

## EUROPE GOES FOR EC90

The revolutionary EC90 dimming system, launched by Strand Lighting 18 months ago, is proving to be a hit in Europe, following its success in the UK.

In Nijmegen, Holland, the municipal-owned Stadsschouwburg variety theatre has installed an EC90 modular system, coupled with a Galaxy 3 lighting control system, including stalls control, which has proved ideal for the many demands made upon the theatre.

Stage manager Sjaak Dielis explained, 'Our policy is to buy a new lighting control system every ten years. Strand's local distributor, Mechalectron, introduced us to EC90 and the Galaxy 3 and we were impressed by what they had to offer.'

'The way our theatre operates is to have a continuing programme of visiting companies. For example, we stage plays, musicals, ballet, opera – and we have recently had a visit by a musical company from Uganda. Most of these companies bring their own lighting staff and they need to know that our technical facilities can offer them everything they can possibly need.'

One of the selling points for the EC90/Galaxy 3 installation was that Mechalectron offered an intensive training course for new users plus a back-up 'technical explanation' service.

Another 'plus' for the theatre is that EC90 accepts the four most common protocols, AMX 192, DMX 512 - which is widely acknowledged as the European standard - the new Strand SMX and the present Strand standard D54.



Light Palettes. These handled the 300 special lighting effects required during the show. Following a successful run at the

Palais Des Sports in Versailles, the three-hours-long show is now set for an extensive world tour.

## DRAMATIC EFFECT ON GLASS SCULPTURE



Architectural spotlights illuminate 'Square In A Circle'.

A stunning, 25-feet high glass sculpture has given a theatrical effect to a new luxury office building in England, with the use of Hilite 23 metal halide profile spotlights from Strand Lighting.

They have been used for 'highlight modelling' of *Square In A Circle*, a sculpture by Danny Lane. It forms the centrepiece of an 80-foot high atrium in the Seifert-designed building at Lansdowne Road, Croydon.

Lighting designer David Taylor, of Theatre Projects Consultants, was commissioned to light the exterior facades of the building plus the circulation areas – includ-

ing the sculpture.

*Square In A Circle* is created in distressed glass sheets, surrounded by a curved glass wall, with two benches of glass sheets standing on their edges.

Eight and a half thousand lux of white discharge light is thrown from six projectors at the atrium roof but both lighting designer and sculptor felt that the sculpture deserved more detailed treatment.

Altogether, ten Hilite 23's are used. Four are on discreet track fixings recessed into the high quality granite finishes and the remaining six are integrated into the architectural features on the atrium facade.

## BRIGHT FUTURE AT CIRCUS THEATRE

Holland's famous Circus Theatre, close to the sea shore at Scheveningen, is looking forward to a bright future, following a lighting re-fit which has included installation of EC90 digital dimming, and both Galaxy 3 and MX24 lighting control desks.

The Circus Theatre was built in 1903 and until 1966 when it was completely rebuilt inside, functioned as a traditional circus in the holiday resort. Since then its in-the-round format has proved to be ideal for large-scale productions, including opera, ballet, musicals, pop concerts, snooker tournaments, cabaret, ice shows – and the occasional visiting circus.

Recent shows have included *Phantom of the Opera*, *Barnum*, *Evita* and *Les Miserables*.

Chief lighting engineer Ed Franso explained, 'Before the new installation we had a Galaxy 1 and an MSR desk, one of the earliest generation of memory systems. We have used Strand equipment here for about 19 years because we like the products and we get an excellent service from their local distributor, Mechalectron.'

'We have such a varied programme of events at Circus Theatre that it was important for us to have a versatile configuration. We are now prepared for any production.'

