



PROTEC CREATES A SENSATION IN DUBAI

Case Study

Lightware Visual Engineering

Protec Creates a Sensation in Dubai

Market	Country
Rental and Staging	United Arab Emirates

Lightware Equipment Used in Project

MX DVI-PRO matrices

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When I watch bigger shows on TV, which are elaborately produced, where every detail is perfect, where every pixel and every stage lamp is matching the vision perfectly, the camera shots are 100% accurate, then I wonder, what is behind the scenes of such a production? Which technologies have been used? Who is the lighting designer? Which company is the technical service provider?

UAE – Celebrated DJs, Acrobats, dancers, pyrotechnics, lasers and fireworks synchronised with music across an unending sea of white. Organisers filled the atmosphere with stunning structures, unique elements and beautiful light shows which illuminated the crowds in a white oasis. The acts united people from all over the world to create a great vibe, while the crowd embraced the “Celebrate Life” theme.



Sensation is the most travelled electronic music event in the world and has been to all continents, 35 countries and 43 different cities and welcomed well over two-million site visitors worldwide over nearly two decades. It was this

fourth edition of Sensation, held at Dubai’s Meydan Racecourse, for which Protec, the Middle East’s largest and most comprehensive technical and staging solutions company, provided a full production infrastructure.

Many world-famous artists have appeared at Sensation. Protec was well aware of the high production values set by producers, organisers and promoters, Envie Events, with whom it has worked closely on events in the past. Responsible for some of the most spectacular, immersive and innovative dance music events in the Middle East, they put high store in state-of-the-art lighting, pyrotechnics and sound design.

The company used a DiGiCo SD10 as their FOH mixing desk with all amplifiers networked so they could be close monitored, with signal transmission via Neutrik fibre optics.

Processing comprised Antelope Audio Isochrone OCX Clock, Lab Gruppen Lake LM44 processors, MAC laptops controlling playback and processing (including Smaart), and DIs for DJ equipment.

Protec fielded 16 Sennheiser G3 receivers and a transmitter as wireless monitoring for the dancers so they could work with the music and receive feeds from their choreographer. A couple of hand held radio mics meanwhile covered DJ requirements.



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Ancillary coverage was required in two VIP lounges which were serviced variously by a compact Bose PA system and L-Acoustics Syva, which is equally slick and compact.

Comms were taken care of by Clear-Com HelixNet, which was used for their nine wired positions, and Freespeak II for their eight wireless.



Under the direction of Scott Walker Protec's video HOD, the company deployed three screens on stage; on stage left and stage right they used 6mm Mambo LED panels (13 panels wide by seven panels high, ten metres by five-and-a-half metres high) in a triangular shape. For the main screen they used 9mm panels (21 panels wide by 11 panels high, 16 metres by eight-and-a-half metres high) also in triangular shape. These were controlled from NovaStar VX4S processors, fed from the media servers of the Sensation production team.

Three Panasonic remote cameras were focused on the DJs, which could be controlled from a single remote at FOH, and were vision mixed through a Roland V1200HD.

Signals were run from FOH to the LED control backstage via Protec's Lightware 220pro fibre transmitters and receivers and three 150m Neutrik fibre cables. Lightware MX DVI-PRO matrices were used at FOH and backstage to control the signal routing and switch between main and backup signals. The live footage was mixed to the screens and overlaid with content provided by Sensation, operated by the touring LD.



For backline, Protec provided its industry standard Pioneer DJ equipment, including Pioneer DJM 900 Nexus, Pioneer DJM 2000 Nexus and eight CDJ 2000 Nexus; this allowed them to have two complete DJ set-ups plus spare.

This document was rough-translated and edited from German original. You may find the original article in German here: <http://www.etnow.com/news/2017/12/protec-creates-a-sensation-in-dubai>