

# THERE'S MORE THAN ONE WAY TO HANG A LIGHT

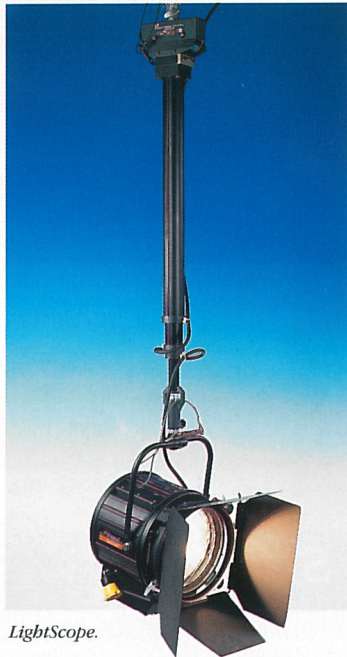
Amongst the growing number of recent Strand success stories a high spot must be the addition of TV studio suspension to the already extensive armoury of Strand Lighting products.

Being able to reposition luminaires quickly and safely is essential if expensive down time is to be avoided in busy production studios. Whether it is bringing the luminaire down for re-lamping, moving it out of the way for scenery changes or repositioning for a new shot, Strand's expanding range of suspension products are designed to facilitate this in studios of all sizes and handling all types of TV, Video and Film production. Recent additions to the range include:

## LIGHTSCOPE™

LightScope is a compact spring-balanced telescoping hanging device which allows lights to be positioned vertically without the need of ladders or access towers. It comprises an assembly of interlocking telescopic aluminium tubes to give vertical travel whilst retaining steady rotational positioning of the luminaire fixed to it.

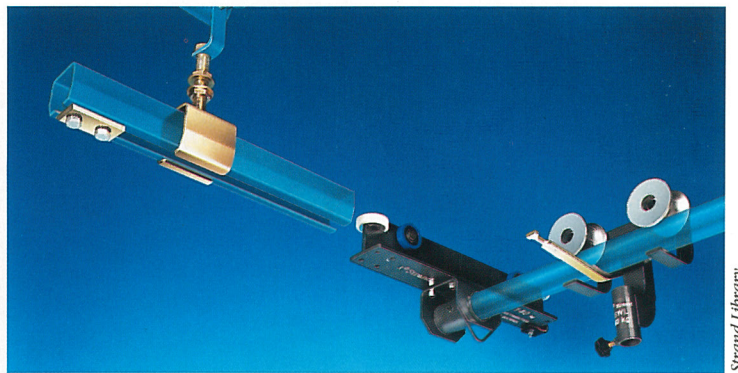
Using a similar principle to spring-balanced pantographs, torsion springs counteract the weight of the luminaire such that it can be pulled down to its required height on the Lightscope and it will stay in position. Adjustment can be made for the weight of the luminaire, and LightScopes are available in both standard and heavy



LightScope.

duty models (for luminaires weighing 4.5kg - 9kg or 9kg - 18kg) and in two different height versions (2.2m or 3.4m extended lengths).

In the smaller studio, LightScopes can be added to provide extra flexibility to basic fixed pipe grid installations and in conjunction with Strand's Rolling Trolleys, lateral positioning flexibility can be provided in addition. LightScopes can also be planned into more sophisticated rigging installations to give even more versatility.



SuperRig.

## SUPER RIG™

SuperRig takes the traditional fixed pipe grid system of luminaire mounting but brings to it a new degree of freedom by allowing either pipes or extruded aluminium cross rails to slide anywhere along the length of a fixed structure of heavy duty rolled steel rails.

Lighting fixtures or other equipment can be hung from these cross pipes or rails by means of a range of attachments providing either fixed positioning, lateral adjustment along the cross pipe or rail, vertical positioning by means of Strand's range of single point suspension products or a combination of all.

### SuperRig includes:

- Primary Rail fixings  
A comprehensive range of components designed to enable the SuperRig to be installed into most studio building situations.
- Rails and Barrels  
Cross rails of SuperRig and industry-standard tubular barrels for suspension from parallel primary SuperRig track

- Trolleys  
A range of single and articulated trolleys allow cross rails, barrels, single point suspension devices and luminaires to traverse along SuperRig tracks.

SuperRig can therefore be specified to provide a totally flexible installation for equipment positioning to satisfy the Lighting Designer and Floor Manager as well as giving excellent access for maintenance to please the studio crew. Combined with Strand's range of Pole Operated studio lighting fixtures all of this flexibility can be controlled from the studio floor.

Strand's rigging and suspension ranges can now answer most needs from the straight forward requirement for which standard packages of equipment are available through to the very much tailor-made project with which Strand has considerable experience in installations around the world. There is one thing for certain, in this very important area, Strand's designers will be working closely with users to ensure its products are on top.

In July 1993, Strand Lighting received the order to equip three new studios in Wharf Cable TV's new headquarters in Tsuen Wan, the largest digital broadcast facility in the world.

## WHARF CABLE TV - HONG KONG

Everyone knows that space is at a premium in Hong Kong, and Wharf TV's answer was to build two of its three new studio facilities on the 7th floor of a 40 storey office building.

Here, studios 6 and 7 occupy a space of 45m x 20m (145ft x 65ft), but the problem for the design team was the limited height of 4.4m (14ft) and a number of structural columns throughout the area. The studios are divided into 9 zones, each being the production area for a different cable channel, for example Sports, Youth Music and a children's channel.

But these studios aren't just studios. In addition to being a production area, this space is also an open-plan office. The solution to the rigging problems, with a low ceiling height was simple - Strand's LightRig - as this track and trolley system allowed the greatest degree

of flexibility of use, combined with fast installation and was suitable for the restricted height. The project required 600m of LightRig™, making it the largest single installation anywhere in the world.

Luminaires are fed from a total of 120 EC90™ MD 16Amp dimmers which are located in two dimmer rooms, one at each end of the building. The control system had to allow lighting in any area to be controlled and memorised from any of up to four control rooms and to enable local control by area without any interaction.

The Strand Premiere™ architectural control was selected for the job as it allows up to 32 separate "rooms" (or studios in this application), each with up to 128 presets. Wharf Cable TV opted to have portable versions of the 15 fader control stations, each with 8 presets, to enable control units to be



Studio 4 - Wharf Cable TV.

used in any of the control rooms and also to be plugged into the various areas within Studio 6 & 7. Smart jacks take care of all of the control routing for the Lighting Designers within the Studios.

The Control Room routing is selected on 16 way push button stations by the Premiere processor unit located in the Central Apparatus Room, with possibly the world's shortest C-LAN network, having 5 stations within 1 metre!

The third facility is more of a conventional studio. Studio 4 is 110 square metres (1,160 sq. ft) and fitted with Strand's LightRig suspension and cyclorama tracks.

Strand Quartzcolor luminaires, 60 ways of EC90 MD 16Amp plug-in Dimmers and an M24 memory console are also installed.

John Bowers, Project Manager (Production Facilities), says, "The Strand design and installation gave us the flexibility that we needed as production requirements changed as installation was taking place. The total system was well able to cope with all our alterations. It is ideal."

Bentley Miller, Lighting Consultant, commented "Both the LightRig, because it can be repositioned easily from the ground, and the control systems especially Studios 6 & 7 are absolutely the best for this operation."

Strand handed over Studio 6 & 7 in September 1993 and Studio 4 early in October, four weeks before Wharf went 'On Air' with 8 channels, 24 hours a day. Vic Gibbs of Strand Lighting Asia undertook the design, supply and installation of the mechanical and electrical work for the production lighting, and even ended up installing Audio and Video Monitor and Camera brackets in other studios and control rooms.