Case study

City club enjoys low frequencies without disturbing local business.



Central, Split, Croatia

Setting the scene

In the heart of the city of Split, on the Dalmatian coast in Croatia, is the ultra high end nightclub Central, just a short walk from the ancient walls of Diocletian's Palace. Built nearly 2,000 years apart, the two have much in common. Just as the Roman palaces broke new ground in architecture, luxury and function, so too does Central.

Since opening, Central has set a new standard for clubs in the region. Built on the site of the former Cinema Central and designed by architect Duje Kaliterna, the 1,000 capacity venue is arranged over two floors. Visiting clubbers have a choice of four bars and three VIP areas, one of which is positioned behind the DJ booth.

Establishing objectives

In terms of club design, and club experience, sound is core to Central's vision. From the outset, it was clear the venue would be raising the stakes, pushing at the boundaries of what is possible.

From the early stages, d&b was the system of choice, as Tomislav Koran (Kuki) at Croatian distributor, Audio Tehnika, explains. "Central's owners have a lot of experience and success in running clubs. They understand the importance of system design in terms of the customer experience inside the venue, and also the exterior environment. Split is an ancient, tightly packed city so emission problems would be disruptive to their business."

"Wherever you are in the venue, on the dancefloor, the gallery level or any of the bars or VIP areas, there is a consistency and an alignment to what you hear: customers can fully enjoy every part of this incredible new space."

Tomislav "Kuki" Koran,
Audio Tehnika

d&b audiotechnik

The solution

The d&b system designed by Kuki is based around a left/right Y-Series line array and a Bi6-SUB array with E12s for fills around the venue. The DJ booth is equipped with a pair of MAX2 monitors for foldback, and flown behind each array is an E12 providing fill to the rear of the stage.

The sub array is an eight metre delayed arc using eight Bi6-SUBs built into the stage. "Our aim was to bring directionality and focus to the low frequencies," explains Kuki, "to deliver that energy to where it is wanted, but also minimize the problems it can cause externally. Using ArrayCalc we were able to experiment and simulate our design until we reached the outcome we wanted."

The d&b R1 controlled design, driven by D80 and D20 amplifiers, delivers the seamless experience that the owners of the club were aiming for. "In the year since Central opened, there has been no disruption to local business due to sound emission," adds Kuki.

"Wherever you are in the venue, on the dancefloor, the gallery level or any of the bars or VIP areas, there is a consistency and an alignment to what you hear: customers can fully enjoy every part of this incredible new space."



"In the year since Central opened, there has been no disruption to their business due to sound emission"

Tomislav "Kuki" Koran,
Audio Tehnika

> System: Bi6-SUB, Yi8, Yi12, E12, MAX2, and D20, D80