

# CASE STUDIES

## REVIVING SYDNEY SHOWGROUND WITH LEA PROFESSIONAL AMPLIFIERS

### LEA PROFESSIONAL AMPLIFIERS REVITALISE AUSTRALIA'S SYDNEY SHOWGROUND

#### SUMMARY

Sydney Showground was established in 1998 as a purpose-built home for major events as part of the multi-million dollar development leading up to the Sydney 2000 Olympic Games. Today it's a world-class venue, hosting nearly 150 national and international events annually, including music festivals, sporting events, exhibitions, trade shows and the Sydney Royal Easter Show, its flagship event and the nation's largest annual ticketed event. Sydney Showground comprises several buildings, including Giants Stadium, the Dome and Exhibition Complex, Charles Moses Stadium, Howie Complex, the Sydney Royal Stables, and more.

#### OBJECTIVES

After 25 years of nearly continuous operation, the AV system was in need of refurbishment, so they turned to Connect Series amplifiers from LEA Professional to return the AV system to its former glory. Showground staff contacted leading Australian integrator The P.A. People to help overhaul the system. Ross Ford, Project Manager at The P.A. People, was tasked with leading the installation. "From an operational point of view, LEA amplifiers offered us several key features that made them easy to integrate. The ability to bridge channels, ingest Dante inputs, and utilise analog inputs for the fire trip lines, plus they're a lot smaller and more compact than many competitive offerings."

#### THE RESULTS

Every pavilion has a standalone public address system, with a site-wide system in place for emergency communications. A major element of the AV upgrades was the desire for complete system monitoring and supervision. Because the AV in some of the smaller venues is used infrequently, unbeknownst to the staff, when required the AV systems often performed sub-optimally, an issue only identified immediately prior to an event during testing. LEA's line-monitoring capabilities were a significant factor in their selection. Now, AV staff receive an email notifying them of device issues or signal path disruptions in real-time, allowing staff to make fixes in many cases before anyone notices a problem.

#### THE SOLUTION

A mixture of nine LEA Connect Series 354D amplifiers and nine LEA Connect Series 704D amplifiers were deployed in the smaller venues.



The CS354D is a Dante-enabled 4-channel amplifier with 350 watts per channel, while the CS704D is a Dante-enabled 4-channel amplifier with 700 watts per channel. Both are perfectly suited for small to medium-scale installations and support high-Z (70V or 100V) and low-Z selectable by channel, giving the Showground excess capabilities for additional loudspeakers in the future. For the Dome and Exhibition Complex, The P.A. People installed 13 LEA Connect Series 1504D. The CS1504D is LEA Professional's flagship high-power IoT-enabled amplifier. A 2RU 4-channel amplifier offering 1500 watts per channel, it's ideal for large concert venues, arenas and stadiums. The CS1504D is Dante-enabled and supports high-Z (70V or 100V) and low-Z selectable by channel, providing capabilities for possible expansion. A significant challenge for the installation team was that many venues were in constant use, so finding time to perform the upgrades and swap out the gear had to be very carefully planned. Thankfully, LEA's Sharkware software made device configuration simple, saving the team significant commissioning time.

#### CLIENT COMMENT

Jonathan Seward - Head of RAS Property and Sydney Royal Easter Show Operations shared:  
"The RAS managed site, Sydney Showground is spread over 30 hectares (approx. 72 acres) with a diverse offering of event spaces up to 7,000m<sup>2</sup> column free (approx. 17,000ft<sup>2</sup>). The flexibility and performance of our PA system is crucial to the safe and effective performance of our venue and we are thrilled with the positive system performance outcome, a fit-for-purpose solution and our working relationship with the P.A. People has been exceptional."

Installation completed by:

The PA People

[papeople.com.au](http://papeople.com.au)

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