

Contemporary worship enriched through clear, neutral sound.



LifeAustin Church, TX, USA

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Joe Diaz, LifeAustin band member and AV Director

Setting the scene

In the last seven years, LifeAustin's congregation has grown from eighty to almost two thousand despite not having a permanent place of worship. Hopping from one school auditorium to the next, the church has endured challenging environments, but Pastors Randy and Denise never gave up hope that one day they would have a space to serve all the community's needs."

Establishing objectives

As they began building the first of many new rooms, the church's audio requirement was clear, as Joe DiFalco, Southwest Regional Manager at d&b audiotechnik explains: "The

church wanted a sound system that would perform amazingly in terms of speech intelligibility, coverage, and musical reinforcement. However, it had to have a clean and unobtrusive industrial design that was compatible with the architecture. They really wanted the sound equipment to make as much experiential impact as possible, while making a relatively small visual impact." "The goal is to find a way to reach everyone, immerse ourselves," confirms LifeAustin band member and AV Director, Joe Diaz. "We have a lot of audio professionals in our community. They'd be able to hear the difference, so sound is definitely a priority. We want every person to have a full experience."

"We are helping people worship, and that's important. I'm thankful for that, and thankful for a system that allows us to do that better."

Joe Diaz, LifeAustin band member and AV Director

The solution

"We all decided that selecting from the d&b Installation range was a great overall approach," adds DiFalco, "because it offers a wide toolbox of products that all have a wonderful power to size ratio, meaning smaller arrays could be used to achieve greater output and a streamlined look with discreet rigging."

However, with the stage built solid and very low to the ground, just two feet for an intimate feel, there was no room to stack subwoofers on or underneath it. To resolve the problem, system designer, Roy Kircher of d&b Installation partner, Big House Sound, developed the idea of employing a horizontal array of passive cardioid subs flown from a custom curved truss that matched the curvature of the stage. A centrally located glass wall combined with a large tiered seating area made very controlled coverage critical; using the curved cardioid sub array along with delay fills helped keep energy off many of the room's reflective surfaces. Big House Sound's Director of Installation, Zach Richards: "There's really not a bad seat in the house and the low end is very smooth and consistent."



Then with d&b software, ArrayCalc for simulation and R1 for remote control, the team set all delays and levels from the ground. "It was exactly what LifeAustin needed," says DiFalco.

LifeAustin's installed audio system now sits subtly in the worship space. With three Sunday services, each drawing almost a thousand members, the church is happy to have saved room for more people. With additional loudspeakers in reserve for special events such as weddings, the church is able to maintain an elegant aesthetic day to day and still be able to meet the more demanding needs of its congregation. On the success of the project Richards is clear: "This was a great project to work on. The team really came together to create a final product we're really happy

with." LifeAustin is now fully equipped to offer fun and enriching events to its congregation and Diaz is particularly proud to be a part of such a praise focused community, "It's nice to have a church that values a strong audio system."

It really enriches the experience. It's nice to know that work is actually being appreciated, without having to worry who can hear or not. We are helping people worship, and that's important. I'm thankful for that, and thankful for a system that allows us to do that better."

> System: 10AL, 10AL-D, 10S, 10S-D, 27S-SUB, E5 and D6, D12