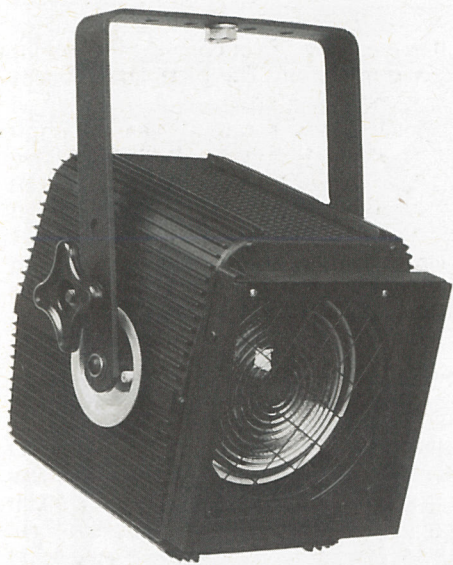


PRODUCT NEWS



CCT Starlette Fresnel, widely used at the Theatre Royal, Plymouth

We hear from Mitcham that CCT have supplied the major luminaire requirements for several important and recently completed contracts in the UK. The Harrogate Conference Centre, St. David's Hall, Cardiff and just recently, the Theatre Royal in Plymouth. With one or two minor exceptions all the theatrical luminaires in these important theatres have been supplied by CCT who will also be supplying luminaires for the Nottingham Concert Hall including a novel architectural application of their recently introduced small Tungsten Halogen Floodlight.

Following last month's announcement of their joint development plans a leaflet is now available from CCT which introduces the new CCT/DTL dimming and control product range. Leaflets are also available on the dimmer series TDM and CCD/CWD. The Lever Set and Staka Pak portable packaged system which ranges through 6, 12, 18, 24 and 30 channels will be commercially available sometime towards the end of May. Theaterlite, of course, is already available as are the TDM and CCD/CWD dimmers and racks. The balance of the dimming and control range will be ready for shipment some time during the summer.

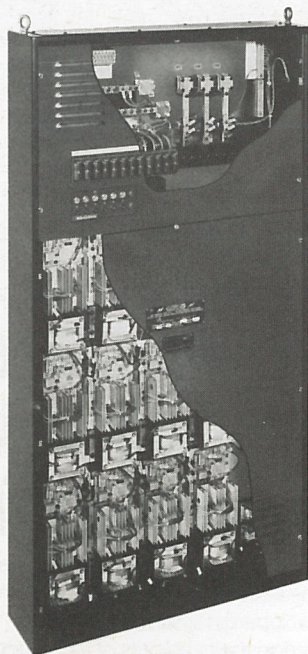
CCT and DTL have set out to ensure that whilst this new dimming and control product range is competitively priced, the emphasis on technical excellence and quality has been maintained. Small features such as the interconnecting cables and sockets and facilities for mains connection have all been developed to take care of often expressed demands from the market place. Also, as with all CCT and DTL dimming systems, optional earth/ground detection options are available.

Strand Introduce New Electronic Dimmers

Rank Strand is launching a new range of economy Thyristor electronic dimmers known as 'Permus'. Incorporating improved technical specification, easier electrical contracting and greater reliability, the new Permus range also remains fully temperature stable and is compatible with all Strand's current lighting control systems.

Particular attention has been paid to ease of electrical contracting and connection, with the top section of each rack set apart for contracting with access via a full-width removable panel.

In appearance the cabinets retain the slim-line features of STM (along with its predecessor JTM, Strand's standard dimmer system for 17 years) with only front access needed. Mounting can be back-to-wall or back-to-back.



Strand Permus High-power 12 x 20A Dimmer Rack with outer cover cut-away, showing dimmers and filters.

BOCS Sales Top the Million

BOCS, the Box Office Computer System has celebrated its first birthday by announcing total sales of £1.25m and orders for three new systems.

The three systems, to be installed in the summer, are for Croydon's FAIRFIELD HALL and ASHCROFT THEATRE, Nottingham's ROYAL CENTRE, and the new ORCHARD THEATRE in Dartford.

Together, the orders are worth over £350,000 to Space-Time-Systems, the small Covent Garden based company which developed BOCS, and which is leading the way in the increasingly lucrative market for computerised box office systems.

Announcing these new orders, Space-Time-Systems' Managing Director Ken Fraser said:

"These orders round off an astonishingly successful first year. When we delivered our first system to Manchester's Palace Theatre in March 1981 we hoped to win a further five or six orders in the next twelve months. To have doubled our projected output is a remarkable achievement, and a tremendous vote of confidence by the entertainment world both for Space-Time-Systems and BOCS".

The BOCS systems for Nottingham and Dartford will be operational in June.

In Nottingham, BOCS will handle bookings for the THEATRE ROYAL - one of the country's most consistently successful touring theatres - and also for the new 2,500-seat CONCERT HALL which will open next to the Theatre Royal later this year.

The BOCS system for Croydon consolidates Space-Time-Systems' position in the all-important London market where the biggest BOCS system to date is already operational at the new £14m Barbican Centre.

Other BOCS systems in operation include installations for the City of Glasgow (4 venues), Warrington's Spectrum Leisure Centre, the Corporation of Eastbourne (4 venues), the Theatre Royal in Plymouth, the New Theatre in Cardiff, and the Portsmouth Guildhall. The Cardiff system will in due course be extended to include the St. David's Hall, the new national concert and conference hall for Wales which opens in the autumn.

Unusual in that it is an "in-house" system, BOCS allows box office staff multiple access to auditorium seat plans, which are called up by venue on to the VDU screen. Different symbols are used to denote the status of any seat: whether sold, pencil-booked (by telephone), or free, and shading used to show price ranges. The method of payment is also recorded by the system, and tickets only printed when the seats have been sold.

A list of future enhancements, includes multifeeding ticket printer, for different colours and designs, a financial analysis package and financial accounting and payroll systems. Ken Fraser sees the most dramatic developments, however, as happening in networking of sales.

"At the moment we are looking at Miracle from D. M. England, which could be available either as a freestanding viewdata package with BOCS alongside it, or as a gateway facility into Prestel. This would provide a dialogue to enable agents to book their own seats," he explained.

Linking between BOCS venues, to enable one to sell tickets on behalf of the other is another projected feature of the system, and remote ticket sales to offer a higher level of service than the viewdata option.

First Theatre Ticket Sales by Satellite

In a demonstration to delegates at the recent Box Office Management International Conference held in St. Louis, USA, the Box Office Computer System was used