

Doncaster, who have a division specialising in the production of fibre optic lighting for the theatre.

For maximum effect, it is important that the fibres should be correctly illuminated, and EUROTEC have specially designed units containing a Tungsten Halogen Dichroic light source, modulated by a motor driven colour wheel, and focussing on the Optical Fibre. The flex is supplied ready assembled into a "HARNES" complete with a quick rebase fitting on to the light source at the common end, and individual alloy ferrules on each of the tails. Up to 500 size 1 tails can be accommodated by one light source, and multiple light sources can be combined. Any length of tail can be supplied in one Harness.

To create a Star Cloth, the first step is to work out the area of the cloth and the density of stars required, usually somewhere in-between 10- per square metre.

Next decide on the best location for the light source. For maximum economy aim to position the units as near to the centre of the cloth as possible, as this reduces the length

(and cost) of fibre needed. The units can of course be stood on the stage or suspended from a light bar as required.

Having decided on the light source location, work out the lengths of fibre required to reach each star position, and order tailored Harnesses. (If you would rather have this part done for you, just send a sketch of your design to EUROTEC, they will do the rest.)

For fixing to the backcloth it is recommended that two people should work together. One stands behind the cloth and pushes the Fibre through, after placing the flat half of the curtain fixing set over the ferrule. He then holds the ferrule whilst number two pushes the "Top Hat" over the ferrule from the front, sandwiching the curtain and fixing the tail rigidly at right angles to the drop. After the Tails are fixed, the flex should be lightly tucked to the back of the drop and taken in neat runs to the light source.

The light source can be quickly attached or removed, and the backdrop can be quite safely flown or rolled.

To achieve a natural star effect, the light source is usually fitted with a blue sparkle wheel, but of course, any other colours can be used and a whole range of special effects including programmed firework effects can be created. Different sizes of fibre can be mixed in the same harness to vary star sizes, and an especially appealing effect can be created by suspending a gauze approximately 30 m/m in front of the fibre optics.

Eurotecs fibres can currently be seen in many productions, including Starlight Express, Cats, Charlie Girl, Time and Singing in the Rain in the West End. Peter Pan on tour, Cinderella at the King's Theatre, Edinburgh and the Leicester Haymarket production of High Society.

Fibre Optics are an exciting and innovative way of enhancing many production sets. New applications are continuously being developed and sought, the only limitation often being imagination. Why not "Reach for the Stars"!

BARRY GREGSON

ADVERTISEMENT

ADB appoint Furse to handle full range line up

ADB, Europe's leading manufacturer of theatre and television lighting and control equipment has appointed Furse Theatre Products as their sole UK distributor.



The Furse UK Sales and Marketing team.

Left to right:

J.R. Widdison, General Manager, L. McCall, N.J. Fathers, C.R. Smith, A. Marks, R.M. Massey, R.M. Atkins, D.J. Griffiths, E. Owen, J. McAlonan, S.L. Niblett, G. Dudley, N. Newton.

Absent: R. Holmes, N.R. Kenton, I.M. Hume

Jeff Widdison, Furse Theatre Products General Manager commented, "We are absolutely delighted that ADB has formed this partnership with Furse. Although we are the oldest manufacturer of theatre equipment in Britain, with over 50 years experience, we have been unable, until now, to compete with the market leaders in all sectors of the rapidly changing and ever more sophisticated theatre equipment market. With ADB at our elbow, we now have the

resources of a company at the very forefront of technology, with a range of advanced lighting and computer based control systems which the competition will be hard pressed to match, in terms of performance, price and service back up".

Back to School

Every member of the Crown House Furse Theatre Products sales and development team will, over the next two weeks, be attending an initial series of intensive product familiarisation courses at ADB's head office at Zaventem in Belgium. The company's installation and service engineers will be trained by ADB's own engineers at Furse head office in Nottingham.

First Chinese Theatre Contract

Over the last few years, Furse Theatre Products of Nottingham have been particularly active in both the Middle East and Far East markets through nominated distributors. However, the Peoples' Republic of China, whilst offering huge potential, has proved to be an extremely difficult market to enter—an experience shared by many other UK manufacturers.

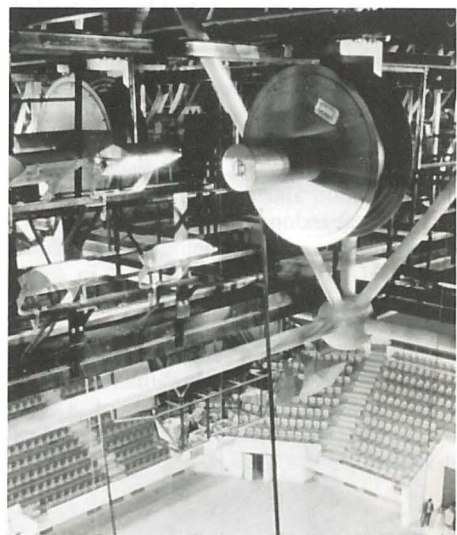
It was, therefore, particularly pleasing for the Company to win a £130,000 order for the manufacture and supply of specialist lighting and control equipment for the Shenzhen Coliseum in Canton.

The order included a series of spotlight bars which can be raised or lowered from a central electronic control to provide a wide range of lighting effects over the stage area.

Long range, high performance spotlights have also been supplied and these were mounted in the roof of the structure to highlight performing groups or individual artists. The new Furse equipment now enables presentations to take place in both Eastern and Western styles.

A sophisticated control system with memory facilities was also included to enable individual lighting units to be controlled independently or collectively.

As with many contracts undertaken for customers in the UK and throughout the world, Furse were responsible for the complete design and engineering services.



Specialist lighting and control equipment supplied and installed by Furse at the Shenzhen Coliseum, Canton, China.

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