

Trusted audio installation puts remote arena on the touring map.



**Fetisov Arena,
Vladivostok, Russia**

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Alexander Ashurkin,
Stage Pro, system integrator

Setting the scene

Since hosting the 24th Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation summit in 2012, the major Pacific port city of Vladivostok, Russia, has experienced a period of stimulated investment. Alongside two new bridges, a distinct emphasis has been placed on the development of resort style entertainment facilities.

Home to the Admiral Vladivostok ice hockey team and a regular host of exhibitions and concerts, Vladivostok's indoor Fetisov Arena represents a significant part of that drive, accommodating up to 5,500 seated ice hockey fans, and concert audiences up to 7000.

Establishing objectives

"Like all such buildings, the Fetisov has poor acoustics, and although the house system works well for hockey games, it is simply not acceptable for concerts," explained Boris Kosyakov, Technical Consultant at Accord, the company charged with realizing a comprehensive sound and lighting system for the arena.

"It is easy to say the venue managers wanted a concert PA system of the highest class – who wouldn't? But in this case it is especially important. Because of the geographical location the only way it's possible to attract truly international artists to Fetisov is for them to arrive without the encumbrance and expense of bringing in full production."



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Boris Kosyakov,
Technical Consultant, Accord

The solution

Despite having extensive acoustic modifications made to the fabric of the building Kosyakov was not satisfied. “I brought in audio consultant Alexander Ashurkin from Stage Pro to advise me.”

As the largest equipment rental provider in the region, Ashurkin was confident of a solution. “The neutral crystal clear sound, ease of rigging and system tuning make d&b audiotechnik systems an ideal choice. I pointed Boris in the direction of Alexander Soloukin, from the pro audio department at Aris, the d&b Distributor for Russia.”

“With a relatively small audience capacity for a sports arena the potential revenues from concerts at Fetisov would never be huge,” said Soloukin, “so budget was an important criteria when we made our appraisals. Ironically the tight acoustic confines of the venue proved an enabling factor. A design based on the

d&b J-Series for main system with V-Series for front and out fills provided all the power and fidelity the venue required; the pattern control of the system is so consistent we were able to model the audience area with the minimum of loudspeakers. The cardioid performance of the J-SUBs and J-INFRA being especially helpful in not projecting audio energy where it was not wanted.”

“When Alexander and his system technician from Aris, Evgeny Shuev made the preliminary demonstration the venue, management recognized the benefits immediately,” commented Kosyakov. “The system proved so efficient that surplus budget was left for Aris to supply Digico desks and Beyerdynamic microphones.”

“Believe me, the people of this remote part of the world are not easily swayed, yet even with no audience present the performance was frankly astonishing.”

> System: J8, J12, J-SUB, J-INFRA, V8, V12