

mobile

Volume 8 Issue 7

monthly

PRODUCTION

KENNY CHESNEY

& The Big Revival Tour

ALSO IN THIS ISSUE

Coverage from



morris

LIGHT AND SOUND



SCREENWORKS

NEP Worldwide Network



lighting

trucking

production support

sales

service

storage

prop/scenery fabrication

UPSTAGING.COM
815-899-9888



©2014 Todd Kaplan

UPSTAGING

On The Road for Over Forty Years

ENTERPRISE ENCORE PRESENTATION



Why search all over to find vehicles for your tour when one call to Enterprise can serve all your needs? With great cars and trucks at low rates, choosing Enterprise is the right call.

- Single point of contact for ALL rental vehicles in the United States and Canada
- More than 6,000 North American locations
- Delivery available
- Consolidated billing

©2015 Enterprise Rent-A-Car F03955 02/15

To make a reservation with our Entertainment Division, call 800 411-RENT or e-mail: VIPTRAVEL@erac.com

CONTENTS

Volume 8 Issue 7

Cover

14 Kenny Chesney: The Big Revival Tour



pg

Features

6

Tourcats Caters to
Kenny Chesney's Tour

8

Morris Rebrands, Reflects on
25 Years with Chesney

12

Morris Becomes.... Morris

14

**Kenny Chesney:
The Big Revival Tour**

21

Mid-America Sound: Your Midwest
Connection for U.S. Festival Production

26

Clay Paky Lighting Fixtures Help Kenny
Chesney Deliver Fire Power on His
"Big Revival Tour"

29

Sound Image and SSE Audio Announce
Launch of United Audio Companies

30

**Bonnaroo Radiates Positivity
Via Support & Production**

38

Jake Owen goes anywhere
with DiGiCo



Notes from the Publisher

In this issue we have several pieces for you starting with the Kenny Chesney Tour Cover Feature. Included are features on Morris Sound and Lighting, one of the fastest growing production companies in Nashville, along with an announcement that they've rebranded to the short and spectacular "Morris." Also in this issue is a story on Tourcats Catering and its new owners who are dedicated to providing the tasty and high quality meals Kenny Chesney's staff and crew expect.

Also in this issue is our coverage of the recent Bonnaroo Festival and some of the production areas that don't normally get media attention. This annual event in Tennessee is one of the premier festivals in America.

You will notice a special Spotlight Feature on our old friends, Mid-America Sound in the staple section. We are reviving these four-page sections that allow us to profile various production companies with these unique pieces. It is always a treat for me to go back to my old Indiana roots, especially with a company that's grown to a global reputation.

Finally, as we approach the end of early-bird registration for Tour Link, we are gratified by the larger than expected number of people signing up. We are also pleased at the growing number of Co-Sponsors supporting the conference.

Tour Link is unique in the Industry with the blend of educational and recreational functions geared to promote establishing and strengthening personal relationships. We encourage all of you to join us January 11-14 in Palm Springs. This is shaping up to be the biggest and best one yet.

Larry Smith
Publisher



mobileproductionpro.com

PUBLISHED BY

Anvil Productions, LLC
740 Cowan Street, Nashville, TN 37207
ph: 615.256.7006 • f: 615.256.7004

mobileproductionpro.com
tourlinkconference.com

HOME OFFICE STAFF

Publisher: Larry Smith
larrysmith@tourguidemag.com
Director of Operations: Lori DeLancey
officemanager@mobileproductionpro.com
Editor: J.J. Janney
editor@mobileproductionpro.com
Guest Writers: Jordan Haymaker and Debi Moen
Bonnaroo photos by Jordan Summers.
Cover photo by Jill Trunnell

Layout / Design and Website Design:

Warehouse Multimedia
ph: 615.420.6153 • f: 866.929.9651
3050 Business Park Circle Suite 500
Goodlettsville, TN 37072
www.warehousemultimedia.com

FOLLOW US

[Tour-Guide-Publications / Tour-Link-Conference](#)
[@mobileprodpro / @TourLinkConf](#)



ADVERTISING INQUIRIES

For advertising inquiries:
LarrySmith@tourguidemag.com or
ph: 615-260-6699



©2014 Anvil Productions, LLC. Nothing may be reproduced without written permission of the publisher. The publisher reserves the right to edit any and all editorial content included in this publication. The publisher has made every attempt to insure accuracy and consistency of this publication. However, some listings & information may be incomplete due to a lack of information provided by various companies listed. Please send any inquiries to the attention of the publisher. All advertising appears at the paid solicitation of the advertiser. Anvil Productions, LLC, can not be held liable for any errors, omissions or inaccuracies appearing in this journal in the form of editorials, listings or advertising.

Member of:

NATD Nashville Association Of Talent Directors





Jan 11-14



Golf Tournament



Top Dog Awards



Transportation Outing



Product Demos



Panels & Workshops



Sign Up At [www. TourLinkConference.com](http://www.TourLinkConference.com) Today!!

DON'T MISS IT

Tourcats Caters to *Kenny Chesney's* Tour

by Debi Moen

When Kenny Chesney's crew bus rolls up at the venue at 7 am, Tourcats has coffee brewing and breakfast ready to dish out on site. How many other catering companies can say that they are ready to serve the most important meal of the day?

Unlike many other catering companies that travel with the tour busses and trucks, Tourcats runs independently with their mobile refrigerated kitchen - built to health code specs - carrying freshly sourced organic meats, eggs, poultry and veggie items, with fresh fish flown directly to the venue.

Started in 2006, Tourcats provides tours with the highest quality food and service available, along with espresso bars, dressing room requests, driver meals, after-show snacks and more. They have served Jimmy Buffett, the Trans-Siberian Orchestra, George Strait, One Republic and Chris Brown. They recently finished feeding the Rolling Stones Zip Code Tour, and currently cater to Kenny Chesney's mixed stadium/arena/amphitheater run.

Tourcats uses only the best ingredients and prepares all food from scratch, ensuring that every meal is delicious, healthy and unique. Audrey Olmer of Tourcats says variety is key to keeping people happy on the tour. "Imagine eating in the same restaurant three meals a day, every day, all summer long. It could get old - but to overcome that, we offer different foods every day, and serve several entrees for lunch and dinner."

Tourcats' philosophy of serving a variety of only the best and freshest food has paid off - in 2013 they won the CMA SRO Award for tour catering.

Tourcats has eight people on the crew on Chesney's tour - with three cooks focusing on hot foods and two preparing the cold. "The Kenny operation is a big one," Olmer says. "When we're feeding just the steel workers, it may be 80 or 90, but on show day it may be 300 or more."

Challenges vary across venues. The Rose Bowl had no dining facilities for catering, "so with the help of the tour, we had dining tents set up with air conditioning outside the venue," she says. At Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City, the crew had to ferry all the food and dishes about a half mile from the parking lot to the dining room using golf carts and wagons!

Then there is the heat wave baking the country. Ice cream and popsicles were a big hit at several recent shows, while another popular item - freshly made wheatgrass - has become a staple on the menu.

Noting that this is the fifth or sixth tour they've catered for Chesney, Olmer says, "We are proud to be a part of Kenny's tour. It's wonderful to serve great food to people day in and day out and not bore them. It's an exciting job and a lot of fun."

www.tourcatering.com

Get into the Black.

SHOWS
CONCERTS
CORPORATE EXHIBITIONS
TRADESHOWS
STORAGE
TRAILER RENTAL

- TOP-FLIGHT DRIVERS
- ON-TIME DELIVERY
- FULL SERVICE EVERYWHERE IN NORTH AMERICA

TRUCK N ROLL

CALL FOR A QUOTE TODAY
TOLL FREE 1 888 878-2551
TRUCKNROLL.COM or
email: FTAYLOR@TRUCKNROLL.COM or
GHISLAIN@TRUCKNROLL.COM

T O U R C A T S

Tour Catering

- Best Service at Reasonable Rates
- Fresh Prepared Quality Ingredients
- Customized Menus
- Highest Quality Meals 3 times a day
- Self Contained Mobile Kitchen



Kenny Chesney ● *Miranda Lambert* ● **Trans-Siberian Orchestra**
Jimmy Buffett ● *Eric Church* ● **OneRepublic** ● *Chris Brown*
George Strait ● **The Rolling Stones** ● *Jason Aldean*



**2013 WINNER OF THE
CMA TOURING INDUSTRY AWARD
BEST TOUR CATERER**



t. 530.307.0003
f. 888.400.9160
E-mail: tourcats@icloud.com



"Morris Rebrands, Reflects on 25 Years with Chesney

by Debi Moen

You've known them as Morris Light and Sound. Now, you'll know them as Morris. We spoke with David Haskell, president/CEO, about Chesney and the changes it's experiencing as the company undergoes a rebranding.

You've been Kenny Chesney's sound and light vendor a long time. This year you also supplied rigging and motors as well?

We've been working with Kenny since he has been with Morris Higham Management, 25 years now. We've watched his career grow from modest beginnings to one of the world's largest touring acts. With that evolution comes change in size and scope but in technology as well. Kenny is a hands-on artist when it comes to the look, sound and overall feel and message he's wanting to convey with each tour. Working with Mike Swinford (designer) and Ed Wannebo (production manager), we start a year out from the upcoming tour to flush out staging and lighting concepts. Once Kenny approves the concept, we provide options to best fulfill the design and give the most effective looks and sound while ensuring all elements of the design pack, travel and deploy quickly and efficiently.

While Kenny is our largest client, we also provide sound and lighting for some of the country's largest stadium festivals while still providing production services and integration for every size production requested.

Is there a conscious effort to keep Kenny's crew intact over the years?

"Family" is key in Kenny's and Morris's houses. When you look at the tenure most of the crew has with Kenny, it's comforting to both the artist and the crew to see that level of commitment to both the tour and each other as people. That is one of the most outstanding elements of Kenny's world to me.

Why are you dropping the Light & Sound part of your name?

Now that we have different divisions of our company - sound and lighting, integration, recording studios, a visuals department and production and event management - we decided to become a brand versus a house of brands. We are trying to keep our portfolio diverse while keeping customer service and quality at the forefront of everything we do, company wide.

We are rolling out new logos, website (www.experiemorris.com) and social media under "Morris." Continuing the legacy of Dale Morris, we are keeping the name and adding a whole new look and feel to how we are viewed to the world. Everyone is excited. So am I! I love this business!

www.experiemorris.com



David Haskell, CEO of Morris
Announces Rebranding

WHERE CONCERT
TOURING PROS
FIND WORK & HIRE CREW

SIGN UP FOR FREE
no credit card required

www.tourready.com

Morris Light and Sound was formed while outfitting tours for country super-group Alabama. Now, 25 years later, we begin a new chapter known as Morris. We are so excited to continue this journey - cheers to 25 more!



morris

LIGHT & SOUND

INTEGRATION

THE TRACKING ROOM

www.experiencemorris.com

Finally
 someone cares about the
Sound Guys

STEALTH



www.stealthchair.com
 800.417.4122
info@ergolab.com

Your Mobile Production Partner
 Providing Comprehensive Services since 1997
 Sound • Lighting • Video • Staging • Trucking • Logistics

GBS

GARIBAY BROTHERS SYSTEMS, INC

PROUD SOUND SPONSOR OF TOUR LINK 2015
 PROVIDER OF THE OUTLINE GTO C-12 SYSTEM

10754 Artesia Boulevard • Cerritos, CA 90703
 (562) 584-4500 • www.gbsound.com

SES

Audio Lighting Video Rigging Integration

Winston-Salem, NC | Nashville, TN | Sacramento, CA

www.specialeventservices.com

800.423.3996



HEMPHILL
 COACH COMPANY
BROTHERS
Luxury in Motion

America's Leading Provider of Luxury Coaches
 and Award-Winning Transportation Services

hemphillbrothers.com

PREVOST
 The ultimate class.

888.876.8999

UNLEASH THE GTO C-12



CAN YOU HANDLE THE POWER?

THE GTO LINE ARRAY FAMILY



GTO



GTO DF



GTO LOW



GTO SUB

Super High Output from Dual 12" Lows, four x 6.5" Mids, and 2 x 3" HF Compression Drivers delivering an astounding 140 dB SPL (single unit). Power and far-field performance from our Patented V-Power Concept (*US D500,306 S*) and D.P.R.V.G. Wave Guide (*EP1532839*). Extremely compact package: H 14.3" (363 mm) - W 44.3" (1126 mm) - D 25.8" (655 mm). Very low weight: 160 lb (72.5 kg). E-Z RIG - Lightweight Ergal Aluminum Exoskeletal Rigging System first used on the full sized GTO: adds the strength of steel, but keeps weight to a minimum. Same foot print as the full sized GTO - makes all hardware and accessories fully compatible. Single point fly frame with one Ton motor rigs up to 12 GTO C-12's for weight restricted venues.

OUTLINE. THE PASSIONATE PURSUIT OF PERFECTING PRO AUDIO SINCE 1973
OUTLINE ITALY SRL - Tel.: +39 030 35.81.341 - mail to: info@outline.it
OUTLINE NORTH AMERICA LLC - Tel.: 516 249 0013 - mail to: na_sales@outline.it

Outline
www.outline.it





Morris Becomes...

morris

The Same Full Service Production Company
Behind Kenny Chesney Rebrands



CADILLAC XTS
MERCEDES S550
YUKON DENALI SUVs
CADILLAC ESCALADE SUVs
MERCEDES SPRINTERS
EXECUTIVE MINI BUSES
EXECUTIVE MINI COACHES



**MATTHEW JOHNSTON HAS BEEN
PROVIDING WORLD CLASS SERVICE
TO THE CONCERT INDUSTRY
FOR OVER 20 YEARS**



24 HOUR SUPPORT:
800.546.6508
817.568.2942
info@ajlinternational.com
AJLINTERNATIONAL.COM



NLA
ACCREDITED BUSINESS
DFWLA

by Megan Bengard,
GM of Communications and Administration for Morris

Morris is a full-service production and integration company with more than 25 years of experience in the industry. They began by outfitting tours for famed country music legend, Alabama, under the name Morris Light and Sound.

For the past two decades, that name accurately reflected the types of services offered to their clients.

The rebranding of the company under a single name, Morris, fits with the continued growth and expansion of services. In addition to a fully-outfitted Integration Division, their services for existing and new clients include event management, production management, pre-visualization services and a recording studio facility.

A company dedicated from its beginning to executing the best tours in the business, has evolved into an organization that is passionate about creating any and every kind of immersive experience. Their goal is to create powerful performances and pursue innovative

solutions with professional and artistic dedication. Their success in doing just that is proven with a sample of their client list.

Morris has provided exceptional service to a wide range of music's most popular acts, highly recognized brand and companies, annual events, and houses of worship. Some past and current clients include Florida Georgia Line, Jake Owen, Grace Potter and the Nocturnals, CMA Fest, Community Bible Church, St. Thomas Hospital and Kenny Chesney.

In fact, Kenny Chesney is one of their longest-standing relationships. Morris has partnered with Kenny Chesney's team for over two decades!

Staff and crew with Morris frequently mentioned they feel fortunate to be working with Kenny Chesney. In addition to being heavily involved in the pre-visualization phase of his tours, Morris provides assistance in determining the scope and scale of the tour and aid in design creation that best executes Kenny Chesney's ideas.

Morris strives to ensure every single client feels confident that his or her event will exceed expectations and delight their audiences. Whether it's a sold out concert, a weekend of corporate training, or a Sunday morning worship service, the only word clients need to remember is...Morris.

www.experiencemorris.com



SPECIAL EVENT SOLUTIONS

Power · Tenting · Trailers · Fencing www.BraunEvents.com

P 847-304-4100 E info@braunevents.com A 22N029 Pepper rd - Unit #7, Lake Barrington, IL 60010

DISPLAYING YOUR CREATIVE VISION AROUND THE GLOBE



SCREENWORKS

NEP Worldwide Network

WWW.SCREENWORKSNEP.COM

1.805.384.9800 | INFO@SCREENWORKSNEP.COM

Screenworks is Part of the NEP Worldwide Network>>

Video Display Solutions By:

SWEETWATER | FABER
United States

MEDIATEC | FABER
United Kingdom
Europe
Middle East

NEP AUSTRALIA
Australia
Asia Pacific

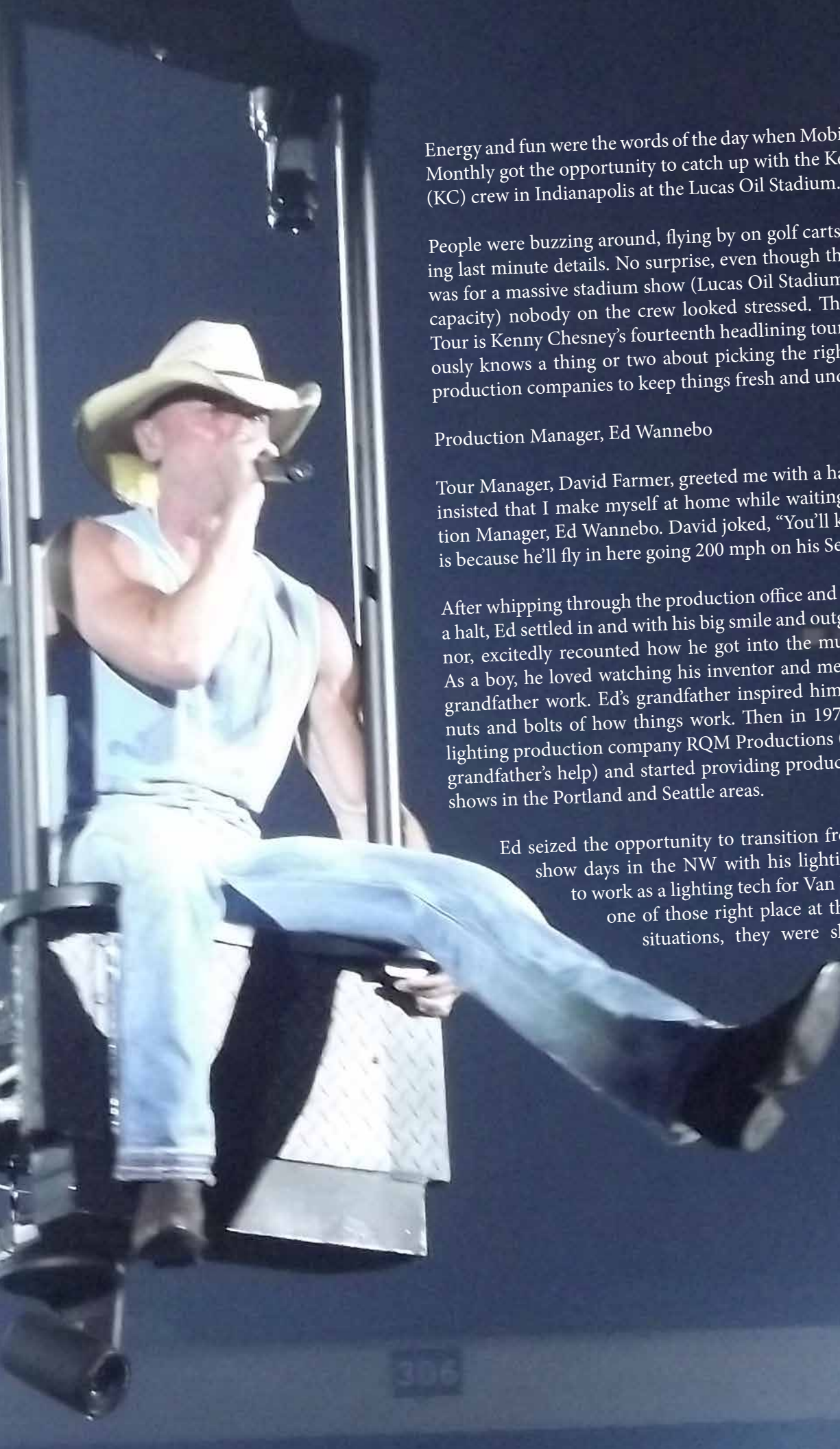
PLUS Extensive Remote Production, Studio Production, Host Broadcast and Post Production Solutions With:
Over 100 HD and 4K-Capable Mobile Production Units Worldwide
Studio Facilities in the U.S., U.K., Europe and Australia
Flypacks and Camera Systems
Post Production and VFX Facilities

KENNY CHESNEY

& The Big Revival Tour

BY JORDAN HAYMAKER



A man wearing a light-colored cowboy hat, a light blue tank top, and light blue jeans is sitting on a piece of gym equipment, possibly a lat pulldown machine. He is looking towards the camera with a slight smile. The background is dark and out of focus.

Energy and fun were the words of the day when Mobile Production Monthly got the opportunity to catch up with the Kenny Chesney (KC) crew in Indianapolis at the Lucas Oil Stadium.

People were buzzing around, flying by on golf carts, and perfecting last minute details. No surprise, even though the preparation was for a massive stadium show (Lucas Oil Stadium has a 67,000 capacity) nobody on the crew looked stressed. The Big Revival Tour is Kenny Chesney's fourteenth headlining tour and he obviously knows a thing or two about picking the right people and production companies to keep things fresh and under control.

Production Manager, Ed Wannebo

Tour Manager, David Farmer, greeted me with a handshake and insisted that I make myself at home while waiting for Production Manager, Ed Wannebo. David joked, "You'll know who Ed is because he'll fly in here going 200 mph on his Segway."

After whipping through the production office and screeching to a halt, Ed settled in and with his big smile and outgoing demeanor, excitedly recounted how he got into the music business. As a boy, he loved watching his inventor and metal fabricator grandfather work. Ed's grandfather inspired him to learn the nuts and bolts of how things work. Then in 1976, he started lighting production company RQM Productions (also with his grandfather's help) and started providing production for club shows in the Portland and Seattle areas.

Ed seized the opportunity to transition from his small show days in the NW with his lighting company, to work as a lighting tech for Van Halen. It was one of those right place at the right time situations, they were short-handed,

Continued on next pg.



Five Points
Production Services

★ Current Projects ★
 Batman Live/Red Hot Chili Peppers/Madonna/Taylor Swift/Rush
 Metallica/SXSW/Latin Billboards/Victoria's Secret/Walking With Dinosaurs
Drop us a line, we should hang sometime.

John Fletcher 678-641-4344
 fletcher@fivepointsproductionservices.com

Bobby Savage 615-934-0165
 bobbi@fivepointsproductionservices.com

and needed to fill positions quickly. They asked for his help and he was on the road in the US and Europe for the next 9 months. Ed has also worked with Hall and Oates, ZZ Top, David Bowie, Faith Hill, and Tim McGraw doing everything from tour support to music video and feature film shoots.

Ed has been Production Manager for Kenny Chesney since 2001. Ed said he likes to keep the fun meter as high as possible for the crew of 53, which includes a 10 man culinary staff, 22 stadium crew, and bus drivers. The Big Revival production utilizes 23 Upstaging trucks and 10 Hemphill busses.

Morris Light and Sound has been the sound and light vendor for KC since 2001. On this tour, they also provide the rigging steel and motors. Ed likes that they provide very personalized service and do a great job of staying on the cutting edge to implement the design elements for KC's shows. Ed noted, "It's the same crew year after year, which makes for a very fast ramp up to rehearsals and finding our groove once we're out on the road."

He takes charge of planning how to package the show for travel to be prepared for multiple venue types. He realizes that, "It has to be bold in the stadiums, but translate to smaller venues as well." SGPS Show Group out of Las Vegas provides automation and the rolling stage used in the arenas, while the stadium sized staging system including stage, delay towers, and mix are from Stage Co US.

He is also in charge of rehearsal, the VIP packages provided by CID, administrating, and setting the environment for everyone else to excel in. He has really enjoyed watching this crew develop and grow. Ed acknowledged, "Everyone has a role in making this a success. If one part fails, it reflects." The name of the tour, The Big Revival Tour, is a perfect fit. The crew took a year off, and it's celebrating everyone getting back together. Ed joked, "Everyone loves doing this or they wouldn't have come back." He was impressed with how quickly everyone got back into an efficient state in a short amount of time.

Behind the scenes, one of Ed's favorite hangout spots is the grill they set up each night on the back of the stage. Serving beer and brats, it provides a perfect place to unwind before the show. "It helps establish a great sense of camaraderie on the road between the crew and the various different acts."

The Big Revival Tour runs through the end of August, including 18 stadium stops along the way. For the Indianapolis show, Eric Church surprised the crowd by playing a few songs with KC in the middle of the set. The tone for the show is set right from the beginning, with KC flying in from FOH to the stage on a hanging chair. The first 6 songs are non-stop back to back and

packed with energy as Kenny Chesney runs back and forth across the stage, all while maintaining his vocals.

Audio by Morris (Formerly Morris Light and Sound)

FOH Engineer, Chris Rabold, has done audio for 20 years, starting out on the road with Widespread Panic at the age of 19 when a mutual friend asked if he'd be willing to help out. He was selling t-shirts, loading equipment, and stocking coolers at first. He was so eager to learn and claims it was the most effortless thing he has ever done. After a decade with Widespread Panic, he branched out to acts like Beyoncé and The Fray.

2 years ago when he and Lighting Director, Phil Ealy, were working for Lady Gaga, Ed happened to be in the audience at the Las Vegas show and took notice of their talents. For Kenny Chesney's 2013 tour, Ed contacted them both to see if they would be interested in working on his crew. Both accepted and flew out a week later for the opening show.

Chris admits it's pretty busy on the audio end, although that's also his favorite part. "There's a good deal of what I consider mid range management to keep things from sounding mucky," he added. This tour has more of a classic rock feel to it with 3 guitars, drums, bass, and keys. He appreciates that the sound is so true to the source.

He utilizes both analog and digital using an SSL L500 console with analog pieces to add in dynamics and coloration. On the rack, he uses API 2500 compressors, a vocal Tube Tech CL1B compressor, and TC

Electronic, Lexicon, and Bricasti for reverb. His favorite piece is the Sonic Farm Creamliner that adds se tube saturation that helps glue things together across the stereo bus.

One of the hardest things he deals with is the fact that KC likes to cup the mic and put his thumb over the grill. They use Royer ribbon mics for guitars, Telefunken for drums, and Shure KSM9HS for Chesney's vocals. He likes that, "Those seem to be able to handle the cupping pretty well and have a good deal of projection."

Chris said KC is one of the few people who truly understands the business and calculates every little detail. "This whole group of people has such a great vibe, and everything we do is based around the premise that this is supposed to be fun."

Video by Screenworks

From Screenworks, Crew Chief Brian Littleton and Video Director Jay Cooper work together on this content heavy show. Brian has worked with KC since 2003 and Jay since 2002, so they are both familiar with the energy he likes to project. Jay is in charge of everything that goes to the screen, while Brian is in charge of the crew. Brian can also be seen stage left manning one of the 9 cameras for KC.

They use 6 manned cameras, 3 robos, and a wireless Panasonic camera on the bottom of the chair KC flies to the stage on at the beginning of the show. The media is run through BlackStorm servers onto 6 Daktronics screens including a header, main, 2 side screens, and 2 stadium side screens in Tait Towers shells with around 2 million pixels in total.

Brian and the crew can set up a stadium

show in 6 hours, but said the hardest part is consistently arranging the screens for different venues. They have 3 trucks full of equipment, so stadiums make it easier with more space and storage area.

Jay says it's tough because they are building a mobile production set every day, but loves interacting with everyone on the crew. "It doesn't feel like work at all," he stated. 5 guys on the video crew, including himself, are Purdue grads; so it helps they all have common beginnings.

He controls the show on a Ross Vision Switcher console. Their setup is different since they don't run via DMX, making video control separate from the FOH Lights. Jay claims it works more seamlessly doing it that way. "There's no timecode and no sync. We run everything live with the show."

Lighting by Morris

40-year industry veteran, Phil Ealy, is the Lighting Director on this tour. He discovered his love for music in high school, but couldn't play an instrument. "I figured I had to find another way into the business." Growing up in LA, he started out working with "local" bands like Van Halen, Ratt, and Mötley Crüe.

Phil proved his capabilities on the last tour with KC, so this time around he had creative input in working with Mike Swinford and Mark Butts during the designing phase. He was in charge of directing the look and feel to create the highest visual impact possible.

On his second tour with the same crew, Phil admitted that he really enjoys working with Morris Light and Sound. Of President and CEO, David Haskell, Phil boasted that, "He's the type of guy that is truly dedicated to his

Book your next tour with the music industry's preferred tour operator



ExcelAire is a Hawthorne Company • www.Excelsaire.com

ExcelAire is the premier aircraft operator for tours who require the luxury, dependability and cost efficiency of private aircraft. Our aircraft fleet includes one of the largest selections of Legacy jets in the world. Comfortably accommodating up to 13 passengers in three separate cabin zones, Legacys also have the largest inflight accessible cargo capacity in the Heavy Jet class. When you combine ExcelAire's impressive large cabin fleet with our experienced support team, you get superior service you can rely on. ExcelAire maintains the highest safety standards across the board with Argus Platinum, Wyvern Wingman, and ISBAO - Stage II.

Call or email Dan Kahn for a direct quote today.

1-855-567-JETS dank@excelsaire.com





PRIORITY BROKERAGE SERVICES

**Your Customs Connection
to Canada and Beyond**

www.PriorityBrokerage.ca
Email: info@prioritybrokerage.ca
Phone: 905-212-9901

profession and won't hesitate to do whatever it takes to support the tour in every way." He praised them for the fact that Crew chief, Allen Gibson, and the rest of the crew accepted him, made him feel like one of their family, and always look after anything he needs. He is confident that night after night the Morris crew can be depended upon to get the rig up and that every single fixture will work for every single show.

Gear on this tour includes Clay Paky Mythos and Stormys, Vari-Lite 3500s, TMB Solaris Flare Strobes, and 3 Grand MA consoles, which Phil loves for their dependability. Clay Paky Shapy washes are another favorite for Phil because they're small, bright, fast and he likes the beam shaper. He admits he has lost track of how many lights are used in this massive production.

A show of this size with so much visual content doesn't come without its share of struggles. Phil mentioned, "One of the biggest

challenges is to find the correct balance of intensity between all of the video screens and lighting rig." KC likes solid colors and a lot of no color, with no pastels, leaving Phil with a limited color pallet. Phil quickly realized KC's main focus for his show is the visual impact of the big musical moments. He loves the energy that KC creates on stage, but joked, "Night after night KC keeps me at my best. It's fun to keep up with him because he's so energetic."

He thinks KC is an amazing entertainer, and would just love to do more shows during the week. "It's a pleasure to be involved with the pros of the pros," he beamed, citing Ed Wannebo as the perfect motivator, pushing everyone to do the best they can.

Guitar Tech, Zeke Clark

The crewmember with the most interest-

ing lineup of previous work history has to be Zeke Clark. He has worked for 40 years not only on the road, but also in studio as a guitar tech. A Detroit native, he moved out to San Francisco to work with BGP to jumpstart his impressive career. Zeke humbly rattled off his list of previous work including Crosby, Stills, Nash & Young, The Grateful Dead, Journey, Led Zeppelin, and Jefferson Airplane. Zeke moved from San Francisco to L.A. and began a long run as Van Halen's guitar tech, and also worked with Prince and Poison. After later moving to Nashville, he naturally found work with country acts like Clint Black, Faith Hill, LeAnn Rimes, Gary Allan, and Little Texas. He's worked on Kenny Chesney's crew for 5 years now.

Zeke unloads all the backline truck equipment and pitches in wherever he can. He also maintains the amps and guitars. "I'm pretty good at fixing electronics. Anything that breaks during the show for KC or the



openers, I jump in to get them working again.”

Zeke also talks very highly of veteran crewmates Melvin Fults, Terry Fox, Jeff Kersey, and James “Catfish” Wingate. Catfish, who has been with KC for 12 years, takes personal care of Kenny Chesney’s guitars and handles all of Kenny’s changes during the show.

Out of everyone Zeke has worked for, he thinks KC is one of the most amazing frontmen. “He’s a genuine human being who truly cares and takes good care of his crew.” KC is even known to set up end of the tour vacations for the entire crew and their loved ones.

He mentioned that Ed really did wrangle in the best of the best for this crew. His favorite part is watching KC give his all during each show. The crew really appreciates that Kenny Chesney has a hand in everything from the video walls to the lighting

and even the music played before the show. “Bottom line, we want to deliver the best possible production and performance that is humanly possible so fans will walk away in total awe both in sound, visuals, and performance.”

To catch Kenny Chesney on tour visit www.kennychesney.com. Also check out NSR (No Shoes Radio), Kenny’s radio station accessible online that broadcasts live from the shows. www.nsr.com

BUILT TOUGH - TOUR TESTED

 **four star**
wire & cable inc.

 **My Star Sound**

FourStarWire.com MyStarSound.com

PRO AUDIO CABLES • CUSTOM SNAKES, PLATES & PANELS • CONNECTORS • VIDEO CABLE

STAGE & LIGHTING • BULK WIRE • DATA/FIBER • LOW-VOLTAGE • COMMUNICATION • INDUSTRIAL

Michigan 877 789-1626 Tennessee 877 853-8106

MADE IN AMERICA



Spotlight
Feature by

mobile
monthly
PRODUCTION



Mid-America Sound: Your Midwest Connection for U.S. Festival Production

Kerry Darrenkamp founded Mid-America Sound Corporation in 1975 with childhood friend Rob King. Since then, Mid-America has become one of the leading regional production companies in the country. The company has assets to service virtually any production needs, from festivals and concerts to corporate events.

Mid-America Sound is celebrating 40 years of serving the industry in 2015. Even though industry has changed immensely since the company started in 1975, Mid-America Sound made a point to adapt and grow with those changes. Staying on top of current technology and earning a dedicated customer base through focus on client needs are the key to ensuring another 40 years of success.

In addition to an impressive equipment inventory, the real asset in the company is their employees. Bob Williams, Head of Lighting Operations, Jason Wells, Head of Audio Operations, Allen Story, Lighting Warehouse Manager and Randy Cole, Audio Manager, all have twenty years or more with the company. The company also has many loyal and happy clients and events who have been using Mid-America for 20 years or more.

A Little History...

Mid-America started with a McVee system built at the time by a Midwest manufacturer. Kerry was working at Sperry-Univac as a computer technician and Rob was a manager at a K-Mart store. But their dream was to build a touring production company. They continued working full time jobs while building the company in every spare moment.

A big break for Mid-America came in 1979 when they were asked to produce a country music festival for local radio station WIRE. The festival drew more than 50,000 people and was a great success. They also did a show for Rush while the band was



still relatively unknown but had just released a new album. The promoter was expecting 1500 and ten times that showed up.

In 1982 Rob King left his job to concentrate on Mid-America full time and Kerry did the same in 1984. Also in 1984 Kerry and Rob added local Indianapolis Attorney Bill Fatout as a third partner in Mid-America Sound.

Mid-America did audio production for multiple date shows and short tours with acts such as Cheap Trick, Chicago, The Temptations and 4 Tops, but in the mid-1980s their focus began to shift to festivals and fairs. They purchased and were one of the first companies to use a Peavey HDH system. Responding to customer demand, Mid-America soon added lighting equipment. They purchased one of the first Thomas motorized roof systems in the US. Mid-America was quickly doing fairs and festivals throughout most of the country.

Mid-America Today...

Once customers learned that they could get, sound, lighting, staging, roofs and backline from one source, company growth exploded. In 1993 Mid-America purchased a warehouse in Fortville, but within a few years they had already outgrown that facility. Their main system by that time used EAW KF850s and later KF750s. As lighting expanded into moving lights from Clay Paky and High End Systems, Mid-America continued to expand the types of equipment they could offer to clients.

Mid-America built in 2005 a state of the art facility in Greenfield, Indiana and gave them the ability to expand as needed. The facility includes an 80ft x 60ft tech/ rehearsal space with 40ft to the steel and enough rigging capacity for just about any show. The facility also has showers, a catering area and production management space. In addition to rehearsals, the conference space can accommodate training classes and manufacturer demos.

Their main audio systems are L-Acoustics K1, K2 and JBL VTX complimented with the latest digital consoles from Avid, Midas, Yamaha and Digico. Lighting includes





the latest fixtures from Martin, GrandMa2 and Avolites Titan consoles. Mid-America recently purchased a Kinesys motion control system and have added Absen A7 LED video walls.

Mid-America Sound is still growing and expanding. Recent tours include Hillsong United, Harry Connick, Jr, and Chris Tomlin. In addition, they continue to grow in special events, consulting, system sales and installations, and rental support for a lot of major artists and companies.

For any and all production needs, Mid-America has the gear, personnel, experience and reputation to deliver the highest-quality production at competitive prices. Quality, safety and dedication are the driving forces in this company.

*See more at www.midamericasound.com
or call Mid-America at (317) 947-9980*





SOUNDCHECK

Nashville
Austin
Houston

REHEARSALS • BACKLINE • STORAGE • CARTAGE

Nashville

750 Cowan St.
Nashville, TN 37207
615 - 726 - 1165

www.soundchecknashville.com

Houston

3542 -A East TC Jester
Houston, TX 77018
713 - 290 - 0335

Austin

1901 E. 51st St. Stage 4
Austin, TX 78723
512 - 444 - 0023
www.soundcheckaustin.com

BACKSTAGE CUSTOM CASES

740 COWAN ST.
NASHVILLE, TN 37207

615-259-0046

WWW.BACKSTAGECUSTOMCASES.COM

AT&T STADIUM

CLAY PAKY LIGHTING FIXTURES HELP KENNY CHESNEY DELIVER FIRE POWER ON HIS *"Big Revival Tour"*

After taking a year off from the road to concentrate on recording, Kenny Chesney has launched "The Big Revival Tour" across North America in support of his album released last year. A large complement of Clay Paky Mythos, Sharpy Washes and Stormy Strobes help Chesney amp up the excitement at his arena and stadium dates.

Chesney kicked off "The Big Revival Tour" at Nashville's Bridgestone Arena with guests Grace Potter, Taylor Swift, Uncle Kracker, Dave Lee Murphy and Joe Walsh. A four-time Country Music Association and four consecutive Academy of Country Music Entertainer of the Year, Chesney has always worked to make sure his production is as cutting edge as possible.

Production and lighting designer Mike Swinford says the look of the tour is "very typical" of Kenny Chesney's road shows. "It's a relatively simple design that's big and bold," he says. "Kenny likes big looks with a lot of lights: an old-school, large rock 'n roll show."

Lighting programmer Mark Butts, who has worked with Chesney, says, "Kenny doesn't do anything small. His style has always been pretty hard rock 'n roll – just pure, raw fire power."

To help achieve that feel, Swinford is deploying 198 Mythos and

44 Stormy Strobe fixtures, new from Clay Paky. Morris Light & Sound in Nashville, the lighting, sound and rigging vendor for the tour, is among the first in the US to offer a big inventory of the new lighting instruments so it could easily fulfill Swinford's specs.

"We're never shy to be the first to do something," says Morris president David Haskell. "We like to be on the cutting edge. And we know we have A.C.T's support for the new fixtures. The only problem with Mythos is that we don't have enough! I get calls daily for them; they're going to have the same kind of impact on the industry as Sharpy did when it was introduced."

Mythos is a highly-advanced hybrid light which serves as an excellent 470-watt spotlight and an extraordinary beam light. When he first saw Mythos Swinford was "completely blown away by its small package, its powerful look and low power consumption," he recalls. "Mythos is only 470 watts while everything else comparable is 1500-1800 watts. When you have a rig the size of ours cutting power consumption by one-half or one-third is a big deal, especially when you're playing 16 stadiums."

A fan of Mythos's versatility, Swinford says "It can produce a beam that's two or three times brighter than Sharpy, and you can zoom it out and turn it into a more traditional, hard-edged spot. You can

Stage Call

SPECIALIZED TRANSPORTATION

LOS ANGELES
562-404-1800

PHOENIX
480-813-2288

NASHVILLE
615-255-7992



SERVING THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMUNITY FOR OVER 30 YEARS!

WWW.STAGECALL.COM

go from one mode to another very quickly. Mythos even makes a pretty good wash-style light with frost in it.”

Swinford had no qualms about being an early user of Mythos when he specked it for the tour. “I knew it was going to be a game changer for this kind of light,” he says. “Clay Paky has come such a long way in developing and designing lights that are very reliable and very innovative. They’re doing things that other manufacturers are starting to copy.

“So I decided to dive into Mythos in a big way for the tour. In six weeks of rehearsal they proved to be outstanding, so I feel we’ve already broken them in.”

Swinford explains Chesney wanted the ability to light the audience more effectively, especially for his stadium shows. So the lighting designer employed 20 Mythos fixtures in pre-rigged trusses around the scrims for the stadium package; they are re-purposed along the dashers for arena shows. “They give us our audience lighting package and also light the four-foot mirror ball. When you put Mythos on the ball, you get the most fantastic mirror-ball effects you’ve ever seen: It’s so much brighter -- and the beams off the ball are so intense.”

Mythos fixtures are also mounted vertically on the spot towers out in the house at stadium shows. A group of eight is positioned in the seats always left empty for light placement; six are behind the mix; six more are in the back of the field creating a very layered look.

Swinford notes that there are “a lot of video surfaces” in the show: a 48x17-foot backscreen flanked by 23x17-foot screens plus a 48x13-foot header suspended over the downstage. “With all the luminance of the screens, the lighting package needs to be pretty powerful,” he says. “Mythos does very well on that score.”

Stormy Strobes are scattered in ten fingers of upstage and downstage trussing and mounted on the side ladders with 28 Sharpy Washes. “We wanted classic white strobe effects, and we get them with Stormy. They’re very bright and low power, so they’re very friendly. And they make good work lights, too!”

The Sharpy Washes cross-light the band and enhance the video lighting. Morris Light & Sound acquired Sharpy Washes 18 months ago. They continue to be a “highly popular item. “People love the speed and output for the size of the lamp. Clay Paky optics are, in my opinion, the best in the world,” says Haskell.

Francesco Romagnoli, Clay Paky Area Manager for North and Latin America, added, “It’s great when Mr. Swinford, Mr. Butts and Morris Light and Sound team up. Their shows are always amazing and we’re happy to collaborate with them once again.”

A.C.T Lighting is the exclusive North American distributor for Clay Paky.



Signature
Transportation Services

Global Car Service

Nashville | Nationwide | Worldwide

www.nashvillelimo.com 615.244.5466

The Trusted Name in Power Only Transport

one way • towaway • your way

TRAILER TRANSIT INC.
A Specialized Carrier

www.TrailerTransit.com • Toll Free: 800-423-3647



PRG and PRG Nocturne are proud to be part of the The Script's touring family.
Congratulations and many thanks to Danny, Mark, Glen, Simon Moran,
Bob O'Brien, Quinner, and Jamie Thompson.



www.prg.com

Copyright © 2015 Production Resource Group, LLC. Production Resource Group and the PRG logo are trademarks of Production Resource Group, LLC.
All other brands or names may be trademarks of their respective owners.

PYROTEK
SPECIAL EFFECTS INC.

FLAME FX

PYROTECHNICS

CRYOGENICS

LASER FX

AQUAVISUAL

WWW.PYROTEKFX.COM
INFO@PYROTEKFX.COM
Office: 1.800.481.9910

SOUND IMAGE & SSE AUDIO ANNOUNCE LAUNCH OF UNITED AUDIO COMPANIES



Sound Image (Escondido, California) and SSE Audio Group (Redditch, UK), have announced the launch of a transatlantic joint venture. Dubbed the UAC or United Audio Companies, the venture has been designed to enable both firms to improve the international support offered to their clients on both sides of the Atlantic. The new arrangement means clients touring in Europe and the USA will benefit from a common touring infrastructure and around the clock support, so acts can work seamlessly on either continent.

Commenting on the new venture, Dave Shadoan, President of Sound Image explained: "Sound Image and SSE have very similar company philosophies. We both continue to invest heavily in today's leading technology and we both put a heavy focus on our personnel and service. That is what sets us apart."

Each of the partnering companies has introduced common technologies so touring acts will have a simple transition when they travel between the continents. All productions will have ad-

ditional local contacts assigned to assist planning and coordination and reduce down time.

"It's not just a US Company operating via an EU satellite office or vice versa in the US" explained SSE Audio Group MD John Penn, "It's two full-service national PA companies with a full complement of staff, service facilities, vehicles, Production Managers and their long-developed support networks that are made available to the touring produc-

tion - in addition to the equipment inventory and crew. It means that when a tour hits a snag, SSE in Europe or Sound Image in the States are far more likely to resolve the issue quickly."

Neil Diamond's current world tour is the first to officially use UAC, although both companies have been testing the waters over the last year with acts like Linkin Park, Tame Impala, Culture Club, Pharrell Williams, Rob Zombie, Five Finger Death Punch, Maroon 5 and Billy Idol.

As part of the move towards common technologies, SSE Hire has invested in the JBL VTX system, which was deployed on the European leg of Neil Diamond's world tour, following his successful North American outing in April and May with Sound Image. SSE's new acquisition of JBL, together with the extensive L-Acoustics inventory in stock on both continents, means clients have full access to either system. Other notable products supported within the group include, Adamson, EAW, D&B and Meyer.

Jesse Adamson, Director of Business Development for Sound Image believes "SSE is a dominant force that is gaining momentum in Europe. It's clear that with United Audio Companies, we can offer a level of infrastructure and support that can't be found with any other touring audio vendor in the industry."

In the USA, Sound Image has offices in San Diego, Nashville, LA and Phoenix, while in Europe, SSE Audio Group has UK offices in London, the Midlands and the North of England, plus three locations in France.

BONNAROO RADIATES POSITIVITY VIA SUPPORT & PRODUCTION

by Jordan Haymaker,
photos by Jordan Summers

“Bonnaroo” is Creole for good stuff.

Over four days every June, Lambda Productions, Superfly Presents, and Knoxville based promoters AC Entertainment turn a 700-acre farm in Manchester, Tennessee, known as Great Stage Park, into one of the largest music festivals in the nation. A small town is transformed into a community of over 100,000 people from all over with the same goals in mind—to take in as many diverse artists as possible, have a great time and experience all of the good stuff the festival has to offer.

Since its start in 2002, Bonnaroo has gained a reputation as both a fan favorite and something production crews look forward to coming back to year after year.

Some of the best production companies in the world work around the clock to bring Bonnaroo to life. Companies like Reel Video and NEP Screenworks for video; lights from Bandit, TMS, and UpLight; staging from Brown, Accurate, and Premier Global; and audio from Cross Roads Audio, Thunder Audio, CTS Audio and Eighth Day Sound.

Mobile Production Monthly camped at Bonnaroo this year to catch up with some of the amazing staff and crew who make Bonnaroo such a great experience. We were particularly interested in presenting some of the support services that don't typically get media notice. Others were kind enough to spare a few minutes of conversation between acts. What follows are just a few of those too many to profile, amazing crew and production companies that help keep the festival running smoothly and able to “radiate positivity” like one of the festival codes suggests.



Hadden Hipsley of Lambda Production

Production Manager Hadden Hipsley with Lambda Productions

Lambda Productions and its founder, Hadden Hipsley, have been the production staples at Bonnaroo since the beginning. They earned their original reputation working with Phish by being forward thinking, predicting everything that could possibly go wrong beforehand, and making sure things were fixed before there was ever a problem. “Now,” said Hadden, “our experience helps make us stand out because we’ve been around since before festivals were so popular.”

For Bonnaroo, Lambda provides a full production team for over 120 music acts and oversees all production aspects for anything that hits the stage. And because Bonnaroo has always been on the forefront for weather safety and security, before the festival ever begins, the crew works on and rehearses emergency plans and procedures and even sends each production manager to severe weather school.

Since Bonnaroo has been around so long, it really sets the bar for other festivals said Hadden. It's always been known for having a great staff and being well organized. “It makes all of us proud who helped create Bonnaroo because the organization is phenomenal and really shines,” noted Hadden.

Hadden is the Production Manager for an impressive number of other huge and well-loved festivals. “Every festival has its own personality and philosophy. Some think that's challenging, but I think it keeps it fun and refreshing,” said Hadden. And what keeps Bonnaroo fun and refreshing? “Visual design, booking, and programing always come up with fresh ideas,” adding, “I think the biggest danger is to accept what worked well before and rinse and repeat, but Bonnaroo hasn't done that.”

BEARCOM
Wireless Worldwide



MOTOROLA
SOLUTIONS

Radio Solutions Channel Partner

As America's only nationwide wireless equipment dealer, we provide two-way radio rentals, solutions and service to our customers!

Buy))) Rent))) Service)))





BearCom Staff at Broo

BearCom Provides Two-Way Communication

“Play as a team” is another of the Bonnaroo codes. Helping the massive

team of organizers, vendors, and production crews communicate who and what needs to be where and when (which can be potentially confusing in light of the humorously named stages and tents like the Which or What Stages) was BearCom.

BearCom has been in business for more than 30-years and is the largest wireless two-way radio company in the world. Gregg Stengel is the Marketing and PR Specialist at the headquarters in Dallas, TX, and Gina McNamara works out of the Nashville, TN office. They provide rental equipment for sporting events, concerts, and award shows, and have been at Bonnaroo since the inception in 2002.

The radio command center, located at the base of the giant 80-foot tall disco ball tower, includes 5 permanent antenna mounts. On site, Matt DeFilippis and Scott Tovar installed and ran 18 repeaters that provided up to 50-60 channels, and easily covered the 700-acre farm. It took 2 days to set up and test, 4 days to program, and then Matt built and customized separate code plugs for each digital radio model type. Matt also scanned for usable frequencies, and worked closely with the Network Operation Center in Dallas, who informed him if he was about to lose a channel so he could fix it before the customer even knew of an issue.

BearCom provided 1500 two-way radios, including Motorola MOTOTRBO XPR 3500s, for the festival. The MOTOTRBOs are lightweight, suited for outdoors, and the noise-cancelling feature works well. Gina noted that, “I work with a lot of tours, so to be in a loud environment and actually be able to hear the other person is great.” Their setup allows Matt to custom program channels, allowing security only, What Stage only, etc. channels to streamline communication. While they still provide analog radios, which are appropriate for some small venues, BearCom recently made a huge transition to digital. 75% of their rental inventory is now digital. Matt stated, “Digital is clearer and allows for greater distance.”

With 100,000 people, cell coverage was pretty sparse, so it was that much more important that the radios worked. One safety feature, the “all-call ability” allows one person to hit a button to connect with every single radio. Gina said, “It’s all about improving event safety to mitigate risks, whether it’s security or evacuating the crowd.”



Joel MacKenzie with flats of ice - Ice World

Joel MacKenzie Keepin’ It Cool at Icyroo.

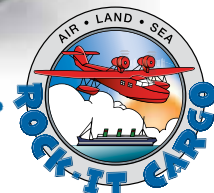
There are reminders everywhere to stay hydrated and cool. The Bonnaroo Department of Health reminds attendees “Tennessee swelters in the summertime. Even when the sun hides, there’s a good chance you’ll feel like a Moon Pie dipped in hot chocolate sauce.”

So, Ice World is one of the most important facets of the festival. Joel MacKenzie has worked Ice World, or “Icyroo,” for 3 years, this year as co-head of the department. He works

DON'T JUST SHIP IT,
ROCK-IT!



When you see the Rock-It logo, you're looking at 35 years of no-fail freight forwarding. With that kind of experience, you can be sure that wherever you're headed, we've been there...and back.



Rock-It Cargo USA
5438 W. 104th Street | Los Angeles, CA 90045
West Coast: 1.800.973.1529 | East Coast: 1.800.973.1727 | rockitcargo.com

LAX • JFK • ORD • PHL • SFO • MIA • ATL • DEN • LAS • MUC
LHR • TYO • MEX • SYD • YVR & more than 100 agents worldwide

Coach generators for the long road ahead.

- Competitively priced, 7KW to 100KW commercial-grade generators powered by a rugged Kubota or Cummins diesel engine.
- RVIA-approved models and multiple options available.
- Enclosed units feature convenient single side service and removable doors for easy access to maintenance parts.
- Experienced engineering and support staff to help guide you.
- Generator service in the Charlotte area – from simple repairs to complete replacements on most makes and models, with convenient interstate access. Mobile service available!



enginepowersource.com
or call 800-374-7522

348 Bryant Blvd. • Rock Hill, SC 29732



The Leader in Event Transportation

New York City
917.885.2762

rhearty@nationwidelogistics.net



almost every weekend traveling the East coast working festivals. He loves attending festivals, and realized he'd rather get paid to go instead of spending so much money attending them.

He and his staff provided the festival's artists and staff with ice and water. They started planning a week in advance to keep 100 coolers on site and 20 large chests for merchants stocked. They used 10-12 tractor-trailers of ice and water from Tennessee Valley Ice Company, with 11 staff and 14 volunteers working 24/7 to ensure no one ran out. Mookie, with the help of his telescopic forklift named "Cupcake," moved over a million pounds of ice and water that weekend. The biggest issue was delivering through busy Centeroo. It took a lot of patience navigating between thousands of people, but they did it with a smile. Joel noted, "We keep in mind that they are the ones who paid to be here."

Respect the Farm - Keeping it Clean & Sustainable!

Bonnaroo takes being sustainable and green very seriously. Back in 2013, they were able to install solar panels that provided 1/5th of the power for the weekend by just raising the cost of attendance by \$1. They also have multiple waste bins with staff from Clean Vibes, LLC who help people determine if their trash is for compost, recycling, or landfill. This diverted almost 2 million pounds of trash from going to landfills in 2014.

Comfort Zone Portable Showers, Toilets, & Waste Disposal:



Mark Slade -
Comfort Zone

Hygiene and sanitation are important at any festival, especially one the size of Bonnaroo, so of course we weren't surprised to see Comfort Zone front and center with their showers, vacuum toilets, hand washing, and water stations.

Mark Slade, President and



owner of Atlanta, GA based Comfort Zone Portables, has been in the portable sanitation business since 1999. Their setup for Bonnaroo included 400 showerheads, 8 shower locations, 25 luxury restroom stations, and 4 locations with 200 toilets, with 125 staffers working around the clock to insure everything stayed clean.

They set up what Mark called an oasis, which included showers, toilets, a charging tent, and Garnier Fructis and Kohler sponsor tents handing out samples. The most impressive was the Pop up 3 Vac toilets, which handled 100,000 gallons of waste at Bonnaroo. Customers appreciated these vacuum toilets that flush, and actually thanked him because they were so clean! There were no lines, and no smell to cover up because stale air is pulled out with each flush. This eliminates the needs for chemicals, and they only use a pint of water per flush. Mark is proud that, "Comfort Zone is the green alternative in the sanitation industry."

Comfort Zone also provides mobile laundry, potable water tankers, kitchens, and disaster relief. For 12 years Mark has worked at Bonnaroo, and can also be found at Electric Forest and TomorrowWorld. Mark said all festivals nowadays seem to be committed to raising the bar on sanitation, but Comfort Zone's goal is to surpass expectations.

Some of Bonnaroo's Transportation Providers

Festival Artist Transportation with Jasper Gacula: Artist Transportation has become a very important element at festivals, and Jasper's team strived to make the smoothest and best experience for the artists.

In 1999, Mary Jo Kaczka started Artist Transportation services at Coachella with Jasper Gacula assisting on staff. Jasper &

Mary Jo soon became sought after by other festivals, and in 2005 started the Bonnaroo Artist Transportation Department. Now as one of the largest staff for festival transportation in the nation, it consists of around 140 team members including airport greeters, parking wranglers, drivers, and office coordinators.

Jasper has overseen artist transportation since 2005. She and the advance team coordinated with the artists a month prior to the festival to confirm the airport, hotel, and site movements. Shaynee Gordy took that information to prepare schedules 24 hours in advance, and Dayne Geyer ran dispatch between the 60 vehicles and drivers to move artists from on site to hotels. Jasper's crew and local hires worked 24 hours around the clock to ensure everything was coordinated and ready as requested.

In addition to artist transportation, Jasper also managed rental vehicles for all departments. "Bonnaroo has been able to make space for a vehicle operation just offsite, enabling the crew working the festival to be able to pick up and return their vehicles onsite upon arrival and departure. This is huge for the capacity of rentals this event uses," noted Jasper. With artist transportation needs continuously growing, Jasper delegated managing the festival vehicles logistics to Mary Jo Kaczka in 2014.

Festival Vehicle Management with Mary Jo Kaczka: "What I do is super sexy if you're into logistics. It's a lot of numbers," explained Mary Jo Kaczka, while noting how so many women in the entertainment industry work in logistics.

In the last 2 years, Mary Jo took over managing all vehicle rentals for Bonnaroo including ordering, returns, and post-festival accounting. The festival used some 350 vehicles total, including over 150 rental cars, box trucks, and flatbed trucks. Three different vendors (with Enterprise being the largest) provided 120 fifteen-passenger vans. Vehicles from as far away as Atlanta were brought in to cover the festival's needs.



"the show must go on!"
P: 866.607.1777
StageDoorTransportation.com

STAGE DOOR
 TRANSPORTATION

From left to right Angelique Mark, Justin Harris, Bethanie Monroe, Dayne Geyer, Shaynee Gordy, Brady Goodman, Karen 'Jasper' Gacula, Jazzmin Topazio





Kaczka developed a system to log every vehicle so drivers were in and out in about 10 minutes. Kamilah Chavis and Jessica Luckey helped with logging and distribution, while Thomas Gross and Lou Ornelas ran the lot and oversaw the washing and detailing of every vehicle with the help of volunteers. Mary Jo and her crew worked closely with Jasper Gacula, emphasizing, "The usage of rental vehicles is huge for artists, staff, and all departments."

Golf Carts: Can anyone imagine working a festival nowadays without the practical use of golf carts? Kace Brennan has been at Bonnaroo for 5 years. This was his second year in charge of golf carts and he worked alongside Suzanne Faison and Nash Davis. Golf carts are distributed to production, security, and every department that had to move gear or shuttle trash. Kace noted, "The festival covers so much land, so it's just not feasible to walk." There were 513 pre-rented golf carts site and an addition 100 for short-term rentals. When it comes to prioritizing last minute demands? Kace laughed, "I like interacting with everyone, but it's hard to determine who actually takes priority and who is bluffing."

Keeping Artists & Crew Happy



from L to R: Eoin Collins, Mike Veres, Greg Horning, Dan Pelaez and seated in the foreground is Aaron Tucker.

Artist Relations and AC Entertainment. For AC Entertainment, Steve Greene is Senior Director of Clubs and Programming where he is in charge of programming for festivals and

venues and overseeing the club department. At Bonnaroo, he was the artist relations department head overseeing the artist relations team, including the liaison at each stage in charge of dressing rooms, meal tickets, etc. He began a month in advance coordinating with tour and production managers so everything ran smoothly, but admitted that it's tough managing in an efficient way so nothing falls through the cracks with the volume of artists coming though. This was his 13th year with Bonnaroo, and he started out assisting in artist transportation before working with AC Entertainment full time, where he's been for 10 years.

Spectrum Catering Kept the Crew Happy with Great Food. Shelley Gatchell has worked for Spectrum Catering for 19 years. With 12 offices around the country, Spectrum provides catering for golf tours, air shows, and other large-scale events around the US and Canada. They own their own tents and equipment, and rent from professional companies for water and gas to ensure proper safety. At Bonnaroo, Deployed Recourses supplied water tanks, and propane tanks came from All Gas.

For Bonnaroo, there were 53 Spectrum employees and 45 temporary staff hired from local non-profit groups. They not only fed all of the staff working on site, including production and security, but also ran 36 beer tents in Centeroo. Shelley admitted, "It can be difficult trying to accommodate for all the different pallets and diets on the farm," but they do everything from Oriental to Italian to burgers, while always including vegetarian options. At Bonnaroo, they served around 7500 people daily.

Owner Dave Smalley, who is in the trenches with them every day, teaches his staff that Spectrum lives by the Golden Rule. Shelley beamed, "I am proud to say I work for Spectrum because it helped me turn into who I am today; professionally and personally!"

Audio, Video, & Webcast

Audio with Eighth Day Sound: Ensuring that each



BACKSTAGE
networks

LIVE IT

- ▶ Motorola Radio Rental
- ▶ Mobile Office for Tours
- ▶ Tour, Festival and Event IT
- ▶ Large WiFi Systems

213.261.4444 | bsnlive.com | gigs@bsnlive.com



SUPERIOR ON-TIME SERVICE
Since 1989

SOS Transportation, LLC is an experienced full service theatrical trucking company. Our goal is to consistently provide quality service and good value on each job we are awarded. We understand the unforgiving deadlines and needs of the entertainment industry. Our focus is to transport, deliver and protect your equipment according to your specific schedules, needs and priorities.

We have provided superior trucking services throughout the entertainment industry and corporate America. Our extensive clientele include Van Halen, Journey, Eagles, Rod Stewart, Andrea Bocelli, Steely Dan, Jeopardy! and Wheel of Fortune.

SOS

S.O.S Transportation, LLC.
PO Box 727
11745 NE Kuehne Rd
Carlton, OR 97111

OFFICE: 503-852-6828
WWW.SOSTRANSPORTATION.COM
FAX: 503-852-6828



artist sounded their best across the huge layout at Bonnaroo was the crew from Eighth Day Sound and Owen Orzack, Tour Services Director. Owen worked with the crew to ensure the bands & engineers had a good audio experience. He also dealt with input lists, power requirements, and RF frequencies. Owen pointed out that, "the crew loves the vibe of this festival, and since we very rarely have a brand new crew, it's always nice getting back together." Their combined experience, along with the stage management and the 4 truck loading docks, helped the transition between the diverse artists go smoothly and quickly.

Eighth Day Sound has been at every Bonnaroo. They set up with seven crewmembers at the What Stage, one in The Comedy Theatre on an Avid SC48 driving a d&b Y Series rig, and one in the press tent with a Yamaha QL1 and d&b E8's. Nearly all headliners brought their own consoles, but Eight Day provided Avid D-Show Profiles for the bands at the What Stage that didn't. This year they utilized d&b audiotechnik's new ArrayProcessing technology with great success. It even received lots of unsolicited compliments on the overall sound. Owen said interfacing with acts that don't do festival often is tough, but they work together to make them as comfortable as possible with Eighth Day's crew of amiable and talented professionals.

Video & Large Camera Crew by Second Wind Productions: Julie Mangum started Second Wind Productions, Inc., a crew and production company based out of South Carolina, back in 2013. After graduating from Full Sail, she interned in NYC on the Ricki Lake Show and later worked on the crew for Nicky Nichols Productions, which helped build Nickelodeon studios and start Turners sports division.

This was her ninth year at Bonnaroo. Julie travels to other festivals while balancing a year round sports schedule. At The What Stage, she made sure the video crew of 60 was taken care of from the time they were booked until they left. Julie stressed, "I'm a believer in making sure the crew wants to experience these jobs again."

They used around 20-30 cameras at Bonnaroo, with 3 Trio/NEP productions trucks and several audio trucks, with one at each stage. The hot and dry weather took its toll, but the crew did a good job handling the elements. Julie appreciated all the hard work and the fact that at the end of the day the exhausted crew could still joke around.

Webcast with Springboard Productions: Fans who weren't able to make it out to Bonnaroo could catch all of the live action via an online webcast thanks to Springboard Productions. Andrea Allen was the Coordinating Producer for the 3 channels on RedBullTV. Coverage ran 24 hours from Thursday night until Sunday night with 30+ cameras at all stages and tents focusing on artist performances and interviews. Andrea started in college making music vid-



Andrea Allen - Springboard Productions &
Julie Mangum - Second Wind Productions

eos, and at Bonnaroo she managed the logistics of the 145 person crew from hiring through working on site, all while interfacing with the festival so production means were taken care of. Andrea mentioned, "In dealing with logistics, it can be challenging- because sometimes what looks best on paper doesn't always work in practice." She understood that it was important to be flexible, because things do change. It is also important to enjoy what you do, and do what you can to

EUROPEAN PRODUCTION TRANSPORT



LOGISTICS MADE EASY

"Your one stop shop for touring Europe"

www.ept4touring.com



FOH Techs, Kyle Walsh L and Arno Voortman R

make it a positive experience for everyone. This was her 2nd time at Bonnaroo, and she has also worked Lollapalooza and Coachella.

Other Fan Favorites

The Hippo, Nicknamed "The Big Ass Slide": While there were numerous options to keep fans cool during the long, hot days at the festival, the most fun had to be the world's largest inflatable waterslide. Randall Young is the owner and operator of All Around Amusements and travels nationwide working various concerts and festivals. This was his second year at Bonnaroo. The slide is 225 feet long and uses 5 blowers to keep it inflated. Portability of the equip-

ment means crew needed only one day to setup the entire attraction. They sent 300 people an hour sliding down what Randall described as, "basically a big slip and slide." The slide conserves water because it doesn't require a constant water flow. Crewmembers took turns being responsible for using a hose to spray down guests before they went down the slide (Lucky devils!). In spite of the slide's popularity with fans, Randall noted, "It's kind of a hidden gem because it doesn't get as much recognition." Mobile Production Monthly is happy to rectify this oversight!

Post Office: Ramona Moore normally works for the US Postal Service elsewhere in Tennessee, but for 4 days out of the year she is the official postmaster at Bonnaroo. Ramona raved about the friendly vibes at Bonnaroo, and said her job there is "almost" like a vacation even though she's working. The post office was a big hit when it opened in 2008 in a building made from recycled tires, straw, and concrete. Working with Pat Wood and Joe Lynn to send and deliver mail, they'd already mailed 700 postcards on the first day and anticipated sending 4000 more pieces of mail during the festi-

val. Besides post cards, festival attendees could mail souvenirs and artwork home without the hassle of keeping things in their tents or having to pack them. Even better, every piece of mail gets marked with the official Bonnaroo stamp. Ramona explained they even sort incoming mail. Although "Prepare Thy Self" is another Bonnaroo code, people often forget or misplace things like phone chargers and car keys, so they write home for a replacement sent via Express mail.

The Silent Disco - Silent Events: The Silent Disco is a unique experience at Bonnaroo that's amusing for attendees and spectators alike. Looking in, it was just a quiet tent filled with dancers, strobe lights, and DJs. By simply adding headphones, it became a booming dance club filled with music.

Ryan Dowd, owner and creator of Silent Events, founded the company in 2008. After managing the silent disco at Bonnaroo, he realized the vast possibilities for wireless headphone production events in the United States. They now produce over 150 events every year including festivals, university events, and weddings. Silent

Your West Coast Production Partner



- Full Service
- Audio
- Video Walls
- Lighting
- Dry Hire

www.spiderp.com
(650) 520-1472

SHELBY CAROL PHOTOGRAPHY

WWW.SHELBYCAROLPHOTOGRPAHY.COM

615.957.8536 || SHELBYCUBE@GMAIL.COM



Events produces events with 50 to 2,000 plus head-phones, and can also provide clients with technicians, staff, lighting, and DJs.

Katy Upton, Event Operations Manager, managed the front of house including venue logistics, loaded equipment in and out, and managed event staff. The Silent Disco continues to grow in size and popularity, and this year Silent Events celebrated 10 years at Bonnaroo. The Silent Disco featuring an amazing line up, awesome volunteers, and one exciting night sponsored by Red Bull.

Katy proclaimed, "I love the overall positivity and sense of community from everyone in attendance and seeing what goes into a production as large as Bonnaroo with the staff, volunteers, and security that worked tirelessly together to create a safe and memorable experience for everyone."

www.bonnaroo.com

LIMPET[®]
TECHNOLOGY

The **world's first** entertainment specific
multi-functional height safety system.

FLEXIBLE DEPLOYMENT OPTIONS

EASY TO READ RF REMOTE & DISPLAY UNITS

BATTERY BACKUP & MANUAL WIND OPTIONS

MOUNTAIN PRODUCTIONS

570 826 5566 // MOUNTAINPRODUCTIONS.COM //

*"Since 2010, EmpireCLS is the only ground transportation company I turn to. I can't take the chance of not having perfection on my side."
-Angie Warner, Tour Manager, Imagine Dragons*

*"I love the way EmpireCLS takes care of us. They go out of their way to make our relationship outstanding. Everyone should be using their service."
-Eric Burrows, Tour Manager, Justin Timberlake*

Your arrival is more than just a destination. It's our signature.

EmpireCLS Worldwide Chauffeured Services.

The art of chauffeuring paired with the business of privacy, personalization and luxury.

Providing logistics management services for road shows and world tours in over 700 cities worldwide.

Dedicated touring agents available 24/7 for any and all of your travel needs, making life a little easier on the road.



empirecls.com
(800) 451-5466



Jake Owen Goes Anywhere With DiGiCo

Morris Light and Sound adds SD9 console pair to complement two SD10 desks

With four albums, nearly a dozen top 20 tunes and a fist full of number one country singles, Jake Owen has achieved a popularity that many in Nashville only dream of. And, while he stays busy all year with his own tour dates, he is also spending a good deal of this summer opening for Kenny Chesney on arena and stadium dates through the US. That kind of mixed schedule can be tricky when putting together an audio rig, but Nashville-based Morris Light and Sound recently purchased a pair of DiGiCo SD9 consoles to deftly answer the challenge.

“We have a pair of SD10s that we purchased last year for Jake’s headlining tour of mid-level arenas and Jake’s team uses those for the dates with Kenny Chesney. But we needed something physically smaller for when he breaks off from the tour to do his own dates,” said Morris GM John Schirmer. “The SD9s were the perfect solution to the logistical issue of an artist who is both opening stadium and arena shows and doing his own dates in between.”

Schirmer points to the ease of moving between various frame sizes and systems in the DiGiCo family as a big part of the appeal of the SD9. “The engineers are already very comfortable with the DiGiCo work flow, and with the SD9, we get a reduced footprint surface with all of the same SD capability. They can load the same show files as they use on the SD10. It

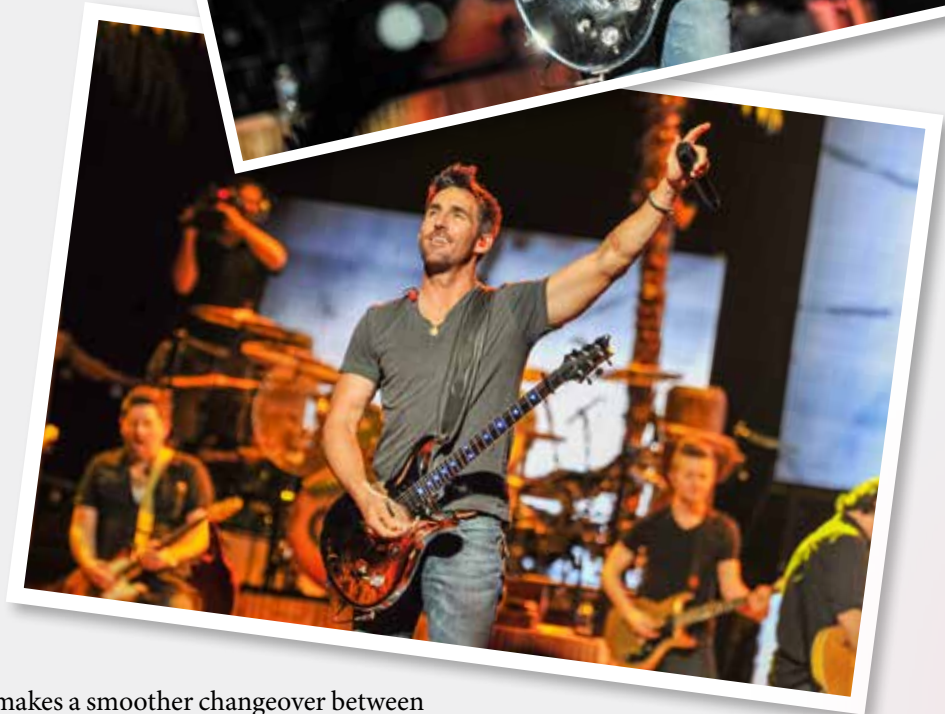
makes a smoother changeover between opening for the Chesney tour and being able to provide their own production without compromise for Jake’s performances outside of the Chesney tour.”

The audio quality of the entire DiGiCo family is beyond doubt at this point

and is consistent from the biggest console down to the SD9 and even the SD11, which will fit in a DJ rack. “We don’t give up anything to get the size down,” Schirmer said. The SD9s travel with the system to Owen’s solo gigs, so the only things the engineers have to take out of the Chesney truck pack are a pair of Waves servers, making the SD9s extremely convenient in addition to sounding great.

While engineers will often cite specific features or abilities when explaining why they chose a specific audio console, as GM of a large sound company that is doing an increasing amount of business in the rental of gear for tours, Schirmer looks at things a bit differently.

“DiGiCo has done a really good job of





Event Gear Broker
THE PLACE FOR YOUR EVENT GEAR CLASSIFIEDS

Free listing / 10 years of experience
Top-notch used event gear
Direct customer service / Unlimited ads

svezina@eventgearbroker.com

EVENTGEARBROKER.COM **1-844-840-4327**



keeping the infrastructure of their products consistent from one console to another,” he says. “If you have used an SD10, or a 9 or a 7, they are all familiar with a few tactile differences. This makes them ideal for a company like Morris that has acts of various sizes doing all kinds of gigs. The people at DiGiCo are really in tune with the live sound industry and the specialized needs there. That is really important and it shows in their products.”

Jake Owen Tours With DiGiCo / Add One

Once known as a company that serviced only the artists of its sister company, Morris Higham Management, Morris Light and Sound has moved aggressively into a more traditional rental company role in the past few years. “The model of the company has changed. Two years ago, they pulled me off the road and we began to transition into being more of a full concert production company. And now it’s not just Chesney and Owen. We work with Eli Young, Grace Potter, Chris Isaak, Chevelle, Old Dominion, Florida Georgia

Line, Keb’ Mo’, and the list goes on and on.”

“As we move in this direction, it is crucial that we have the great gear available that tours are asking for. It needs to be gear that makes the phone ring. Increasingly, DiGiCo is at the top of that list.”

“When Jake’s solo arena tour came around last year, we were looking for a system that was a little smaller, sounded great, provided a 96 kHz solution and was priced at a point we were comfortable with in order to get that tour out the door. The SD10 really fit our needs. And when we needed a smaller solution for these solo dates during the Chesney tour, the SD9 with the same great sound quality, stellar service DiGiCo provides, and interoperability of the entire SD line made it the obvious choice.”



Celebrating 30 Years

Specializing In Worldwide Travel For:



Touring Bands

Television and Film Industries

Professional Sports

615.256.8900  www.entertainmenttv.com

With offices in New York City, Philadelphia, Nashville and London, we consistently earn acclaim for our precise attention to detail and unrivaled level of service.





★
**WE PROVIDE LUXURY TRAVEL
FOR INTERNATIONAL ARTISTS**



**WE SPECIALISE IN BAND BUS
& CREW BUS SERVICES**
FOR THE MUSIC INDUSTRY COVERING UK & EUROPE.

+44 (0)1964 563464 www.mmbandservices.co.uk enquiries@mmbandservices.co.uk





From Sound FX to Sound Asleep

When the Music Stops in Boston, Bands Stay with Us

Turn up your comfort and stay with Hilton Worldwide Hotels in Boston. With four premier locations, one call does it all no matter where you perform in Boston or Cambridge. From pre-registration and pre-key to master bill, we get it; and with bus parking available at two locations, you'll see why we really ROCK!



Hilton Boston Logan Airport

One Hotel Drive
Boston, MA 02128



DoubleTree Suites by Hilton Boston

400 Soldiers Field Road
Boston, MA 02134



DoubleTree by Hilton Boston-Downtown

821 Washington Street
Boston, MA 02111



DoubleTree Club by Hilton Boston Bayside

240 Mount Vernon Street
Boston, MA 02125

For more information:

Karen Camara
Entertainment Specialist
Karen.Camara@hilton.com | 617-583-1108
www.hiltonfamilyboston.com

 **HILTON**
WORLDWIDE
BOSTON



Advertiser's Index

Volume 8 Issue 7

AJL International	12	Prevost.....	BC
APEX Stages.....	29	PRG.....	28
Backstage Network.....	34	Priority Brokerage.....	18
BearCom.....	30	Pyrotek Special Effects.....	28
Braun Events.....	12	Roadhouse Coach.....	4
Crown Seating.....	10	Rock-It Cargo.....	31
Empire CLS Limo.....	37	Screenworks.....	13
Engine Power Source.....	32	SES.....	10
Enterprise Car Rentals.....	IFC	Shelby Carol Photography.....	36
Entertainment Travel.....	39	Signature Transportation Services.....	27
EPT.....	35	SOS Transportation.....	34
Event Gear Broker.....	38	Soundcheck Nashville	25
ExcelAire.....	17	Spider Ranch Productions.....	36
Five Points Production Services.....	16	Stage Call.....	26
Four Star Wire.....	19	Stage Coach.....	20
Gallagher Staging.....	IBC	Stage Door Transportation.....	33
Garibay Brothers Systems.....	10	Tourcats Catering.....	7
Hemphill Brothers	10	Tour Link.....	5
Hilton Boston.....	41	TourReady.....	8
Mid-America Sound	21	Trailer Transit.....	28
MM Bandservices.....	40	Truck'N Roll.....	6
Morris.....	9	Upstaging.....	IFC
Mountain Productions	37	Warehouse Multimedia.....	42
Nationwide Logistics.....	32		
Outline.....	11		

PRINT



VIDEO



SEARCH OPTIMIZATION



WEB



EMAIL MARKETING



WarehouseMultimedia.com

615.420.6153



STAGE 7

#7x7UP

DANCE UP

EDC Las Vegas 2015
Stage 7

CUSTOM | RENTAL

OUTDOOR STAGING

DESIGNED AND ENGINEERED

TO PERFECTION

AWARD WINNING STAGING

CONTACT INFORMATION

LOS ANGELES · SAN FRANCISCO · LAS VEGAS · FLORIDA
www.gallagherstaging.com | 714.690.1559



THE MOST COMFORTABLE RIDE

- Environmentally Friendly
Rooftop Diffuser
**REPLACES TRADITIONAL
EXHAUST**
- Factory Integrated Slide-Out
SLEEK DESIGN
- Tire Pressure Monitoring System
IMPROVES SAFETY
- Ergonomically Designed Cockpit
**BUILT FOR DRIVER
COMFORT AND SAFETY**
- Unique Styling
**DISTINCTIVE DETAIL,
FEATURES AND IMAGE**
- Independent Suspension
**IMPRESSIVE
MANEUVERABILITY**
- Longest Wheelbase
UNMATCHED RIDE COMFORT
- Prevest Electronic
Stability Program
RELIABLE VEHICLE CONTROL



PROVEN PERFORMER.



With so many people counting on you for their comfort and safety on the road, the choice in motorcoaches is clear. Prevest is the leader in the entertainment industry for good reason. We offer unmatched design, handling, performance, and reliability that make everyone's job easier. Nobody goes the extra mile like we do.



Prevest Service Locator Mobile App
Available for iPhone and Android



For more information
Steve Zeigler, Director of Business Development
800.837.0895 or visit www.prevestcar.com

PREVOST
The ultimate class.