



World Economic Forum Relies on OPTOCORE

Munich, February 16th, 2009

More than 2,500 participants from 96 countries — including a record 41 heads of state or government — convened in Davos, Switzerland, early this year for the 39th Annual World Economic Forum.

For the third year in a row, Pierre Heyligen, executive director of Paris, France-based live production experts Lumiere & son Paris, designed the audio system for the meetings around an OPTOCORE synchronous optical network ring for the simultaneous transport of audio signals, Ethernet, DMX and intercom signals. The system had to fulfill the requirements of both daytime conferences and evening entertainment shows.

The OPTOCORE network ring joined and synchronized three I/O racks with two digital mixing consoles, carrying everything from wireless microphone signals to video sends and intercom. The Yamaha DM 2000 FOH mixing console and Yamaha M7CL monitor console were fully interfaced with the OPTOCORE network by two YG2 MiniYGDAI modules and five YS2 submodules, plus three DD32 AES/EBU interfaces, eight X6P-16IN and three X6-16OUT A/D/A interfaces.

The first I/O rack included a DD32 and X6P-16IN to accommodate 36 wireless microphones inputs. A second rack situated onstage utilized a DD32 and an X6P-16IN to handle 64 microphone inputs, while the third rack, located backstage, serviced amplifiers, radio, TV, and video sends and returns with a DD32, an X6P-16IN, and an X6-16OUT. The third rack also provided DMX and intercom interfaces.

The daily conferences, with all the attending participants and their speeches, presented a formidable challenge for the audio system and network. However, for Heyligen, the greatest hurdle for the system to surmount was a five-hour show for the forum's Morocco Night, a Saturday evening event featuring 120 singers and musicians. "OPTOCORE once again ensured a reliable network," says Heyligen "We started the system for test and rehearsals on Wednesday morning, and it ran nonstop until Monday morning.

"In addition to its trustworthiness, OPTOCORE helps us limit the amount of cabling we need, and the OPTOCORE preamps guarantee brilliant sound quality. We had zero faults, and, of course, we couldn't tolerate a fault on a job as critical as the World Economic Forum," Heyligen notes with satisfaction. "We had about 300 meters of fibre for signal transport on this production and everything went 100% okay. It always does when we use the OPTOCORE network and fibre connections."
