

MAJOR CALIFORNIA EXHIBITION FACILITY GETS AUDIO DISTRIBUTION UPGRADE FROM IED

The Moscone Center, the premiere convention and exhibition facility in San Francisco, needed a major upgrade of its existing audio processing system. Mainly, the operating software needed to become Y2K compliant. Who else could perform such an upgrade other than the original equipment manufacturer – IED.

Innovative Electronic Designs, Inc., known for its automated audio management systems in major convention and conference facilities around the world, such as Florida's Orange County Convention Center and the Suntec Convention Center in Singapore, has the hardware and software expertise to distribute sound evenly and clearly over large indoor areas.

What's more, IED can support and maintain *all* of its systems as a facility grows or its audio processing configurations change.



**Outside The Moscone Center's
Esplanade Ballroom.**

THE FACILITY

The Moscone Center consists of three main sections – Moscone Center South, the Esplanade Ballroom, Moscone Center North – that all together contain more than 1.3 million square feet of building area, 58 meeting rooms, more than 242 thousand square feet of exhibit space, and almost 43 thousand square feet of meeting and banquet space. Individual rooms can be used for training, seminars, presentations, and conferences.

THE SYSTEM

The facility utilizes IED's Universal Digital Audio Processing System (UDAPS[®]) to meet the challenge of distributing and managing sound throughout the facility. The first system was installed in 1990 for the Esplanade Ballroom. The second was installed in 1992 for the North Exhibit Hall and its associated ballrooms and meeting rooms. Both systems process and distribute sound and provide event scheduling.

Throughout the recent upgrade, IED provided on-site support to the contractor (Pro Media of El Sobrante, California), including enhancements to the original system where possible. In addition, IED reconfigured the UDAPS software to meet The Moscone Center's operational needs.

The software-driven system for The Moscone Center has these and many more features:

- Two complete, distinct IED UDAPS installations: Esplanade Ballroom with 16 inputs, 72 outputs and North Exhibit Hall with 24 inputs, 144 outputs.
- Equalization and Delay
- Speaker delays automatically reconfigured with drag-and-drop stage location in UDAPS software
- Settings for individual events can be scheduled in advance
- Individual speakers may be muted, and individual level control is provided for background music, paging, and program sources for each speaker.

THE SOFTWARE

Just as it is for all facilities using UDAPS, the software is customized for The Moscone Center. It is used to configure, control, and monitor the entire system.

The screenshot displays the 'Moscone North' software interface. At the top, there are menu options: 'Events', 'Configure', 'Display', 'Monitor', 'Status', and 'System'. Below this is a row of scene selection buttons labeled 'Event', 'Scene 1' through 'Scene 8'. The main area shows a floor plan with several rooms, each containing a grid of speaker locations labeled with letters (A through X). The rooms are color-coded: a blue room on the left, a yellow room, a red room, and a grey room on the right. A mouse cursor is visible over the floor plan. At the bottom, there is a status bar showing 'Editing event "Worldcon XXX"', the date 'Mon 8 Nov 1999', and the time '9:45:47'. Below the status bar is a toolbar with buttons for 'Name', 'Delete', 'Start', 'Stop', 'On/Off/Click', 'Head Room', '125', 'EQ', 'BGM', 'Paging', 'Delay', 'Outs', and 'Exit'.

Mouse-based functionality

Drag-and-drop stage you can place in a room to automatically calculate delays.

Color-coded delay patterns.

Diagram indicates each room in the facility and each speaker in the room.

Toolbar provides capability to configure all events.

IED'S UDAPS UPGRADES AT THE MOSCONE CENTER:

- Updated system hardware and software
- Software upgraded to mouse-driven graphical user interface based on the center's needs
- Combination and segmentation of audio for rooms for certain needs
- Quality sound, support, and service from the acknowledged leader in audio systems management