritual intent, from the latest Netflix sensation *Aap Jaisa Koi*. Penned by **Raj Shekhar**, composed by **Justin Prabhakaran**, and performed by **Abhay Jodhpurkar** and **Aanandi Joshi**, the track is a melodic apology soaked in devotional hues. It was recorded across **Playhead Studio, 2barq, and Asia Music Vision**, with recording engineers **Rupjit Das, Vishnu Raj M R, and Harsh Bhoir** each contributing to the track's emotional layers. The mix was executed by **Balu Thankachan** at 20dB Black, assisted by **Paul Daniel J** and **Sreenivasa Sharma**. Their collaborative mix favours emotion over compression, building an aural architecture where each phrase feels suspended in time. For final mastering, the baton was passed to **Gethin John** at **Hafod Mastering**, Wales.



Official Album Art for Bloodbath by Azadi Records



Official Album Art for Ishq Bawla by Coke Studio Bharat

.....

*All record labels, independent artists and channels are requested to share new projects with the **PALM Expo Magazine** team if they wish to get featured in the 'Unequal Music' column as the team explores the voice and talent of budding artists in this recurring feature. To share releases for this column, contact: **Shanaya Sequeira** shanaya.sequeira@hyve.group*

NEUTRIK GROUP APPOINTS LUKAS VON ARX AS CEO

The **Neutrik Group** announced the appointment of **Lukas von Arx** as its new Chief Executive Officer, as he officially takes on leadership of the globally active company headquartered in Liechtenstein as of 1 July 2025.

Lukas von Arx brings a wealth of international experience and leadership expertise in the cable and connectivity industry. Following his commercial apprenticeship at **Studer Draht- und Kabelwerke AG**, he completed a degree in Business Informatics, a Master's in Accounting & Finance, and a PhD in Economics & Finance. His career has included roles at **Ernst & Young**, **LEONI**, and most



Lukas von Arx, CEO, Neutrik Group

recently **BizLink**.

At **LEONI**, von Arx was, among other responsibilities, in charge of establishing a new production facility in India and later led the company's Canadian operations. He joined **BizLink** in 2022 as President & Managing Director of **BizLink elocab Ltd.** in Canada and took over global responsibility in 2023 for the Tailor-Made Business Unit, overseeing nine sites and approximately 1,000 employees.

"I'm inspired by Neutrik's spirit of innovation and its outstanding product quality," says von Arx. "The company holds tremendous potential in both established and emerging

markets. I look forward to shaping its future together with the team."

Von Arx believes that "inspiration is born when people think boldly, communicate openly, and trust one another." Transparency, reliability, and shared responsibility are the cornerstones of his leadership approach.

With Lukas von Arx, the Neutrik Group gains a forward-looking executive who combines international expertise with strategic foresight and a passion for innovation. Together with the global team, he will continue to drive the company's success story and set the course for long-term, sustainable growth.

SONOVA CONSUMER HEARING, INDIA APPOINTS SAAHIL KUMAR AS GENERAL MANAGER FOR SENNHEISER CONSUMER BUSINESS IN INDIA

Audio specialist **Sonova Consumer Hearing Business** has announced the appointment of **Saahil Kumar** as the General Manager for its **Sennheiser Consumer Hearing Business** in India.

As General Manager of Sonova Consumer Hearing India, Kumar will provide strategic leadership to drive business growth through the development of impactful go-to-market and locally relevant product strategies. He will focus on accelerating market share gains, enhancing profitability, and strengthening the brand's position in a dynamic and evolving market. Kumar will also play a key role in identifying new

growth opportunities through market expansion, innovation, and technology adoption.

Kumar is a seasoned business leader with over 18 years of experience in marketing and sales within the consumer electronics industry. He has a strong track record of scaling businesses, driving profitability, and leading successful initiatives across B2B and B2C channels. Known for his collaborative leadership and strategic focus, he brings deep expertise in the Indian market along with a strong global perspective.

Speaking of his new role, he said, "It's a privilege to continue my journey with Sonova and lead the Consumer Hearing business in India. The Sennheiser brand is synony-

mous with audio excellence, and I'm excited to drive its next phase of growth in this dynamic market. My focus will be on key segments like true wireless earbuds, premium Bluetooth headband headphones, soundbars, and the emerging space of speech-enhanced hearables. I also aim to reinforce our leadership in the audiophile category. I look forward to building on the strong foundation we've created and delivering exceptional sound experiences through continued innovation."

Kumar has been an integral part of the Sennheiser brand's journey in India for over 15 years. He joined the organisation at a time when the professional and consumer audio businesses were integrated, initially



Saahil Kumar, GM, Sennheiser Consumer Business

leading the marketing function. His contributions have been instrumental in building a strong brand presence, driving both top-line and bottom-line growth in a highly competitive landscape.



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D&B AUDIOTECHNIK APPOINTS JOCELYNE BÜCKNER AS MARKETING VP

d&b audiotechnik has announced the appointment of **Jocelyne Bückner** as Vice President of Marketing, effective 1 July 2025. In this role, Bückner will spearhead the company's global marketing strategy, focusing on brand development, market expansion, and strategic alignment across territories to support d&b's continued growth.

Bückner rejoins d&b audiotechnik after previously holding various roles within the company from 2016 to 2023. She brings extensive experience in brand management, digital and product marketing, public

relations, and performance marketing, alongside a strong background in team leadership and mentoring. Most recently, she led global marketing efforts at **Holoplot**.

With a track record of successful product launches and international market development, Bückner is well-positioned to lead d&b's marketing team into its next phase. Her cross-sector experience in pro audio, automotive, and consulting adds further depth to her strategic outlook.

"There's a renewed energy and sense of direction at d&b that really resonates with me," said Jocelyne Bückner. "Rejoining now feels like a natural step toward making a mean-



Jocelyne Bückner, Vice President of Global Marketing, d&b audiotechnik

ingful impact. Innovation and a people-first mindset go hand in hand at d&b, and that gets me excited for what's ahead. I look forward to working with the team to make marketing a true engine for growth, trust, and long-term brand equity."

Jaakko Kaivonen, Chief Revenue Officer at d&b audiotechnik, added: "We are delighted to welcome Jocelyne back to d&b. Her energy, drive, and strategic vision, along with her proven ability to execute, make her the ideal choice for this role. She will play a vital part in strengthening both our global and regional marketing efforts."

Promotion Index

Name	Page No.	Name	Page No.
Ahuja Radios, New Delhi	25	Narain Audio & Lighting LLP, Mumbai	21 & 23
ATI Pro, Delhi	64	N-Labs, Gujarat	05, 15 & 59
Beta Three Audio Pvt. Ltd., New Delhi	13	PALM Expo 2025, Mumbai	37
Circle Pave, Mumbai	07	PALM AV-ICN Annual Planner, Mumbai	51
Circle Pro Audio, Mumbai	03	Pink Noise Professionals, Noida	27
Comcon, New Delhi	11, 43 & 61	POPE Professional Acoustics Limited, Tamilnadu	09
Eminent Audiovisual, New Delhi	29	Sennheiser Electronics India Pvt. Ltd, Gurugram	IBC
Genelec Oy, Finland	31	Sonotone / Stagemix, Mumbai	17, 33 & 63
HARMAN International (India) Pvt Ltd., Mumbai	IFC	Trimac Products Private Limited, Delhi	35
Hi-Tech Audio & Image, New Delhi	45	Vardhaman Megatech (VMT), Mumbai	01 & BC
LBT Electronics Pvt. Ltd, New Delhi	47	Yamaha Music India Pvt. Ltd., Gurugram, Haryana	02
Leksa Lighting Technologies Pvt. Ltd. Mangalore	41		

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Engineered for real-world conditions, these mixers include a universal power supply, sloped rear panels for easy cable management, and an intuitive I/O layout. Their portable design and robust build quality make them ideal for studios, houses of worship, rehearsal spaces, and on-the-go performances. Whether in a live mix or a recording session, the LiveMix 10 FXU and 6 FXU offer the flexibility, reliability, and sonic excellence today's professionals demand.

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