Highlights of the ISE Show

By the FOHStaff

From February 11-14, 2020, thousands of AV professionals returned to Integrated Systems Europe at Amsterdam's RAI Center, where the show has been held since 2005. Note that ISE will move to sunny Barcelona for next year's edition. Attendance for the 2020 expo was approximately 50,000, down from 80,000 last year — probably due to travel concerns from the coronavirus.

But those who did make the trek were rewarded with plenty of new technologies to check out, and despite the lowered attendance, most exhibitors reported a steady stream of qualified attendees and brisk business. Here are a few audio product debuts that stood out. There was much more to see and we'll present more gear from ISE 2020 in future issues of *FRONT of HOUSE*.

» Consoles!

Allen & Heath (allen-heath.com) unveiled AHM-64, a powerful new 64x64 Audio Matrix Processor supported by a comprehensive ecosystem of scalable I/O, control and Dante solutions. AHM-64 lets integrators quickly create systems that build from a single boardroom to a complete campus. Based on a 96 kHz FPGA engine, AHM-64 has 12 local inputs and 12 outputs, plus an SLink expansion port allowing plug and play connection to up to eight remote expanders from Allen & Heath's "Everything I/O" family. An optional 96kHz, 64x64 Dante card can be added.

DiGiCo (digico.biz) launched the A164D Wall LCD and A168D Stage I/O racks for its 4REA4 processing engine — both with Dante connectivity. This allows integrators to take advantage of an existing network infrastructure to drop I/O for their 4REA4 anywhere on the network. The AES67-compatible A164D Wall LCD is a 16-input, four-out I/O expander for wall or floor mounting. The A168D Stage is an expander version with 16x8 I/O — also Dante equipped.

Lawo (lawo.com) was showing its full line of digital consoles and matrix/routers, but the big news was the 50th anniversary of Peter Lawo founding the company in 1970. Its early vision of IP becoming a single, unified infrastructure for all types of signal transport in audio production led to its current focus on IP native, including developing RAVENNA as an open media-over-IP standard more than 10 years ago, which also helped pave the way for AES67, Ember+ and ST2110. Congratulations!

Solid State Logic (solidstatelogic.com) was showing a V4.10 software update for its SSL Live consoles. Added features include a new Event Manager where single trigger can activate multiple output actions; V-Auxes and V-Stems expansion of VCA group mixing; an onboard spectrum analyzer (shown); redesigned dynamic EQs; and HUI control of up to four DAWs.

Studiomaster (studiomaster.com) demoed its DigiLive digital console series. The flagship DigiLive 16 features 16 imputs (12 mic/line, two stereo), motorized faders, 7" touch screen, 16 buses, eight configurable outputs, onboard WiFi, internal DSP effects and dynamics and AES/EBU, S/PDIF and two USB ports.

Waves' (waves.com) FIT Controller for its eMotion LV1 Live Mixer delivers 17 moving faders, each with Mute, Solo and Select buttons, a multi-function rotary control, bright channel display, eight bank switches and user-defined keys. The company is also offering its MyMon iOS/Android personal monitor mixing app for the LV1, granting musicians direct control of monitor mixes from up to 16 simultaneous mobile devices.

» Speakers, Speakers, Speakers!

Coda (codaaudio.com) launched its ultra-compact three-way N-RAY line array, which shares its AiRAY technology but in a shallow, lightweight cabinet ideal for theaters, performing-arts centers and corporate events. N-RAY combines two 6.5" neodymium woofers and a unique 6-inch, double-diaphragm planar (DDP) wave driver with variable 90°, 120° or asymmetric 105° horizontal coverage and 1,000-watt power handling.

DAS Audio (dasaudio.com) celebrated its 25th anniversary with its new EVENT-26A dual-6.5" powered line array, EVENT-115A compact, powered single-15 subwoofer and E11EVEN SOUND series — the latter designed specifically for nightclub installs.

d&b audiotechnik (dbaudio.com) debuted installation-specific versions of its popular KSL series, with the KSLi8/KSLi12 directional line arrays combined with KSLi-SUB/KSLi-GSUB subwoofers and new 40D high performance installation amplifier, along with a complete line of system-specific accessories and customization options.

Allen Heath AHM64

DiGiCo 164D Wall LCD

Lawo celebrated its 50th anniversary

Solid State Logic Live v4.10 software
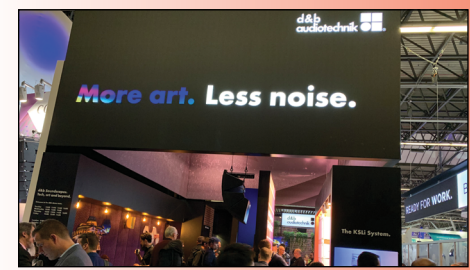

Studiomaster DigiLive 16

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d&b audiotechnik showed KSL series install versions

Electro-Voice unveiled its EVOLVE 30M and PXM-12MP

L-Acoustics' "Personal Auditorium"

Meyer Sound ULTRA X20 and USW-112p

NEXO expanded its P-Series

Outline STADIA 28

QSC AD-P.HALO

RCF showed its HDL 50-A

VUE e-351POE

Electro-Voice's (electrovoice.com) — part of the Bosch family — showed the EVOLVE 30M column system, with an 8-channel mixer, DSP and effects. HF is via six 2.8" drivers mated to a 10" subwoofer, powered by 500-watt amps. A white version is due this spring. Also new is E-V's coaxial 12-inch PXM-12MP monitor, useable as a wedge or as a compact main P.A., with its onboard DSP, 700W amp and 3-input mixer.

L-Acoustics (l-acoustics.com) was showing its new KARA ii variable dispersion line array and its first install-specific amplified controller, the bridgeable 4×4 channel LA2Xi, designed to power its smaller speaker systems. But what really caused a stir was its launch of its new L-Acoustics Creations division, with its Island Prestige modular, plug-and-play standalone "personal auditorium," with 13 front speakers, five rear speakers and two subs along with Bubble Deck controls, and easy integration with projector, screen, lighting, blinds and other home technologies.

Meyer Sound (meyersound.com) expanded its ULTRA-X Series with the ULTRA-X20, a version of the award-winning ULTRA-X40 in a more compact package, with two 5" cone drivers, HF driver and rotatable coaxial 110°x50° horn and a matching USW-112P single-12 powered subwoofer. Also new is Spacemap Go, a spatial sound design/mixing tool that leverages the power of its GALAXY network platform using an iOS app interface for Spacemap's multi-channel panning. It's compatible with automated and live on-the-fly workflows and full integration with QLab and popular DAWs is anticipated at the time of release.

Nexo (nexo-sa.com) expands its P Series with the coaxial 8" P8 and 10" P10 — in install and touring models. The rotatable horns can also be swapped out, changing the standard 100x100° dispersion for a 110x60° alternative. An L15 subwoofer is optional.
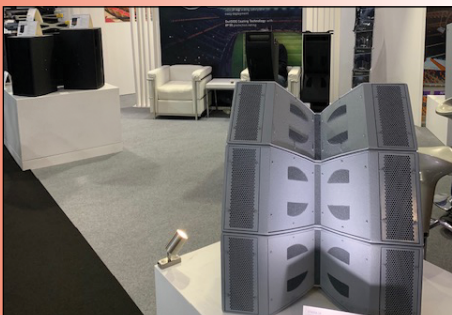
Outline (outline.it) debuted its STADIA 28, a medium-throw, constant curvature array enclosure weighing just 46 pounds yet capable of 139 dB peak SPLs. It's weatherized for outdoor use and is designed specifically for smaller venues and can be arrayed either vertically or horizontally, with six cabinets providing a full 150-degree coverage in both deployments.

QSC (qsc.com) introduced the AD-P.HALO, an integrated SUB/SAT pendant loudspeaker system. Part of its AcousticDesign Series, it features an integrated 6.5" subwoofer and four 2.75" transducers in a single enclosure. This purpose-built system is ready to install right out the box, eliminating the need for complex and time-consuming assembly.

RCF's (rcf.it) new HDL 50-A 4K 3-way line array is a higher-powered redesign of the original HDL 50-A, with 8,000W peak power, two 12" woofers, four 6.5" cone mids, two 2" HF drivers and onboard FiRPHASE and RDNet networking. Upgrades are available for HDL 50-A owners.

VUE Audiotechnik (vueaudio.com) unveiled the next release of SystemVUE software for Ethernet-based system remote control and monitoring. Making their European debuts were VUE's e-351POE high-definition, ultra-fidelity Dante endpoint and the es-269V high-power/output multi-channel Dante endpoint.

» Essentials!

Bose Professional (pro.bose.com) and **Sennheiser** (sennheiser.com) collaborated on the Bose ES1 Ceiling Audio Solution in-ceiling conferencing system. The bundle consists of the Sennheiser TeamConnect Ceiling 2 microphone and three Bose products: the ControlSpace EX-440C conferencing signal processor, EdgeMax EM180 in-ceiling speaker and the PowerSpace P2600A amp. The Ceiling 2 mic uses adaptive beamforming to automatically pick up the person speaking in a conference room, for a transparent technology experience creating modern-looking meeting rooms with no audio devices on the walls or tabletops.

Cordial (cordial-cables.com) is expanding its range of DMX-AES/EBU-110 ohm multicore cables with the introduction of the new CMD 4, CMD 12, CMD 16 and CMD 24 cables in addition to the already existing CMD 8 — with the number designating the number of pairs within the core. All feature a high degree of flexibility and excellent protection against interference.

K-array (k-array.com) unveiled its Capture-KMC50 microphone, which combines 16 miniature condenser cardioid capsules in a line array configuration, for voice and instrument capture with the precision of a perfect directive mic. Up to four Capture-KMC50 units can create a continuous array that lets users explore new microphone techniques and applications.

Powersoft (powersoft-audio.com) celebrated its 25th anniversary showing its successful Mezzo, Duecanali, Quattrocanali and Ottocanali amplifier lines along with updates to its ArmoníaPlus audio system management software, now with a HealthPlus tab providing a streamlined monitoring environment of all elements in a sound system with improved communication, control and reporting. Popular were the ongoing demos of its Mover linear motor/shaker transducer that lets audiences feel the sound through haptic perception and bone conduction.

Shure (shure.com) launched IntelliMix Room — the first audio processing software for Windows 10 PCs that is fully optimized for use with Shure networked system microphones. This software-based DSP requires minimal customer setup or additional special hardware, thus reducing the costs and footprint required to deploy premium AV conferencing.
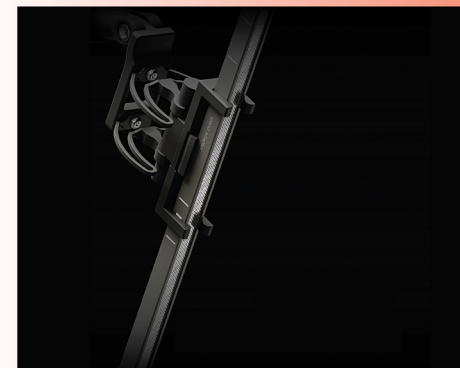
Whirlwind (whirlwindusa.com) launched its Power Link TLT, a dedicated test device for Neutrik True One three-wire power cords. This battery-powered continuity tester verifies the condition of power cables for continuity, shorts, and incorrect connections, with colored LEDs indicating correct wiring or fault conditions. Also launched is the TLP (Tester Line-Pcon) for Neutrik's powerCON three-wire AC cables. **F◯H**

The Bose/Sennheiser ES1 Ceiling Audio Solution

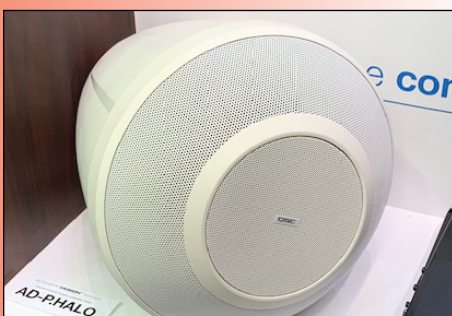Cordial showed new digital audio multicores

K-array's Capture-KMC50

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