

# Church install delivers clarity and energy to the congregation.



**Victory Church,  
Lethbridge, Canada**

**"It just sounds so good, so much warmer and fuller, that they don't notice the increase in level. And that of course means we have achieved exactly what we asked for, higher quality and much higher energy for our music."**

**Kelly Stickel**, Lead Pastor,  
Victory Church

## Setting the scene

The newly renovated Victory Church in Lethbridge, Alberta, Canada was originally a school gymnasium. With all the associated acoustic challenges one might expect to encounter in such a space, the one thousand capacity room is also wider than it is deep and with a fairly low ceiling.

## Establishing objectives

Keen to find a solution that would address the architectural issues, as well as provide a quality sound reinforcement system for both speech and musical performances, Ben Burrell of Canadian AV specialists Sapphire Sound took his thoughts to Trevor Nash, Regional Manager for d&b in Canada.

"For me it was easy," explains Burrell. "I really like the d&b system approach. The ArrayCalc software and the whole system ethos make perfect sense to me."

Nash: "Ben came to me with his ideas pretty well formed. The Lead Pastor at Victory, Kelly Stickel, had already engaged acoustic consultants from RWDI Air Inc in Calgary. Some very effective recommendations by them had made the room relatively dry.

"Pastor Stickel, a former musician and performer, was very clear about what was wanted: a system that could deliver lots of energy and impact to suit the highly dynamic musical component of their services, while remaining firmly in control, particularly in the lower frequencies.

"Ben identified the Y-Series as the ideal system, and once we had done the ArrayCalc simulation together it seemed pretty clear that his suggestion was the way to go. So Ben arranged for Kelly and himself to attend a Y-Series demo we presented at a large church a couple of hours away."

**"... witnessing a system in action was essential. I fell in love with it right away. The biggest thing was the evenness of spread. I walked all over and couldn't identify a hot or dead spot anywhere: I was very excited by that."**

**Kelly Stickel**, Lead Pastor,  
Victory Church



Pastor Stickel was enthusiastic about hearing the system for himself. "I'd heard about d&b from other pastors, but witnessing a system in action was essential. I fell in love with it right away. The biggest thing was the evenness of spread. I walked all over and couldn't identify a hot or dead spot anywhere: I was very excited by that."

### **The solution**

Burrell's final design was a combination of the installation specific Yi8 and Yi12 loudspeakers complimented by Yi subwoofers, all driven by d&b D12 amplifiers.

"I knew that Kelly wanted a cardioid bass component as sound control was a priority," explains Burrell. "The church broadcasts both on national TV and online so he certainly didn't want speech clarity compromised by an unrestrained low end.

The Yi-SUBs certainly deliver on that score.

"The compact, passive 2-way Yi8 and Yi12 line array modules deliver, in turn, 80° and 120° horizontal dispersion making them ideal for the shape of the room. And of course, the physical size of the Y-Series means that the line arrays don't interfere with projection and/or sightlines in a venue of restricted height.

"The day we made the installation Trevor flew in to help tune the system. It means a great deal to have that sort of support from the manufacturer."

Pastor Stickel explains the impact of the new system. "One really noticeable difference was in how we treated the choir. We have

a big choir but previously we could not use what was coming down the line from most of the choir mics because there was just too much room in there. Even if we limited it to one or two mic inputs it was clouded. Now straight away we could use them all.

"We also used to get complaints about the sound being too loud; now we run plus 10 dB, compared to what we used to, and have no complaints.

"It just sounds so good, so much warmer and fuller, that they don't notice the increase in level. And that of course means we have achieved exactly what we asked for, higher quality and much higher energy for our music."

**> System: Yi8, Yi12, Yi-SUB and D12**