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MEYER SOUND DEMONSTRATES CONSTELLATION AT SINGAPORE AMERICAN SCHOOL



Students demonstrate the Constellation system

SINGAPORE: Marking the first demonstration of its portable Constellation system in Singapore, Meyer Sound recently hosted a special event at the Singapore American School (SAS). Among the attendees were audio professionals, musicians and performing artists.

The Constellation system is an advanced technology that enables the acoustic qualities of a room to be altered or enhanced, modifying the experience of both performers and audience members. It is intended to replace traditionally employed methods of acoustic alteration such as drapes, panels and orchestra shells. It combines Meyer Sound's patented VRAS algorithm with advanced digital processing and linear transducer technology, resulting in a fully enveloping non-localised sound field.

At the SAS event, a Constellation system was set up on the stage of the main auditorium, creating a 6 x 6 sq-m space with minimal reverberation and reflection. Onstage, surrounded by stage curtains, a total of 46 discreet loudspeakers were placed, the majority of which were flown with others built into the bench-seating at the side of the space for lateral energy distribution. These comprised 32 MM-4XP self-powered speakers, six MM-10XP miniature subwoofers and eight MM-4XP miniature enclosures, together with 16 miniature Meyer Sound microphones. As the demonstration rig was originally designed for use at trade shows, where the sound needs to be contained within the area of an exhibition booth, it boasted a higher density of loudspeakers and microphones than is normally

required for a fixed installation of the same size.

The near dead-space set the scene for a variety of performers to put Constellation through its paces. Presenting the seminar was John McMahon, executive director of digital products, attending from Meyer Sound's Berkeley, California HQ at the request of Phil Murphy, MD of Coda Audio Services who first experienced the Constellation at Meyer Sound's booth at InfoComm Las Vegas in 2010.

Mr Murphy explained: 'Constellation is a solution that really has to be experienced first hand to get a true appreciation of the system, so we asked Meyer Sound to bring their demonstration system to Singapore. The Singapore American School kindly supported us by providing the use of its theatre, along with many of its talented performers.'

Students and teachers alike participated, providing everything from a brass section, a string



John McMahon explains the system

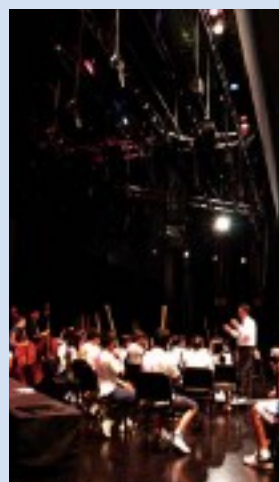


Seminar attendees

ensemble, solo vocalists and choirs to help demonstrate the versatility of the Constellation system. 'Constellation added clarity to all the musical performances that we heard. It was also wonderful to listen to vocalists and actors delivering performances with such clarity that it made me realise the potential of this system to enhance any stage production,' enthused Paul Koebnick, theatre engineer for the school.

Each performance was demonstrated first without the Constellation system; mimicking a real world situation where performers are not always able to hear clearly or balance each other. Then a variety of different Constellation settings were employed to accurately create small, medium and large room environments, plus a cathedral-size acoustic space.

Following the demonstration, Mr Murphy was also keen to explain the potential of Constellation within multi-purpose venues that would normally be limited by their inherent acoustic properties. 'The system extends the use of a space by changing its characteristics at the press of a button, which is something venue owners are excited by,' he reasoned. 'They can vastly broaden the range of events that they can host without changing the physical architecture of their venue. When you hear Constellation, the sound is seamless and is experienced equally by everyone in that space. The result really qualifies a venue as multi-use, broadening its commercial and artistic appeal.'



Constellation in action

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