

STRAND'S TALE OF THE 'ONE THOUSAND AND ONE' LIGHTS IN MARRAKESH

An exciting International Congress centre intended to put the Moroccan city of Marrakesh on the map as the convention venue of the 90's, will provide a showcase for Strand Lighting capabilities.

The 'One Thousand and One' Congress Centre is being hailed as the greatest international business complex in North Africa and construction was completed by a workforce of 4000 within a record 18 months.

Built as a private venue, but with the full support of King Hassan II, the centre includes the 1700-seat Vizir's Hall — a conference hall constructed with



theatre wings, boxes, orchestra pit for operas, concerts or films projected onto an 18-metre wide screen.

The smaller Ambassador's Hall seats 450 people, while 12 other rooms can cater for groups ranging in size from 30 to 280 people. In addition, a Royal Hall provides banqueting and reception facilities for between 1500 and 2800 people.

Lighting controls in the conference centre are by way of a Gemini 2 board,

a Taskmaster, one Action 48 and one Action 24, plus 240 dimmers. More than 350 luminaires include Preludes, Cantatas, Cadenzas, Punchlites and Nocturnes.

In addition, the lighting configuration includes 25 5kW Pollux, 25 Iris 2's, 12 Parscrollers and one Autoscroll, with eight Parscan 2's and 12 1000W Beamlites.

Installation was by Strand Lighting SA, of France.

TV STUDIO IN BOLOGNA IS OPERATED BY FIVE MONKS

The Antoniano TV Studio in Bologna was created in 1965 to produce for RAI the 'Zecchino d'Oro', which is the most popular Italian children's musical competition on television.

Among all the TV studios managed throughout the world by clergy, it is the one that produces the largest number of programmes — a total of over 1200 working hours a year, 60 of which are included in the yearly programming for the networks of Italian State TV.

LAYMAN

The Studio, which reached its maximum activity between 1988-89, since last October has been directed by a layman, Fabrizio Tagliaferri, who up until then worked for SBP of Rome, one



of the most important Italian post-production companies.

The dimensions of the Studio are 20x20 metres at floor level with a height of 9 metres. Seven metres above floor level, 225 metres of 4-pole internal wired bars have been installed.

All of the luminaires attached to these bars are produced by Strand Lighting of Rome and are branded QuartzColor.

The electrical installation includes a board with an automatic safety switch connected to a power generator, 5 24x5kW Permuss dimmer racks, 6x10kW P.I.P. rack, all by Strand Lighting. Production stands at more than 1200 hours per year.

The luminaires are controlled by a Tempus M24 console with FX panel and rigged on 40 specially developed pantographs with unique safety features.

The sale and the installation of the equipment was by Roberto Melis and Arcadio Di Staso of 3T.

The cyclorama is an enormous circle attached to the perimeter wall of the studio. One entire wall of the cyclorama can be slid back to allow 230 visitors to watch the show.