

SRX Series launches new chapter for C Audio



C Audio says its PLASA launch of "an exciting new generation of amplification" heralds a new chapter in the Cambridge company's fortunes.

The SRX Series, a 3U rackmount, high-power amplifier range, all with continuous 2 ohm capability, amalgamates C Audio's top-of-the-range SR

and XR models into one range.

The arrival of the SRX 3601 (650WPC into 4 ohms), SRX 3701(800WPC) and SRX 3801 (1200WPC), signals the demise of the successful SR 404, SR 606 and SR 707 workhorses and the popular XR 3801.

International sales manager Richard Moore adds that the range will be extended next spring, with an "innovative higher-power product" to be unveiled at Frankfurt Musikmesse.

The new amplifiers will incorporate an Advanced Multitasking Primary Signal Access Port (AMPSAP). This allows access to all signals in the amplifier that could need manipulation or monitoring. At launch, analogue cards with stereo limiter and crossover functions will offer a cost-effective signal processing solution for many applications.

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Celco's first Ventura to Romania

Celco celebrated their first sale of the new Ventura 1000 lighting console to a television company when Edgar Surin of EST Audio confirmed an order on behalf of his clients, Romanian National Television. Surin, who runs one of the biggest rental companies in Eastern Europe, said: "We first started talking with Celco two years ago but never bought anything - until we saw Ventura."

It will be used on outdoor shows in the country, including the massive *Golden Stag*, which has a production budget of £1 million a year. Ventura 1000 will ship in October.

Crest, KT drive Metallica's massive attack

SSE Hire has added a "huge investment" in Crest Series P7001 and 8001 power amplifiers, much of it specifically intended for the current, massive, world tour by Metallica.

34 8001s and 12 P7001s have been added to the 17 P7001s bought by SSE earlier this year for the AC/DC dates, taking the Metallica rig total to 122 Crest amplifiers. "Crest and the EV MT system are irrevocably linked," commented Chris Beale. "It's the correct amplifier to drive the system. Structurally they are highly developed and their performances are up to par." The 8001s are being used to drive the mids with the P7001s on HF.

All the amps are housed in SSE's Six Pack custom racks (each rack, with 12 8001s and three P7001s, drives six blocks of PA, and contains an on-board motor control system plus power and signal distribution systems). Metallica's production, noted Beale, requires three and a half miles of speaker cable.

Crest's Andy Simmons commented: "We are proud to be associated with Metallica, who are one of the largest touring bands in the world, at the same time underlining our support for SSE and the MT system in a relationship that goes back five years."



Meanwhile, FOH engineer Big Mick Hughes spec'd Klark Teknik graphics, gates and compressors for his control rig. They include DN3600 programmable graphics, chosen "for accuracy and band separation", the DN3698 remote controller and DN510 gates ("incredibly fast, giving you silent gating, no click, a completely natural sound and very accurate," commented Big Mick).

The tour is scheduled to last two years and SSE Hire share 'stacks and racks' provision with Chicago's db Sound according to territory.

Richard Abel identifies missing Brits at Dr Music

In our feature on Spain's Dr Music festival last month, the 'other' British supplier didn't get a mention.

Richard Abel, who many will know from Glastonbury Festival, tells us that his event production company supplied the festival with a Kayam theatre tent: "The

big blue thing hidden by trees in your photo is a four-pole Kayam tent shipped from the UK!"

He has also taken Kayam tents this year to, among others, Roskilde, Esbjerg Rock Festival and Pukkelpop. +44 (0)1692 536025

Definitive Lasers opens Production Village in Dubai

DLC (Definitive Lasers) Dubai, suppliers of lasers, theatrical and architectural lighting, fireworks, sound, Trilite, TFL ground support, Steeldeck and audio visual equipment, has opened new premises in a 42,000 sq ft complex in Dubai, United Arab Emirates - The Production Village.

Director Lorraine Ludman says The Production Village "incorporates a group of related companies, including ourselves, Aether Productions and Waves Studio - handling film, TV and video production, computer graphics, design, still photography etc, to create a one-stop shop." Tel: (9714) 470484. Fax: (9714) 470880. E-mail: dlcoubai@emirates.net.ae

Gearhouse on acquisition trail in South Africa

Meeting growing market demand in South Africa, the Gearhouse Group has purchased The Lighting Unlimited Group, comprising the big top staging and presentation companies: Lighting Unlimited, Stage Design, Woza Power, PA Sound and PSL Southern Africa.

Lighting Unlimited operates as a one-stop shop with a range of support services including lighting, staging, power generation, sound and AV to the corporate and live entertainment industries.

Under MD Ofer Lapid, the group has built up a wide selection of

hire stock, stored in special custom-built flight cases. It has headquarters in Johannesburg and a strategic satellite operation in Cape Town, which hopes to host the 2004 Olympic Games.

The company opens the season with tours by the Soul Invasion, Meatloaf and *Radioactive* launch of SABC Radio, followed by stints with Def Leppard and Gladys Knight. Through these newly-forged ties with the UK, it also aims to extend its services into the global arena.

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