

Prolight+Sound 2011

By Paul Watson & FOH Staff

This year's Frankfurt Prolight+Sound (PL+S) exhibition was significantly more buoyant than 2010's event. As with last September's PLASA show in London, there was

definitely more of a buzz and manufacturers seemed to have positive expectations for the coming months, which is reassuring for our industry.

Both exhibitor and visitor numbers were up on last year, with 873 companies (+6%) and 33,781 attendees (+9%) at this year's show from a total of 107 countries. Next year's Musikmesse

will be held from March 21 to 24. Here are a few of this year's highlights. This is a huge show, so to cover everything, some products introduced at PL+S will be covered next month.

New Consoles

FOH

DiGiCo unveiled two new consoles: the **SD Ten** and **SD 11**. Like last year's SD9 "Red Snapper," John Stadius has given these consoles fish code-names — SD Ten is known as "Ghost Carp" and SD 11 is "Box Fish." Price and performance-wise, SD Ten fits between the DiGiCo's SD7 and SD8 consoles. It features three banks of a dozen faders, 96 channels of processing — 12 of which can be configured as full Flexi Channels — and 48 busses plus LCR and a 16 by 12 output matrix.

The rack-mountable SD 11 is DiGiCo's smallest footprint offering to date and has DiGiCo's trademark 15-inch touch screen, 16 mic pre amps, eight line outputs, an AES I/O and, when partnered with DiGiCo's D Rack, is capable of recording 56 channels. DiGiCo also announced its **Audinate Dante** interface.

Soundcraft launched its third Si Compact console, the **Si Compact 32**, which has 32 mic pre-amps and four stereo returns, for a total of 40 mix inputs. It has four dedicated Lexicon FX busses, plus 14 aux busses with BSS GEQs and four matrixes. Deep Purple keyboard player Don Airey performed two virtuoso shows at PL+S using Soundcraft's Si Compact.

Innovason revealed their newest Eclipse console — the **Eclipse GT**, with the same Virtual Soundcheck and M.A.R.S multi-track recorder. It has new side rails for easier transport, plus red LEDs in the side-cheeks, and new knobs and faders for a more expensive feel. The GT is the first in the world that can control and recall AES42 parameters utilized by the new Sennheiser and Neumann digital microphones.

PreSonus unveiled their new **StudioLive 16.0.2**, aimed at clubs, churches and corporate audio, with a dozen X-Max mic-pres, four aux monitor sends, dual stereo effects, a stereo 31-band GEQ, plus StudioLive's hallmark FireWire interface. PreSonus won their second Musikmesse International Press Award (MIPA) award for its big brother, the StudioLive 24.4.2, having previously won for the original 16.4.2 StudioLive.

Roland showcased its new **M-480** 'flagship' V-Mixer digital console. It has 48 channels and six stereo returns, plus 27 busses with 16 auxiliaries, eight matrixes and support for Mono, Stereo, or LCR sound. It can also be integrated with Roland's personal mixing systems and digital snakes.

Yamaha announced their new **LS9 StageMix iPad app**, following last fall's release of their M7CL iPad app. It similarly allows control of input and output faders and EQ by simply connecting a WiFi access point to the console.



DiGiCo SD Ten



DiGiCo SD 11



Soundcraft Si Compact 32



Innovason Eclipse GT



PreSonus StudioLive 16.0.2



Roland M-480 mixer



Yamaha LS9 StageMix iPad app

Amps, Mics and More

FOH

Proel launched four new **C-Audio GB Series** amplifiers ranging in power from 900 to 2,500 watts per channel, selectable input sensitivity, and LED screens on the front panel that display gain, heat sink temperature, and protection status.

Optocore announced a partnership with **Clear-Com**, resulting in the joint development of two new products: the **V3R-FX-Intercom** for Clear-Com, a four channel intercom interface that allows Clear-Com Eclipse Matrix Systems, 4-wires and intercom control panels to be easily integrated with Optocore networks.

beyerdynamic opened a new chapter with the introduction of a new line of 25 top quality **Touring Gear (TG)** microphones designed purely for live applications. There are four TG categories: TG 30 is entry level, TG 50 features standard characteristics, TG 70 has higher quality materials, and TG 90 is top shelf, boasting the unique TG V90r ribbon microphone and the TG V96c true condenser.

They all feature the manufacturer's new Sound Channeling Technology.

DPA introduced their affordable 2000 series of modular microphones, based around two capsules. The cardioid **2011** employs DPA's interference tube design, and is available with a high-performance A pre-amp or a compact C version. The second capsule is the omni 2006.

SurgeX had their new **SEQ1200i** power conditioner and sequencers, which offer four sequenced banks of dual-IEC connectors, with delay times of 2, 5, 10, 15 or 20 seconds, plus two more always-on outlets, all with surge elimination, AC filtering and catastrophic shutdown.

Harman Professional debuted its HiQnet Performance Manager software. It builds on the workflow paradigm introduced in System Architect 2 and is fully integrated with JBL's Line Array Calculator II loudspeaker configuration and acoustic modeling software.



Proel C-Audio GB20



Optocore V3R-FX-Intercom



DPA 2011A modular cardioid condenser microphone



Beyer Mic



Speakers, Speakers, Speakers FOH

Outline Audio had big news introducing their **GTO** large format touring line array system. GTO employs two 15-inch woofers, four 8-inch mids and four 3-inch diaphragm compression drivers. Systems have already been placed with Britannia Row in the U.K. and Dowlan Sound and SES in the U.S.

After impressing the masses and winning the top prize at PLASA's Awards for Innovation last year, **Martin Audio's** Multi-cellular Loudspeaker Array (MLA) scooped the MIPA (Musikmesse International Press Award) for the best PA system, chosen by voting from more than 100 music publications worldwide.

Martin was also showing their new **DD6** ultra-compact two-way Differential Dispersion enclosure, with a 6.5-inch LMF cone and a half-inch compression driver on a unique horn with 120 degrees of horizontal dispersion narrowing to 90 degrees and 60-degree vertical dispersion, well-suited for under-balcony, front-fill and near-zone coverage.

d&b audiotechnik introduced an installation line of speakers, with two point-source and two line-source enclosures based around 10-inch drivers, and a choice of a traditional 18-inch vented companion subwoofer or a hybrid passive cardioid subwoofer employing a forward-firing vented 15-inch and a 12-inch rear-firing pass-band driver.

DAS introduced the **Convert 15A**, a two-way self-powered arrayable loudspeaker, whose HF dispersion in the coupling plane can be electronically changed between 20 and 40 degrees, and whose non-coupling dispersion can be altered from 60 to 90 degrees with removable higher-Q dispersion panels.

FBT introduced a new steerable column system. The **Vertus MLA** is a two-box system with six 8-inch mid-lows in one column and eight 20-mm HF drivers in a second, each with individual DSP and amplification.

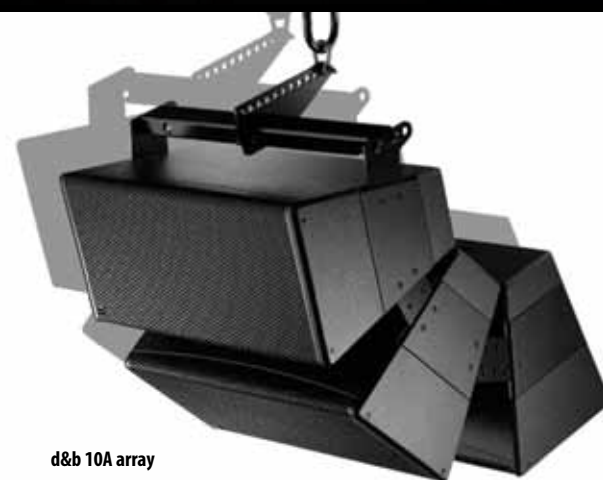
KS Audio showed their new **AutoCurve** motorized version of their **CPD Line** that allows remote motorized control of each cabinet's angle and the array's curvature from a laptop, allowing coverage to be changed on the fly from its prediction software and configured in 0.1-degree increments.

Tannoy offered 9 new self-powered **VXP** two-way loudspeakers, using their acclaimed dual-concentric point-source drivers and **Lab.gruppen** Class D modules that run on any international power.

Renkus-Heinz demoed their IC2 (IC Squared) high powered, medium format digitally steerable loudspeaker system, and also displayed the expanding IC Live family of digitally steerable array loudspeakers and the new CF/CFX101-LA Modular Point Source Array.



Outline GTO



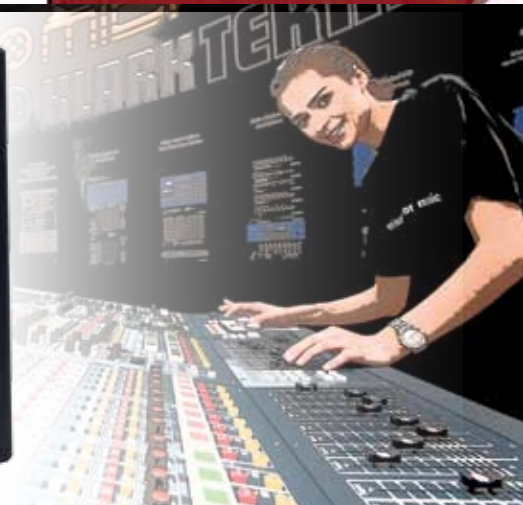
d&b 10A array



DAS Convert 15A



Tannoy VXP



Martin Audio DD6 without grill



FBT Vertus MLA 2-box DSA



KS Audio CPD Line with AutoCurve

New 18-inch Drivers FOH

Eighteen Sound was showing their new **18NLW9600C** carbon-fiber neodymium 1800-Watt AES woofer, with an Fs of 35 Hz and an Xmax of over half an inch. It has a 5.3-inch Interleaved Sandwiched Voice coil (ISV), a Triple Silicone Spider and 97-dB sensitivity.

Celestion introduced the **CF18200JD** 18-inch 1600W AES woofer, the first of a new generation of ferrite magnet cast alu-

minum frame drivers. It has a dual layer 5-inch copper voice coil, an Fs of 33 Hz and 97-dB sensitivity.

Faital PRO introduced the **18HP1060** 1200-Watt AES 18-inch woofer and its 12-inch 1kW **12HP1060** little brother, for designs that don't require their 1600-Watt 18XL1600. It has a 4-inch voice coil, an Fs of 35 Hz and 98-dB sensitivity.



Eighteen Sound 18NLW9600C



Faital PRO 18HP1060



Celestion CF18200JD

CABLE PROTECTORS WITH ADDED TRACTION!

GUARD DOG CABLE PROTECTORS

ADA accessories available

1.875" HIGH WITH 1.325" CHANNEL HEIGHT (5 channel model)

EXTRA HEAVY DUTY

- Optional anti-slip rubber pad kit available (5 channel model only)
- Available with 5 or 3 channels
- Protect valuable electrical cables from damage
- Ideal for stage, studio, and broadcast applications

Available in orange or black

FASTLANE DROP OVER CABLE PROTECTORS

NEW!

- Optional Carpet Kit with VELCRO® brand fasteners and/or anti-slip rubber pads for smooth surfaces
- Compact for easy setup, disassembly, and storage
- Low profile 1 or 2 channel options available

ONE CHANNEL TWO CHANNEL

The most trusted name in cable protection!

CHECKERS cableprotector.com

InfoComm #5559 800-438-9336

Made in USA



New rigging system provides the simplest and most functional hardware around.

Small in size, big in performance

The new ultra-compact **aero 8A**

Road-proven 8MN low frequency speaker with neodymium magnet assembly provides high output and reliability, with low weight.

New M-60N neodymium driver and new BPS-181 wave guide for brilliant high frequency production.

350 W 3rd generation Class D SMPS amplifier with digital signal processing and Finite Impulse Response (FIR) filters.

aero 8A

aero series²

D.A.S.

www.dasaudio.com

D.A.S. Audio, S.A.
C/ Islas Baleares, 24
46988 Fuente del Jarro
Valencia - Spain
Tel. +34 961 340 860
sales@dasaudio.com

D.A.S. Audio of America, Inc.
Sunset Palmetto Park
6616 NW 77th Court
Miami, FL 33166 - U.S.A.
Toll Free- 1-888-DAS 4 USA
jvillegas@dasaudio.com

D.A.S. Audio Asia PTE. LTD.
25 Kaki Bukit Crescent #01-00/02-00
Kaki Bukit Techpark, 1
Singapore 416256
Tel. +65 6742 0151
jlgarcia@dasaudio.com