

AVAB Elektronik AB

Company profile

SCOOP OF ACTIVITIES

The AVAB group of companies is completely dedicated to the design, manufacturing and installation of state-of-the-art lighting control systems, luminaires, rigging control systems and stage machinery for theatres. AVAB is the technology leader in the field of lighting and rigging control equipment and in high precision profile lanterns and followspots.

THE AVAB GROUP

AVAB is completely independent of any industrial conglomerates. AVAB Elektronik AB was founded in 1971 and has since been supplying equipment to the theatre and studio market world wide.

The total number of employees in the group is 180 and the turnover of the group is US\$ 15 millions.

Parent company AVAB Elektronik AB
Västra Hamngatan 1
411 17 Gothenburg
Sweden
Company founded 1971

Subsidiary companies Emil Niethammer GmbH
Industriestrasse 29
7000 Stuttgart
West Germany
Company founded 1922

AVAB America, Inc.
967 Howard Street
San Francisco, CA 94103
U S A
Company founded 1978

AVAB Norge A/S
Bygdøy Allé 60
0265 Oslo 2
Norway
Company founded 1980

COMPANY BACKGROUND

AVAB Elektronik AB was founded in 1971 and started development of portable dimming systems for the theatre market. These proved very successful and very soon they captured practically the whole lighting control equipment market for touring theatres in Sweden.

In 1975 AVAB installed the first two AVAB 2000 computer lighting control systems at the Stadsteatern, Borås Sweden and at the Royal Dramatic Theatre in Stockholm, Sweden.

In 1977 AVAB developed the AVAB 2001 computer lighting control system for 96 channels. This was a portable board built into an aluminum Haliburton attaché case. This was the product that made AVAB's name known in a lot of foreign markets, France being one of the largest. Close to 300 units of this board were sold, most of them outside the Scandinavian countries.

AVAB America, Inc. was founded in 1978 and have developed a range of digital dimmers for the American market.

Almost since the start, Norway had been an important market for AVAB. In 1980 AVAB Norge A/S was founded. Since then they have managed many of the biggest installations in that country.

Emil Niethammer GmbH, the German lantern manufacturer was acquired by AVAB in 1983, enlarging the delivery program to a complete range of high quality theatre lighting equipment.

In 1985 AVAB installed their new computerized Rigging Control System at the Södra Teatern in Stockholm, Sweden. This was the beginning of a completely new product line. In this and other installations AVAB worked very closely with Skandinavisk Lyftservice and S&M Teknik, two mechanical companies in Uppsala Sweden. The following year these companies became AVAB Uppsala, the fully integrated mechanical branch of AVAB Elektronik AB.

SOME HI-TECH PRODUCTS DEVELOPED BY THE GROUP

AVAB VIKING LIGHTING CONTROL SYSTEM

The world's most advanced lighting control system. This system controls up to 960 channels plus high precision motorized lanterns and color changers. Installed in some of the most prestigious theatres in the world. These theatres include for instance:

- The Dutch National Opera in Amsterdam, the Netherlands. 800+ control channels.
- The Schouwbourg Theatre in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. 280 control channels.
- The San Francisco Opera, USA. 448 control channels.
- Salle Louise-Fréchette, Le Grand Teatre, Quebec, Canada. 512 control channels.
- Salle Octave-Crémazie, Le Grand Theatre, Quebec, Canada. 320 control channels.
- Theatre de la Ville, Paris, France. 750 control channels.
- La Villette, Paris, France. 300 control channels.
- Theatre Mogador, Paris, France. 250 control channels.
- Bühnen der Stadt Bonn, West Germany. 256 control channels.
- Deutschlandhalle, Berlin, West Germany. 384 control channels.
- Wiener Stadthalle, Vienna, Austria. 250 control channels.
- Library Theatre, Manchester, United Kingdom 128 control channels.

- Forum Theatre Wythenshawe, Manchester, United Kingdom 192 control channels.
- The Royal Opera, Stockholm, Sweden. 416 control channels.
- The Royal Dramatic Theatre, Stockholm, Sweden. 364 control channels.
- The Nationaltheatret, Oslo, Norway. 250 control channels.
- Trøndelag Teater, Trondheim, Norway. 250 control channels.
- Studentersamfundet, Trondheim Norway. 160 control channels.

AVAB 202XP LIGHTING CONTROLLER

The state-of-the-art controller for up to 240 control channels. This board is being delivered to most countries in western Europe, plus North America and Australia.

AVAB DIGITAL DIMMERS

The digital dimmers have been pioneered by AVAB. First in the United States and then in Europe.

AVAB has introduced the PDD *Professional Digital Dimmer* system, a 220/240V version of the second generation AVAB America DDII dimmers. It has quickly become the standard dimmer for professional theatre and broadcast television in Sweden.

The digital dimmer is by definition completely stable and reliable. Free from problems that can easily occur in analog and multiplexed analog systems. It also incorporates programming facilities for different response curves and even a back-up for the front end controller.

VARIMOT MOTORIZED LANTERNS

The Varimot series is a range of motorized 2000W luminaires for high precision remote positioning of the light beam.

The units can be controlled from the AVAB VIKING board or from the AVAB 302 dedicated control board. The system allows positioning accuracy of less than 2 cm at a throw of 30 meters.

Complete VARIMOT systems have been installed in for instance

- The Royal Opera, Stockholm, Sweden.
- The Nationaltheatret, Oslo, Norway,
- Rheingoldhalle, Mainz, West Germany.
- Schauspielhaus, Wuppertal, West Germany.
- Staatstheater, Stuttgart, West Germany.

UNISPOT FOLLOWSPOTS

Unispot is the high precision family of followspots manufactured by Emil Niethammer GmbH in Stuttgart.

The whole family is characterized by having the world's finest optics and precision engineered mechanics. There are versions for both HMI 1200W and quartz 2000W lamps.

HPS SERIES - QUARTZ PROFILES

The Niethammer HPS series includes an unrivalled line of zoom and fixed focus 2000W profile lanterns. With the same fine optics as the UNISPOT followspots.

HMS SERIES - HMI PROFILES

This new range of HMI 1200W profile lanterns give completely new possibilities for the lighting designer. A motorized control system allows significantly faster black-out possibilities than the standard 2000W quartz lantern.

ENILUX STAGE PROJECTOR

This is an ultra high precision stage projector for HMI 1200W or 2000W quartz lamps. Used by very large opera companies like Bayreuth in West Germany.

THE AVAB RIGGING CONTROL SYSTEM

The Rigging Control System was developed out of the VIKING concept. It controls up to 250 DC motors, giving the director, set designer and operator exactly the same programming and overriding possibilities as in an advanced lighting control board. The vertical and horizontal motion on stage is controlled to split millimeter precision.

The system so far is installed at

- Uppsala Stadsteater, Uppsala, Sweden.
- Södra Teatern, Stockholm, Sweden.
- The Nationaltheatret, Oslo, Norway.
- Die Oper, Wuppertal, West Germany.

STAGE RIGGING AND MACHINERY INSTALLATIONS

AVAB Elektronik AB has in Uppsala, Sweden a very modern facility for production of stage mechanics and theatre sets. A large number of installations have been made in Sweden and also Norway.

The new Svenska Riksteatern building is right now being equipped with 156 motorized pipes, 2000 sq meters of acoustical walls and 2000 sq meters of ceiling reflectors.

RIGGING AND MECHANICS BY AVAB IN SCANDINAVIA

This is a selection of major mechanical/rigging projects in Scandinavia recently carried out by AVAB:

- FOLKETS HUS, UMEÅ
30 counterweighted fly-bars 250kg.
12 AC-motorized fly-bars 500kg.
Modular reversible stage floor in sandwich construction.
Acoustical shells and panels.
Screw Jack type elevating orchestra pit.
Motorized curtain tracks.
Movable proscenium arch with lighting towers.
Lighting bridges with power distribution.

- NORRBOTTENSTEATERN, LULEÅ, SWEDEN
54 AC-motorized fly-bars 250kg.
Lighting bridges with power distribution.
Motorized curtain tracks.
- GÄVLE TEATÄR, GÄVLE, SWEDEN
30 counterweighted fly-bars 250kg.
12 AC-motorized fly-bars 500kg.
Lighting bridges with power distribution.
Acoustical shell and panels.
Screw Jack type elevating orchestra pit.
Motorized curtain tracks.
Proscenium bridge with lighting towers.
- UPPSALA STADSTEATER, UPPSALA, SWEDEN
30 DC-motorized computer controlled fly-bars 300kg.
20 DC-motorized computer controlled spot-lines 150kg.
Lighting bridges with power distribution.
Proscenium bridge with lighting towers.
Motorized curtain tracks.
- SÖDRA TEATERN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
15 DC-motorized computer controlled fly-bars 200kg.
10 AC-motorized computer controlled fly-bars 400kg.
17 counterweighted fly-bars 200kg.
Motorized curtain tracks.
- FERRUM FOLKETS HUS, KIRUNA, SWEDEN
Screw jack type elevating orchestra pit.
- RIKSTEATERN, STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN
156 AC-motorized fly-bars 200kg.
2500m² fixed and adjustable acoustical panels.
- FESTIVITETEN, HAUGESUND, NORWAY
32 counterweighted fly-bars 500kg.
Motorized curtain tracks.
Lighting towers with power distribution.
Lighting bridges with power distribution.
Iron curtain, fire protection class A60.
- NATIONALTHEATRET, OSLO, NORWAY
Retrofit computer control for 22 DC-fly-bars and
16 DC-spot-lines.
Conventional control system for 2 bridges, 2 iron curtains,
motorized cyclorama system and 8 AC-spot-lines.

In addition to the above mentioned, AVAB have been responsible for more than 150 projects in Scandinavia with major mechanical and rigging type installations.

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