



The main dimmer room with 14 SLD 96 dimmer racks

in the auditorium. Two PC's with Strand console emulation software on them provide access to the system in the two Lighting designers offices.

All of the controls are connected over a fiber optic Ethernet network designed by Victor Mikheev of our Berlin office. In addition to connecting consoles together data is sent to the 16 SLD 96 stage dimmer racks, 2 SLD 96 house light dimmer racks and all of the automated lighting in the building using ShowNet SN series nodes. All of the racks feature up to 96 – 5kW dimmers with hi rise time filter chokes to insure quiet operation. In addition all racks feature redundant tracking back up processors. House light controls are all Strand Outlook series that work with the architectural con-



Each dimmer rack features dual dimmer processor electronics with Russian language displays

trol electronics built into every SLD processor.

Installation

To complete the installation of this system Strand worked very closely with its Yugoslav distributor Svetlost Teatar for the equipment design, dimmer layout, and Ethernet distribution. Svetlost Teatar was a sub contractor to Waagner Biro who was the main technical equipment contractor. The



The main Bolshoi Theatre is shown here in the foreground with the Branch of the Bolshoi at the side

installation began in the spring of 2002 with a team led by Svetlost. Strand's Victor Mikheev who commissioned the complete system during September and October 2002. The Bolshoi staff was amazed that only a single Ethernet cable was needed to plug into the 500 series consoles to be able to control the entire lighting rig.

The first performance of the Russian Opera "Snow Maid" in the Branch of the Bolshoi was on the 22nd November 2002. The lighting design received good reviews and all of us were delighted to have played a part.

While the new "Branch of the Bolshoi" is enjoying their first year in production there is still no proven plan for the reconstruction of the main Bolshoi Theatre so there are now 2 Bolshoi Theatres in Moscow. It is still hoped that the main Bolshoi will close for renovation rather than have a step by step reconstruction but there is talk that it may close in 6 month increments so the reconstruction could take many years to complete.



One of the two 550i consoles used in the theatre with its 4 monitors complete with Russian language displays. In the foreground are the Outlook architectural controls that were built into the main desk furniture.