

PALM 2015

A surge in first time exhibitors and visitors and a substantial increase in exhibit floor space highlighted the relevance of the Mumbai expo

PALM Expo 2015, India's only and undisputed trade show for pro-audio, stage sound & light, AV install &, music production, kicked off its 15th successive year, with a three-day event (28-29-30 May 2015) at the Bombay Exhibition Centre, Mumbai. Following a change of ownership, this edition of the expo was organised by ITE Group PLC and ABEC Exhibitions and Conferences Pvt. Ltd.

Not many expos in India, targeting the pro-audio, music and DJ industry, can boast of the kind of energy that the PALM expo displays, and the long, never-ending queue for registration at Gate 2 of the exhibition centre was testimonial to this fact. The show, down the years, has evolved into a much-awaited event by the pro-sound industry, buyers, enthusiasts and music lovers alike.

The event scaled a new high this year, with 166 direct exhibitors who included the region's top manufacturers, brands, distributors and dealers, covering 21,916 sqm of space (an increase of 90% from the last edition), segregated across 3 halls, a live performance arena, two demo cubes and

“This show has been good and we've got a lot of visitors. The footfall was good and the arrangements were good. We had a lot of potential customers and consultants coming to the booth to see our new technology products. The PALM as a platform is a great experience to meet with customers because people from all over the country come and visit, and I look forward to participating in a better and a bigger way next year”

- Vibhore Khanna, National Sales Manager, Bose India

Integrated
Entertainment
Solutions



The show which has already established itself as a world-class trade expo, reached more than 21,000 sqm in floor space and boasted of more than 24,000 visitors in its 15th consecutive year – an indication of the growth of the pro-audio market in India, which has over the years emerged as a key region in the global pro-audio scene.



Bose Corporation India Pvt. Ltd.



Narain Pro Audio Lighting Pvt. Ltd.



MPTV Corporation



Pro Visual Audio Pvt. Ltd.



Modern Stage Services

11 brands vying with each other in the line array display and demo space.

The show drew in thousands of visitors from throughout the region and beyond. With many first time visitors, registration record was broken once again this year, and with a 17% increase since 2014, the expo registered 24,531 visitors over the three days of the show.

The Indian market which continues to be catered to majorly by foreign brands, saw more than 400 major pro-audio brands at the expo, across an endless slew of pro-audio products. Leading brands like - **Yamaha, Sennheiser, Shure, JBL, AKG, Soundcraft, Martin Lights, Robe, KV2, TOA, Bose, Bosch, Osram, Sonodyne, Phillips, Neutrik**, among others.

With 5000+ products, this edition saw a phenomenal increase in the number of products and turnkey solutions being exhibited.

The expo's swift increase in scale, size and attendance was a clear sign of the growth of the Indian pro-audio market - an indication that more and more global players are now trying to make in-roads into the robust Indian market, either by establishing a direct presence or through a healthy nationwide distribution channel.

Rising to the occasion, many companies had booked large, prominent booth space to promote their brands and products, all of which were premium quality at competitive prices.

Other exhibitors who had booked prominent floor space in this exponentially growing Indian market included, **Modern Stage Services** with the largest booth measuring 500 sqm and **Imax Lighting**, making their biggest presence thus far at the expo with 252 sqm. Others who demonstrated their dominance on the floors with large booth spaces included, **Harman International (India), Narain Pro Audio, Hi-Tech Audio, Integrated Entertainment Solutions, Vardhaman Megatech, Pro Musicals, Pro Visual Audio, Trimac, Dev Electronics** and **Jia Lighting**. All these companies brought with them a glut of products across a range of brands to be displayed at their large booths.

“The turnout is quite good, better than what we expected and overall it's been a great audience experience. I even met Mr. Resul Pookutty, so it kind of speaks of the wide spectrum of people that visit PALM ”

- Rasesh Parekh, Partner, IES

YAMAHA MUSIC INDIA MAKES ITS PRESENCE FELT

The expo's energy in this edition got more effusive, as company's like Yamaha Music India Pvt. Ltd., exhibited some aggressive product promotion and branding strategy. This was the fourth consecutive year that the company was coming in directly, and this year the company booked its own independent space - an entire hall spread across 1150sqm. "The Indian market is growing,

Yamaha products at the company's own independent hall measuring 1150 sq.m.



compared to the previous two years, and now that the economic situation is getting better, we also expect to do much better. Three years down the line, we hope to take an even bigger space at the expo," said **Mr. Harisha**, Manager - PA Sales & Marketing, Yamaha Music (India).

Segregated into two distinct parts, towards the front of the hall, Yamaha displayed a huge collection of mixing consoles, musical instruments, PA speakers and installation products. The company also launched two new products from its popular P-Series line-up - the P-45 88- & P-115 key weighted action digital pianos. Towards the rear, the acoustically treated hall, equipped with Yamaha's speakers and the new TF series consoles, staged live performances by famous singers and bands. Bollywood singer Shibani Kashyap, renowned international artists like Victory Smolski on the guitar and percussionist Zak Bond, Naveen Jude on the drum, and many others, enthralled visitors with their performance.

MSS PRESENTS IMPRESSIVE SHOWCASE

Modern Stage Service in partnership with principals, Christie provided an impressive projection-mapping showcase on the floor. The display was powered by 12 Christie Roadster 3DLP projectors comprising HD14K-M and HD20K-J models on a circular screen and rectangular screen located at different parts of the booth. Modern Stage also prominently showcased its newest principal MA Lighting's DOT.2 lighting control console solution and even sponsored the lanyards, giving MA Lighting and Dot.2

Hi-tech / RCF Demo Qube



Bose Corporation Demo Qube



Harman International (India) Pvt. Ltd.

maximum brand exposure. Other important brands on their booth included Dataton, SGM Lighting and Modern Stage's own Showlite lighting solutions.

IMAX LAUNCHES SUPERARRAY 330

iMAX Lighting brought to the floor a range of lighting products along with their partner brands, Light sky, DJ Power, Charming, Livestar and Net.Do and launched the Superarray 330 (spot/wash/beam) series of moving heads. Interestingly, the company also demonstrated trusses and cases by partners ICTC at their booth.

HARMAN LAUNCHES 12 NEW PRODUCTS

Attempting to create a powerful impact on the industry was Harman International India, who launched at the expo a dozen new products for its professional customers.

The new product portfolio comprised mixers, portable PA systems, guitar pedal, loudspeaker management processors and the latest in LED lighting solutions from its various brands, including AKG, AMX, BSS Audio, Crown, dbx, JBL, Lexicon, Soundcraft and Martin lighting. "Usually during the tradeshow we always have our popular models along with the new models, but this year we are only promoting the new models, from across the Harman range," said **Ankush Agrwal**, Director Marketing, Harman India. The company also launched an innovative new

“The Harman Live Arena has become one of the benchmarks in the industry and we find that the right kind of people are talking to us here. PALM is the only platform in India where we get the right kind of people to talk in the pro-audio industry”

-Ankush Agarwal, Director - Marketing, Harman India

mobile app for its Professional customers in India. This new-age solution gives customers access to Harman's 24/7 support and service helpdesk and get a response within three hours. Harman also promoted "Harman Equipment Finance", a no interest & no down payment scheme (conditions apply), which has been introduced to buyers for the first time in India.

HARMAN LIVE ARENA

For the sixth consecutive year, Harman was back with its much-awaited Live Arena, with a line up of some of the best bands and musicians performing there. Registering an attendance of 7935, the event boasted of a host of renowned performers and bands such as Sivamani, Dhruv and Niladri, Ragas2Riches, Func, Bombay Bassment, Demonic Resurrection, Victronica, Caralisa Monteiro, to name just a few. The Live

Arena which is one of the most visited feature at the PALM expo, also had green rooms towards the rear, where the artists could relax and unwind after a performance.

HI-TECH AND BOSE UTILIZE DEMO QUBE FACILITY

Carrying forward from the last edition, the expo this year once again retained the Demo Qubes which are conceptualised to serve as a 'live' demo areas where key prospective clients could be invited. The sound at these Demo Qubes could be manipulated, tested and heard at various volume levels, which was not possible on the expo floors. On the expo floors, exhibitors had to adhere to norms, but the Qube, located near the Music Expo and VIP parking area gave these companies a chance to showcase their systems across the entire audible spectrum, without any restrictions or disturbance from neighbouring booths. These Qubes had also been acoustically treated and made soundproof to meet the requirement of the demos.

Like last year, Hi-Tech Audio once again chose to split their presence across the expo floors and the Demo Qube. Hi-Tech's Qube showcased the RCF speaker series which included, the Vmax (for small to medium size venues – Portable live sound), TTL

(Touring and Large size venues – tour sound and install), D-Line (medium size venues – live sound & install) and 4Pro, ART Series Evox & NXL (Small size venues – portable live sound & install). A general listening and Q&A session each evening was also part of the RCF Demo Qube Schedule.

Raising the bar since last year's expo, was Bose Corporation, who took up the second Demo Qube, besides a big booth in the main expo hall, to showcase their range of products. The company launched its F1 Model 812 Flexible Array Loudspeaker at the expo and the Qube had Bose promoting the RoomMatch series of line arrays. Not restricting it to just product demos, Bose also organised large screen technical demos and presentations by their international executives.

NEW PRODUCTS ABOUND AT THE EXPO

The PALM Expo dates have always been a highlighted date on the calendars of the Indian pro audio & music recording industry, so it was predictable that many of the manufacturers would gear up and use this platform to unveil a host of new products. The PALM Magazine, distributed at the expo covered comprehensive details of these new products.

“PALM is a fabulous show and I've been coming here for about six years now and for the first time in my 42 years in business I have brought something special to India. We have brought a fabulous professional system to the PALM at affordable price”

-Andrew Bishop, Founder & CEO, British Acoustics



Acoustic products at the Ultra Acoustic booth



Circle Pro Audio



Sonotone Electronics

NEW PRODUCTS AT PALM 2015

JNM AUDIO: The Frameless in Ceiling Speakers. The Frameless can be found at the Rajdeep Electronics booth at the PALM Show.

The Star Professional Audio: NAC-612 System, LINX-204H Line Array, JK series active and passive wooden cabinet, Loudspeaker Q18-2, JS-061, H-10+, H-12+

Sennheiser: AVX wireless microphone system, Apart MASK12 cabinet loudspeaker

IMAX Lighting: SUPERRAY 330 (spot/wash/beam).

Pioneer DJ:

PLX-1000 – high-torque direct drive professional turntable

XDJ-1000 – first touch-screen, USB-only player - the no-compromise alternative for digital DJs

XDJ-RX – the all-in-one rekordbox™ solution with large, dual-deck screen

DDJ-SZ – professional four-channel controller for Serato DJ

DDJ-SX2 – World's first native controller with dedicated buttons for Serato Flip

CDJ-900NXS – Multi-Player equipped with full-colour LCD screen for optimum DJ performance using music files

DJM-900SRT – the newest high-performance mixer with an inbuilt sound card for plug-and-play connectivity with Serato DJ

REMIX-STATION 500 – effects unit with instinctive, one-handed control of multiple parameters

S-DJ X – series of active monitor speakers for DJs

HDJ-2000MK2s – offering enhanced sound quality, comfort and durability

Elite Screens: AcousticPro-4K, ultra-white front projection screen surface, POP-UP – Out Door Cinema

Di Implex: advanced LED video screen processor: the 540cs; advanced locking system LED screen for p3.9 mm, p4.8 mm, p6mm, and p7.62mm.

Circle Pro Audio: Dr. Palash Sen Series of Wireless Microphone, Wireless Guitar Units, Wired Podium Microphones, Wireless Microphone; Condenser Microphone

Audio Wizard: VCM Series Line-Array Components, K-Series Speakers, P-Series Speakers, V-Series Speakers, ZSound Amplifiers

NEW PRODUCTS CONTINUED...

Harman International India Pvt. Ltd.

Harman Mixers:

-Soundcraft Ui Series - Remote-controlled digital mixers bring the freedom to mix anywhere.

-Soundcraft Signature Series - Compact analog mixers are packed with Ghost mic preamps for extraordinary headroom, dynamic range and clarity.

Portable PA Loudspeakers:

-JBL SRX 800 Series - With the introduction of the SRX800 line of powered portable PA loudspeakers, JBL has set the standard for what a fully professional powered PA system should be.

-JBL EON Series - The new launches in the EON Series are a true step forward in technology developed specifically to deliver the best sound possible, regardless of its application. EON completely rethinks how truly good an affordable, self-contained portable PA system can be.

Loudspeaker Management Processors:

-dbx DriveRack VENU360 - The DriveRack VENU360 brings together everything you love about dbx processors and puts them into one powerful loudspeaker management tool.

Lighting:

-Martin MAC Aura XB - The MAC Aura XB takes the award-winning and most compact LED wash light in the market to the next level, incorporating many new features first introduced on the MAC Quantum Wash.

-Martin MAC Quantum Profile - The Martin Professional MAC Quantum Profile is a fully featured LED profile that sets new standards for combined performance, weight and size.

-Martin MH1 Profile Plus - The Martin Professional RUSH MH 1 Profile Plus super bright LED profile moving head is even brighter than its predecessor RUSH MH 1 Profile, with 50 percent more output.

-Rush PAR 2 CT - The RUSH PAR 2 CT Zoom is a single-lens LED PAR Can with fully pre-mixed white color temperatures for a range of applications in the installation and entertainment markets.

-Rush Gobo Projector - The RUSH Gobo Projector 1 is ideal for applications that require a compact fixture for easy LED gobo projection. Ideal for clubs, bars, restaurants and shopping malls.

-Martin M6 Console - The M6 is a state-of-the-art lighting console that functions as a highly advanced visual control surface. The M6 has been designed for today's demanding multimedia shows and

Sonodyne Electronics: SM3300 high definition mid field monitor, SRT series studio monitors, PM series loudspeakers

Pioneer DJ who participated directly at the expo this year, as opposed to being present with their dealers as in the earlier editions, brought to the floors many new products that included professional turntables, four channel controllers, high-performance mixers, active monitor speakers, etc.

Similarly **Circle Pro Audio** launched an exclusive series of Wireless Microphones; **Audio Wizard** showcased recently launched products by Chinese brand ZSOUND; and **Elite Screens**, one of the leaders in projection screens, showcased two new projection screens. **Sennheiser** in partnership with Apart launched Apart Audio's Mask-12 and Mask-12T cabinet loudspeakers and **Modi Digital** presented 13 different products from seven different brands, including the Auro 3d.

A list of new products at the expo has been enlisted in the adjoining New Products section.

40 NEW EXHIBITORS ENLIVEN THE EXPO FLOORS

The 2015 edition of the expo saw 40



Hi Lux Lights

new exhibitors, most of who were from the lighting sector indicating that the market trend had filtered onto the expo floors. Three big global lighting manufacturers MA Lightings, Avolites and ChamSys were present on the expo floors through their newly appointed distributors in India, namely **Modern Stage Service**, **Integrated Entertainment Solutions** and **Jagmag Electric** respectively.

Creating a 'live stage' kind of atmosphere, the lighting companies like **Modern Stage Services**, **Imax lighting**, **Integrated Entertainment Solutions**, **Jia Lighting**, **LBT**, **Jagmag**, **Canara Lighting**, **Delhi Light and Music**, **Star Dimensions**, and **Dhawan Stagecraft** attracted many visitors to their well 'lighted' booths, and showcased an

assortment of lighting products that included moving heads, LED PAR lights, follow spots, search lights and more.

In their first year at the expo, **Ahuja Radios** and **Alphatech** too had taken up large spaces to display their range.

Kolkata based Alphatech, who are now the exclusive distributors of Music Group, had designed an international level booth, akin to those one sees at global shows like Musikmesse Frankfurt, and displayed a range of products from Music Group's portfolio which includes, Midas, Klarkteknik, Turbosound and Behringer. A Midas training team had also been set up by the company to conduct demo workshops. There were three, one hour sessions per day, which were well attended as these sessions gave buyers a chance to experience the Pro2



Sun Infonet Pvt Ltd

digital mixer hands-on.

Indian Manufacturer **Ahuja Radio**, whose 'Made in India' products are sold through a network of more than 400 retailers spread all over India, was present with their range of Ahuja PA systems & equipment, primarily for the install industry.

The other major 'Made in India' product line was of course from the pioneering Indian manufacturer of pro-audio Systems - **Sonodyne Electronics**, who's Sonodyne Reference Series is now distributed throughout Asia, Europe and North America. New launches at the show included SM3300 high definition mid field monitor, SRT Series studio monitors and PM Series loudspeakers.

Canara Lighting, another Indian brand who has been in the business of providing



“We have been coming to the PALM from the last 15 years with all our brands. NX Audio, Proton, Satan are purely Indian brands designed for the Indian market. We were one of the first to book stalls in the initial years and its growing, lovely show, pretty well organized but crowd needs to be filtered ”

- Manoj Motwani, Designation, Narain Audio

stage and film lighting for over 40 years and has grown to be one of the biggest manufacturers in South Asia displayed a complete range for stage and film lighting applications.

Krystal, one of India's leading manufacturers of Cables for the audio, video, lighting and broadcast industry was present with a full range of cables, chassis mount and connectors including the newly launched Krystal Audio connectors.

PALM has been mostly a distributor dominated show and some of the distributors who have supported the show since its initial years included **Ansata, Bosch, Narain, ProVisual Audio, Rivera Digitech, Rivera International, Sonotone, Pope Professional** and **Sound Team**. All these companies brought with them an ensemble of products from their principal companies.

The Pro Visual Audio booth featured an active display of cutting-edge pro-audio technology from QSC, including products from the famed House of K products,

the critically acclaimed Touchmix series of compact digital mixing consoles, the revolutionary PLD series of power amplifiers and the state-of-the-art audio processing, control and management system the Q-SYS. The booth also showcased leading edge innovations in music production and performance technology from industry leaders Audio-Technica. On display were the AT 20 Series of microphones, the flagship AT 50 series of elite studio microphones, ATH series of premium headphones, and the AT System10 series.

Continuing its legacy of exhibiting at the expo since many years, **Sun Infonet** exhibited a blend of new technology and products from its principals- Shure, Quest, Allen&Heath, and Nexo. Besides the Sun Infonet Team, Roy Hung from Shure Asia Ltd, Frank Andrewartha from Quest Engineering and Nicholas Kirsch from Nexo, were also present at the booth attending to visitors and answering their queries.

On the show floors itself the expo

THE LIST OF FIRST TIMERS AT PALM 2015 INCLUDED:

AAT Academy India Ltd.
Ahuja Radios
Amber Electronics
Audio Media Inc
Audio X Electronic
Audio&Aux
M/s Alphatec Audio Video Pvt Ltd.
Baassfx
Elite Screen India Pvt.Ltd
Guangzhou Wanqi Audio Equipment Co. Ltd.
Hi Lux Lights
India Sound Corporation
K & M
Kayvee Radios
JNR Lights
Madhuli Marketing & Management
Mahi Infomedia LLP
Mintu Electronics
Musicians Mall
Megastar LED Ltd.
Nasa Power Company
Preeti Trading Corporation
Pioneer India Electronics Pvt. Ltd.
PVEE Electronics Export & Import Pvt. Ltd.
Qutub Stage
Rajdeep Electronics
RD Led (T L Power)
S.V. Case Craft
Sanaeya
Seagate Singapore International Headquarters Pte L
Sehgal Sales Corporation
Sonik-Tec
Sound Waves Enterprises
Studio 28
Super Sound
Theme Music Co. Pvt. Ltd.
Ultracoustic
Varun Expert Sales
Vinar Systems Pvt. Ltd.

offered an array of sideshow events which were a huge success. These events included the PALM DJ Soundscape and PALM DJ Championship now in its 5th year, and the Live Rigging & Trussing workshop conducted by Ivo Mulder, Brand Manager, Prolyte Systems.

DJ SOUNDSCAPE

The DJ Soundscape which is fast growing into the expo's biggest feature, took place at the PALM Feature Hall, and attracted

by Gaurav Malaker; *Electronic Music Scene and Its Impact in India* moderated by Kenneth Lobo; *Music Promotion*, moderated by Arjun S Ravi; *ArtistsxBrandsxFans* moderated by Varun Patra; *What happens at a Music Festival / Behind the Scenes* moderated by Shaju Ignatius and *A Walk through* with the veterans moderated by Priya Sen. The Soundscape also organized a workshop on Audio Production by Kohra and Praveen Acharya followed by a Q&A. DJ Championship Prize Partners – Pioneer also introduced Pioneer's KUVO technology at

saw a live demo on "Truss Tower Safety Measures" conducted by Team Natura and a FlyingFX and Aerial Performance where aerialists enthralled audiences by performing short aerial acts rigged with FlyingFX systems on the ACT truss tower.

With a wide array of products in the hall and with buyers requesting for demos, the exhibitors would pump up the volume and it was natural at times that the hall reverberated with sound. But at the same time this sound lent to the intoxication and energy of the show. The market growth could be palpably felt on the floors.

Even show reviews of international pro-audio expos, whether in Frankfurt, Shanghai or Guangzhou, all indicate that pro audio shows are noisy, but the PALM team put their best foot forward and made all efforts to control noise. The credit also goes to exhibitors who understood and supported the team in ensuring that decibels were



Jona Led



Osram India Private Limited



more than 2920 visitors across the three days. The Soundscape conducted a string of informative conferences and workshops, including a workshop on "Digital Music Library Management for DJs" by DJ Reji, who was also the DJ Championship Director and enabled networking among industry stalwarts who shared their experiences and expertise through these interactive sessions. The event, curated by premier artist management agency, UnMute – brought together some of India's top DJs and musicians. More than 400 pro, as well as aspiring DJs registered for the DJ conferences and championship.

DJ SOUNDSCAPE CONFERENCE + WORKSHOP INCLUDED:

Are you a DJ, moderated by Vehron Ibrahim; *Performance Essentials* moderated by Arjun Vagale; *Are you alright?* Moderated

by Gaurav Malaker; *Electronic Music Scene and Its Impact in India* moderated by Kenneth Lobo; *Music Promotion*, moderated by Arjun S Ravi; *ArtistsxBrandsxFans* moderated by Varun Patra; *What happens at a Music Festival / Behind the Scenes* moderated by Shaju Ignatius and *A Walk through* with the veterans moderated by Priya Sen. The Soundscape also organized a workshop on Audio Production by Kohra and Praveen Acharya followed by a Q&A. DJ Championship Prize Partners – Pioneer also introduced Pioneer's KUVO technology at

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LIVE RIGGING & TRUSSING

The Live Rigging & Trussing workshop



Jia Lighting & Audio Equipment

kept in check.

In spite of these minor glitches, the expo was a sign that the PALM expo serves as an important platform for the growing Indian market and in its future editions is expected

to gravitate towards a bigger show.

Mr. Arun Kalra of White Eagle though not very happy with the efficiency of the hall's air-conditioning unit, admitted that "The show was fantastic this year".

The participation of **CCPIT** (China Council for the Promotion of International Trade) for the first time in India augmented the fact that the Indian market is indeed being looked upon as a significant market by global manufacturers. This trade body of the Chinese government brought with it a pavilion of Chinese pro audio companies

with quality pro-audio products. Besides the participation through CCPIT, several Chinese companies like WEIFA Trussing, Guangzhou Wanqi Audio Equipment Co. Ltd., Shenzhen Magnimage Technology Co. Ltd., Shenzhen Chip Optech Co.,LTD and Shenzhen Glosline Technology Co., Ltd. also participated directly.

"PALM Expo has once again proved to be an ideal platform for building the commerce of Pro Sound & Light market in India. With over 90% growth in the floor space this year, it was evident that the industry is all geared to take the next big leap The

constant support of our exhibitors and their faith in us has proved to be a motivating factor to put in those extra efforts, in order to attract more and more quality trade visitors to the show. Though we are challenged by the aspect of a state-of-the-art venue, we strive to do our best, ensuring that we deliver a great show. In the coming years, we plan to open avenues for more business at the show, with more innovative ideas, eradication of noise and much better audience" – says, **Mr. Ramesh Chetwani** – Event Head, PALM Expo.

Open Line Array

11 pro-audio brands profile their Line Arrays at the open air demo



One of the successes of the previous years, the outdoor line array demonstration area, saw displays that included brands like **Beta Three, E Wing, EAST, FBT (Muse), KV2 Audio, Montarbo, Outline, Pope Professional, South Capital Pro Audio, TW Audio with Lab Gruppen** and **ZSound**.

The Open Air Line Array demo, conducted in the open space on the venue grounds, has been a major attraction since

its conceptualization at the PALM expo, and this year more than 5,600 visitors thronged the venue - an increase of 25% since 2014.

The schedule for the open-air demos was spot on, with exceptional planning by the organizers. The demos ran continuously throughout the day and the schedule was planned in a manner that gave each brand an opportunity to showcase their line arrays 8 times each day, across an equally divided time slot. Each brand was given four minutes

to demo their array, in a sequence, with a breather of one minute after each demo.

Each year the organisers have upped their game and tried to make the Line Array a comfortable experience for visitors. Last year a separate shaded area along with water counters for visitors was incorporated and this year, they went a step further by organizing golf cart services to ease movement between the main expo floor and line array demos.

The outstanding 5th PALM Sound and Light Awards, 2015 at ITC Grand Maratha

The 5th PALM Sound and Light Awards was conducted this year during the PALM Expo 2015, with a greater and bigger salutation. Held at an extensive level at the ITC Grand Maratha Hotel, Andheri, the award show witnessed and welcomed all the renowned dignitaries from across the industry to get their work and talent appreciated.

This PALM Sound and Light Awards ceremony, had specific invites for the directors and owners of distribution companies, and brands presenting their products at the PALM Show. Since last four years, PALM has been recognising and honouring outstanding service in the field of stage, sound and light. In its 5th year, it is spread over 22 different categories, fulfilling the primary objective of showcasing & recognizing individuals and organizations for their unparalleled contribution to the industry. Sound Designers, FOH Engineers, Audio Monitor Engineers, Set Designers, Lighting Designers were recognized in the individual awards, while a lot of companies were awarded for their commendable work under the categories of best Event Companies, Lighting Rental Companies, AV Integration, System Integration, Stage Production, Pro AV Distribution Companies and so on.

Amongst all the awardees, there was a special award which was also the highlight of the show. Ahuja Radios was felicitated for completing 75 years in the industry. Mr. Lal and Mr. Sonu Khurana, who accepted the award, received a standing ovation from all the dignitaries present at the event on that evening.

Mr. Lal and Mr. Sonu Khurana - Ahuja Radios



Abhijit Roy - Best Audio
FOH Engineer



The other winners from various individual categories included:

Bruce Roderick from Sound and Light Professional - Best Audio Systems Engineer

Atul Sonpal - Best Lighting Designer

Varsha Jain - Best Set/Scenic Designer

Fali Damania - Best Audio Monitor Engineer

Abhijit Roy - Best Audio FOH Engineer

Mark Thomas - Outstanding Audio Monitor Engineer

The company specific awards of that night were as follows:

LED Solutions - Best Sound Rental Company

Sound.com - Outstanding Sound Rental Company

SSL Media Technology and Solutions Pvt. Ltd. - Best Lighting Rental Company

Spectrum Audio Visual Rental - Best Video Rental Company

Harman International - Best MI Technology

Harman International - Best Live Mix Product

Hi-Tech Audio - Best Pro Audio Video Distribution Company of the Year

Modern Stage Services - Best System Integration

Modern Stage Services - Outstanding Contribution to AV Integration

Cranberry Brand Holdings Pvt. Ltd. - Best Stage production Company

Yamaha Music India Pvt. Ltd. - Best Professional Audio Products

Cineyug Entertainment Pvt Ltd - Best Event Management Company of the Year

There have been a lot of innovative product launches in the previous year. To acknowledge and appreciate the innovative products, PALM Sound and Light Awards had some special categories.

These categories were as follows:

Bose Corporation - Best Technology Innovation Company (The RoomMatch)

Fly Dragon Lighting Equipment Co. Ltd., represented by Imax Lighting - Lighting Product Innovation (IP2000 Waterproof moving head beam)

The achievers look very pleased with all the appreciation and recognition they received at the award show. The award ceremony was followed by dinner and cocktail party.



Noureen Morani- Cineyug Entertainment Pvt. Ltd

The 9th Edition on the glorious IRA Awards!

PALM Expo 2015 came with another glorious edition of the Indian Recording and Arts Awards (IRAA), this time sponsored by Live Viacom 18. This was the 9th Edition of the awards ceremony where the music, recording and engineering talent in India is recognized. Being the first ever platform of music awards recognizing such talents; the IRA Awards felicitate the music maestros and the technical & creative contributions by leading sound recordists.

Just like the other years, this year's IRA Awards ceremony also received a huge response from the music industry. The awards were spread across 17 different categories of sound and music recording industry. Various songs, artists and studios were facilitated and recognized during the ceremony. The categories were divided into film and non-film albums, both. Plus, it majorly focussed on appreciating the sound designers, music producers, recording and mixing engineers as well as studios and so on.

The highlight of this show was Mr. Avinash Oak receiving the life-time achievement award, for his outstanding contribution towards the music industry as a sound engineer. It was definitely one of the happiest moments of his life. He came up on the stage to receive this award with his wife.

The other winners from various categories included:

Zoe Vicaaji for Best Mixed Album (Non-Films)
Praveen Murlidhar for Best Mixed Album (Films)
Rlung Ta for Best Band Production (Album)
KJ Singh for Best Sound Design
Gulraj Singh as the Best Music Producer
Sanjay Wandrekar and Atul Raninga for the Best Background Score category
Tapas Relia & Manoj Yadav under the category of MTV Bollyland Best Film Song for the song "Sun re Baavli"
Rahat Fateh Ali Khan's "Zaroori tha" was recognized as the Most Popular Song On Web & Radio
Pramod Chandorkar, Chinmaya Harshe and Shamik Guha Roy for the album "The Music Room" under the Best Recorded/Mixed Studio Album category
Nikhil Mulay for Best Live Sound Mixing Engineer (F.O.H)
Vinod Verma for the Best Recorded Music Post Production
Darshan Doshi as the Best Percussionist
Enzy Studio as the Best Equipped Recording/Mixing Studio
Arvind Vishwakarma for Best Upcoming Recording/Mixing Engineer in Films and Music
Mr. Grain for Vh1 Supersonic Best Electronic Dance Music Production (DJ)
Times Music as the Best Record Label

The PALM Expo was concluded, soon after the IRA Awards.

Climbing up the ladder, PALM Expo 2015 was a huge success with stronger customer and business hold, better affiliation and association. It has not only expanded in size, but has also improved its quality professionally and innovatively, over the

years. Lighting industry had dominance this year having more and more companies involved with more and more products.

The award ceremonies brought a different light to the show. As always, it also helped bring in a healthy competitive streak amongst the exhibitors, as well as the contending talent.



Winners of the IRA Awards