

Speaking of EV...

The Newsletter for EV Speaker Users

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X-Line™



X-Line™: An NBA All-Star!

Electro-Voice's New X-Line Series Debuts at NBA All-Star Game



February 11, Washington, D.C.

This year's NBA All-Star Game included more than the country's most talented ball handlers. EV's new X-Line™ Series of line-array loudspeakers turned in an outstanding performance as well. Undaunted by the MCI Center's sold-out crowd of 22,000 rowdy fans, 24 new XVLS speakers plus 24 new XVLT speakers, accompanied by 48 P3000 amplifiers, proved they were more than capable of raising the roof with players and fans, not to mention easily handling a live musical performance at halftime. All in all, the debut of EV's new X-Line™ Series was an overwhelming slam dunk!

For an in-depth article about the X-Line™'s star performance at the 2001 NBA All-Star game, check out "An All-Star Weekend with EV's new X-Line™" by Keith Clark (editor, PSW Installed Sound) at <http://www.prosoundweb.com/live/nba/nba.shtml>. **EV**



X-Line™ arrays fly proudly at the MCI Center in Washington, D.C. at the 2001 NBA All-Star Game.

Photo by Keith Clark

Innovative Concert Systems Using X-Line™ Equipment for Christian Crusade

Innovative Concert Systems (ICS) of Kansas City, MO, will provide sound design for summer 2001's "Mission Connecticut with Luis Palau" using the new X-Line concert series equipment from Telex/EV. This Christian crusade will draw thousands in six different cities on the East Coast between May 18 and June 9, with the two largest venues in Hartford and Bridgeport each drawing more than 25,000

in attendance. Besides worship services ministered by Luis Palau, there will be 25 different musical acts providing entertainment throughout the crusade, including the Katinas, Kurt Carr, Michael Tait, 4 Him, Kirk Franklin, Avalon, and many more. ICS is relying on X-Line gear for the shows' diverse sound needs, as well as a Midas Heritage 3000 console and Klark Teknik equalization. **EV**

Tell Us What's Up!

We want to hear about your experiences with EV loudspeakers! We welcome articles, press releases, event coverage, and similar publicity materials. Please e-mail documents and pictures to Renée O'Neill at:

naebean@earthlink.net

You can call Renée at (952) 431-6682.

If you have high-resolution versions of your pictures, please e-mail them to Bill Congdon at:

bill.congdon@telex.com

Thank you!

EV Debuts X-Line™ in U.K. with Richard Ashcroft

X-Line™, the brand new line-array system from Electro-Voice, made its U.K. debut with a series of dates from Richard Ashcroft at the Brixton Academy in February. Robbie McGrath engineered the nine-piece band on his console of choice, a Midas XL4, accompanied by his custom-built FOH and effects racks courtesy of ML Executives.

X-Line™ already enjoyed a dramatic debut in the U.S. earlier in February when it was used for this year's NBA All-Star Game, held at Washington D.C.'s MCI Center in front of a sold-out crowd of 22,000 fans. A total of 24 Xvls speakers plus 24 Xvlt speakers driven by 48 EV P3000 amplifiers handled the game plus a live musical performance at half-time with both Harry Connick, Jr., and the cast and musicians of the musical production Blast.

The system used at the Brixton Academy was naturally slightly more modest, comprising a J-hang of five Xvls and three Xvlt cabinets at a trim height of 25 feet plus five ground-stacked sub units per side. Infills for close audience coverage were provided by X-Array Xi-1152 speakers, and the whole system was driven by EV P3000 amps. Processing was handled by three of Klark Teknik's latest box of digital wizardry, the DN9848, while mic splitting requirements were dealt with by five DN1248s.

For FOH engineer Robbie McGrath, this was his first time with X-Line™, so he was interested in its performance. "Although I've used line-array systems before, it's not where the majority of my experience lies," he commented on the first day of rehearsal. "Having said that, I really like the technology involved. The competitor's system I used is the one we are all familiar with, and I thought it was a very smooth package, but not especially musical. I'm hoping that X-Line™ will address that, and so far, even in an empty Brixton Academy, I've been pleasantly surprised by the results. If it improves

as most systems do under proper concert conditions, then I'm hoping for greatness."

After a day's rehearsal, two gigs, and the requisite amount of tweaking in between, did the system deliver? The answer, after the inevitable minor teething problems that accompany every first show with a new system, was a big thumbs up.

"The first show we did with X-Line™ sounded pretty good," said Robbie, "but as with every first show, there were a couple of adjustments to make before it really started to purr the way I knew it could. But the beauty of these systems is that the learning

curve is so fast, we found we were flying along at Mach 2, getting the niggles resolved simply because the rig was so responsive to our solutions. With one gig and a day's re-adjustments under our belts, we'd all learned a huge amount about the character of the system. The trick was learning to throw away all the tricks we used to disguise the defects of an inadequate PA, because X-Line™ is so efficient you simply don't need them. For the second night we made a few adjustments to the angle of some of the speakers, ran the house EQ virtually flat and approached the desk EQ from more of a "studio" aspect, and immediately started hearing dimensions within the

reverbs that hadn't been apparent before. Straight away the whole rig started to sound even more musical, and the bottom end was definitely better than anything I've heard from the competition—much rounder, much warmer, yet still with plenty of punch to match the rest of the system.

"But even with the system sounding as good as it did, I still felt we could do more (I'm a picky bugger!) and again, it was a case of ditching old strategies to cover up for dodgy PAs and really letting the system breathe. On the third night we turned down the infills and turned up the main hang and instantly got better coverage, proving once again that you can do the main work from the air with a system as good as this, you don't have to rely on your groundstacks."

So, after all that, what did Robbie really think of Electro-Voice's new baby? "Having really put it through its paces during this last week, and there's do doubt it was a learning curve for me, too, I have no hesitation in saying that I think X-Line™ will be in the top three contenders in the world for at least the next decade. It brings so much to the table that is lacking in other rigs. It's got every-

thing: it's got the technology, it's easy to use, but above all it's a truly musical system, which was what I expected coming from such a musical group of people. EV, Midas, and KT are the same in my book—they always build their gear from a musical point of view because when you really get down to it, the lights are low and the mood is right, it's the song that counts!" **EV**

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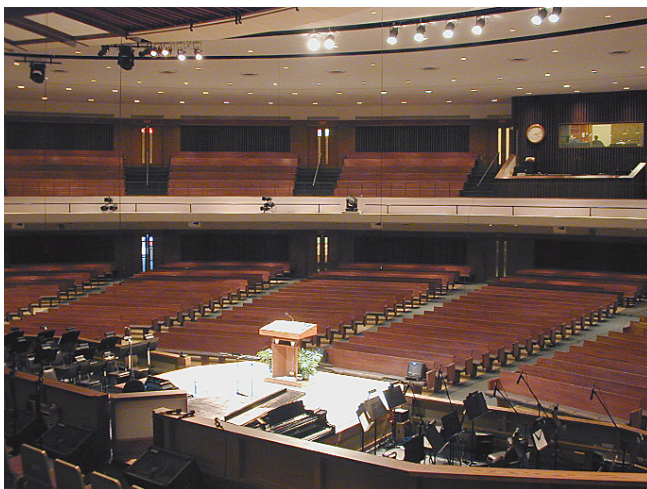
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EV Equipment Soars in Akron Chapel

The Chapel, a non-denominational church in Akron, Ohio, recently installed a huge state-of-the-art EV sound system. The Chapel holds numerous ministries and almost 300 activities each week, in addition to five Sunday worship services accommodating an average of 6,000 in worship and 7,500 to 8,000 total attendance. A beautiful, prestigious building, The Chapel's sanctuary space is approximately 80 feet wide by 60 feet deep by 30 feet high and includes a platform/stage. The musical style of services is founded on a rhythm section (grand piano, keyboard, V-drums, electric guitar, acoustic guitar, and bass), plus a full orchestra (75-100 pieces) in two of the five services, choir (up to 175), and worship team providing pop vocals.

The Chapel audio systems were designed by Tom Young, formerly of Artec Consultants, Inc., of New York, and installed by United Sound Technologies, Inc., of Cuyahoga Falls, OH. Tim Schwarz of United Sound Technologies was project director for The Chapel installation. He is also on the church staff as director of technical ministries, overseeing over 30 volunteers during worship services, as well as working as the main house mix engineer.

All parties involved collaborated on the equipment selection. The extent of this collaboration included a trip to NSCA in Nashville by all to put final reviews and concerns to the test, as well as meet with key people from the manufacturers. Young and Schwarz also made a trip to EV's headquarters to listen and make measurements regarding the equipment ultimately chosen for the installation.



EV speakers in a delay ring under the balcony complete the system.



New EV X-Array™ speakers hidden in the ceiling canopy help rejuvenate The Chapel's acoustics.

The crux of The Chapel's new system is a new sound reinforcement system for the 1,800-seat worship space. This system boasts nearly 40 cabinets from Electro-Voice, driven by EV P-series power amps. The Chapel's main sound system is based around an EV X-Array four-cluster stereo system: eight Xi-1123s (two per cluster) and three Xi-2181 subwoofers spaced between each cluster. The Xi-1123 clusters were planned for vertical installation, but architectural contingencies required that the cabinets be stacked horizontally. Schwarz and UST rotated the mid- and high-frequency horns within each Xi-1123 to reorient them to their originally specified positioning.

An under-balcony delay ring of seven Xi-1082s completes the FOH system. In addition, EV S60 loudspeakers comprise an upper-level foyer system and EV Sx80s a lower foyer system. Three EV Xi-1122s are arranged in a cluster and serve as overhead choir monitors. Orchestra monitors are six new EV Sx80s plus a good number of older EV wedges.

During the final stages of system installation before commissioning the system, there were several knowledgeable, experienced people on hand to polish the system's sound. Jim Tassej and Jim Long, both of Electro-Voice, came in to help get the DSP (digital signal processing) in place as well as lend a professional ear to the proceedings. Bob McCarthy, a St. Louis-based consultant specializing in sound system alignment, applied his SIM-II audio analyzer to the proceedings; and of course Tom Young was on hand to oversee the final adjustments to the system he designed.



L to R: Jim Tassej, EV Product Manager for pro sound loudspeakers, independent contractor Bob McCarthy, and UTP's Jon Pinney.

Tom Young commissioned The Chapel sound system November 6. From the beginning, Tom Young, Tim Schwarz, and their clients from The Chapel wanted top-of-the-line equipment for this prestigious install. All parties involved are very happy with the system, having found that EV and X-Array equipment lives up to their every expectation. **EV**

X-Array™ Gear Comes Through for RMPA

Rental company RMPA of England had a busy festive season in the corporate arena, providing all the audio requirements for a large Christmas party for French car manufacturer Peugeot at Birmingham's International Conference Centre (ICC), and two separate events for High Street retailers Next. RMPA's Rick Bailey, a long-standing and dedicated user of Electro-Voice X-Array products, explained the format of the events. "We are specialists in providing distributed systems that can cater to a wide range of requirements, and basically that was exactly what we did for the two Next parties. The first took place at the Birmingham Metropole and was a sit-down dinner for 1500 followed by corporate speeches, a live band, and then a disco. The second was a slightly smaller affair at a cabaret club, but essentially the same show. However, the Peugeot event, although supposed to run along more or less the same lines as the two Next shows, caused us quite a headache.

"The first problem from an acoustic point of view was the venue itself. The particular hall of the ICC that we were in was effectively a hexagonal concrete bunker measuring 80 meters down each side, so it was horribly reverberant. The second problem was that somewhere along the line there was a communication snarl-up that left us woefully short of equipment on that day, so we had no choice but to do our best with what we had.

"We needed a system that would handle both speech reinforcement as well as a full-on rock band and remain intelligible throughout. As I've already mentioned, normally we would provide a distributed system for this type of multi-purpose application, but on this occasion we simply didn't have the gear, so I ended up ground-stacking two X-Array Xcn compact mid-high packs, two Xb bass cabinets, and one Xds sub per side and tweaked the gain levels accordingly. I have to say, I have rarely been more impressed with X-Array than I

was on this occasion. Given the restrictions we had to work within, the system did a fantastic job. The Xcns had enough punch and clarity to remain intelligible right through the room at all times during the speeches and the charity auction, and even managed not to deafen the speaker himself as the poor chap was stood right in front of one of the stacks. And of course as a rock-and-roll system there was no problem at all. All in all, I think both RMPA and X-Array acquitted themselves with flying colors under difficult circumstances." **EV**

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Atlanta's Earthlink Live Opens with X-Array™/EV Equipment

The new Earthlink Live facility in Atlanta features not only an impressive roster of talent, but also an amazing sound system showcasing Electro-Voice and X-Array equipment. Atlanta Sound and Lighting designed and installed the sound system for this 1200-seat venue featuring sixteen Xi1152 speakers (eight per side, flown) and twelve XW15 stage monitors, plus a Midas Heritage 2000 48-channel console handles FOH duties. Other EV equipment includes an X38 processor for the Xi speakers and eight MT2 subs (four per side).

House of Blues Concerts is the primary talent buyer for Earthlink Live, booking acts such as Bela Fleck, Everlast, The Monkees, Semisonic, Xhibit, and five shows with Duran Duran. All these acts have chosen to use the venue's house sound system for their shows due to its incredible sound quality and flexibility. Telex/EV is proud that its X-Array and Electro-Voice equipment play such integral roles in this exciting new facility!

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On Stage Audio to use X-Array for Fox Broadcasting Event

On Stage Audio (OSA) will be handling sound design for Fox Broadcasting's annual network showcasing event for advertisers. "Fox Up Front" will be held May 17 on the deck of the USS Intrepid in New York Harbor. OSA will rely on X-Array sound equipment from Telex/EV for this high-profile event, which will include a live performance by Vonda Shepard as well as appearances by popular Fox television personalities. **EV**



ATK AudioTek Corp. Supports Major 2000 Tours with EV Equipment

ATK AudioTek Corp. of Burbank, CA, provided sound support for some of the biggest tours of the year 2000, and EV equipment was a major part of that support. Ricky Martin was undoubtedly the biggest tour of 2000, and AudioTek was there with Xi1152 speakers for front and downfill support as well as a Midas XL4 mixing console. (This same console was used on the Rolling Stones' "Bridges to Babylon" tour.) Xi1152 speakers were also used on the 2000 Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young tour, as well as Neil Young's solo tour later that same year. Heritage 3000 consoles provided sound mixing duties on the CSN&Y and Neil Young tours. Mike Stahl of AudioTek calls the EV MTL4 speakers "the best sub bass we have," and uses those as well as an assortment of Klark Teknik products (DN 360, DN 3600, etc.) on the majority of their shows.

Kudos to ATK AudioTek Corp. on a terrific start to the new century! **EV**

Contact: Mike Stahl of ATK AudioTek Corp.; 818-845-8484 ph.; stahl@atkcpr.com

Db Sound Powers Tours with X-Array™ and EV

Deftones

U.S. Tour through December 2000

- 16 Xb speaker enclosures
- 4 Xcn speaker enclosures
- 4 Xds speaker enclosures
- 16 Xf speaker enclosures
- 8 Xn speaker enclosures
- 17 EV Fs115 monitor speakers
- 5 EV MTH2/94 speaker enclosures
- 10 EV MTL2 speaker enclosures
- 28 EV P3000 power amplifiers
- 1 EV DMC1152X speaker processor
- 2 EV XEQ3 analog crossovers
- 1 Midas XL4 mixing console
- 1 Midas XL250 mixing console
- 1 Midas XL3 mixing console
- 2 Midas XL490 power supplies
- 2 Midas 390 power supplies
- 2 Midas XL2900 power supplies
- 1 Klark Teknik CN410 dual parametric equalizer
- 1 Klark Teknik DN360 stereo equalizer
- 6 Klark Teknik DN3600C equalizers
- 1 Klark Teknik DN3603 remote dock
- 1 Klark Teknik DN60 analyzer
- 1 Klark Teknik DN6000 frequency analyzer
- 7 Klark Teknik LB100 active direct boxes

AC/DC

"Stiff Upper Lip Tour"—Europe through December 2000

- 24 Xb speaker enclosures
- 10 Xcb speaker enclosures
- 8 Xcn speaker enclosures
- 8 Xds speaker enclosures
- 24 Xf speaker enclosures
- 2 Xi1191
- 24 Xn speaker enclosures
- 4 Xo speaker enclosures
- 75 EV P3000 power amplifiers
- 1 EV DMC2181A speaker processor
- 3 EV E468 dynamic microphones
- 1 EV ND408A dynamic microphone
- 2 EV RE20 dynamic microphones

PA Systems Supports Artists with X-Array™

PA Systems of Biloxi, MS, recently provided X-Array™ sound equipment for several rock performances, including concerts by .38 Special, Three Dog Night, America, and the Fabulous Thunderbirds. Upcoming X-Array™

- 1 EV RE200 condenser microphone
- 1 Midas Heritage 3000 (monitors)
- 1 Midas XL4 (FOH)
- 1 Midas XL3 with 16-channel wing
- 1 DDA QII mixing console
- 2 Midas XL4 power supplies
- 2 DDA 1500 power supplies
- 4 Klark Teknik DN 3600B equalizers
- 4 Klark Teknik DN 3600C equalizers
- 2 Klark Teknik DN 3600E equalizers
- 1 Klark Teknik DN 3603 remote dock
- 1 Klark Teknik DN3698 remote controller
- 1 Klark Teknik DN 6000 frequency analyzer
- 2 Klark Teknik 6051 analyzer microphones

Sarah Brightman

U.S. Tour

- 12 Xb speaker enclosures
- 4 Xcb speaker enclosures
- 6 Xcn speaker enclosures
- 12 Xds speaker enclosures
- 12 Xf speaker enclosures
- 6 Xn speaker enclosures
- 4 EV 221 monitor speakers

Pokemon Live

North America

- 16 X-Line XVLS full range speaker cabinets
- 8 SX300 speaker enclosures
- 4 EV Xi1082 speaker enclosures
- 2 EV S40 speaker enclosures
- 1 EV MTH2 speaker enclosure
- 2 EV MTH2/64 speaker enclosures
- 1 EV MTH2/94 speaker enclosure
- 4 EV MTL4 speaker enclosures
- 2 EV DMC 2181A speaker processors
- 14 Telex BP325 intercom beltpack
- 1 Telex MCE 325 intercom station
- 1 Klark Teknik 7204 delay plus EQ
- 4 Klark Teknik DN360 stereo equalizers
- 1 Klark Teknik DN60 analyzer **EV**

engagements for PA Systems include Sister Hazel, Jerry Jeff Walker, and The Doobie Brothers. **EV**

Contact: Rick Hamm of PA Systems;
(228) 385-4608; catfishamm@prodigy.net

Debut Rock Concert at New Xcel Center Features X-Array™ System

The newly opened Xcel Center in St. Paul, MN, hosted its first rock concert on December 15, and EV's X-Array Series christened the venue in true rock mode, blowing away listeners with its power and clarity. The concert featured The Guess Who with opening act The Doobie Brothers, and a crowd that was on its feet during the entire performance.

Sound Art Canada designed and set up the system for the rock concert. X-Array and EV equipment for the concert included:

- 12 Xf long throw flying cabinets
- 8 Xn medium throw flying cabinets
- 12 Xb subwoofer flying cabinets
- 12 Xi2181 subwoofer cabinets
- 4 Xcn downfill flying cabinets
- 4 Xcb subwoofer flying cabinets
- 4 Xi1152/64 biamped fill cabinets
- 4 EV DTS99 two-way front fill cabinets
- 1 KT DN3600 dual 1/3 octave programmable equalizer
- 1 KT DN6000 1/6 octave time and frequency analyzer
- 1 Midas XL3-48 48x18x2 channel concert mixing console
- 2 KT DN300 1/3 octave equalizers
- 8 EV N/DYM 468B microphones
- 12 KT LBB100 active direct boxes
- 6 KT DN3600 dual channel programmable equalizers
- 1 Midas XL250-52 52x20 channel concert mixing console
- 2 KT DN800 four channel electronic crossovers
- 4 EV DeltaMax DML-1152APF biamped flying cabinets
- 2 EV DMC-1152B mid/high processors
- 4 EV DeltaMax DML-2181AP subwoofers
- 2 EV DMC-2181A sub processors **EV**

Contact: Dave Cousins of Sound Art Canada: <http://www.soundart.com>