

DYNACORD® COBRA-4™ AND MIDAS® VERONA™ AT THE SONNENROT FESTIVAL, GERMANY



Midas Verona at FOH

The premiere of the Sonnenrot Festival (16/17 July) in Geretsried near Munich was an opportunity to take stock of Germany's pool of young rock talent. A large Cobra-4 system delivered the requisite power.

Geretsried/Straubing, Germany (August 2004): The organizers of the Sonnenrot Festival, held this year for the first time in Geretsried (20 miles south of Munich) on the 16th and 17th July, must be on good terms with the weather gods. Instead of the rain and cool temperatures that had blighted the week leading up to the event, the sun came out almost on cue as the first band, Jettison, took to the stage, and ideal conditions prevailed throughout the two-day festival. The organizers' connections in the German rock scene can't be too shabby either, as they succeeded in drawing acts like Wir sind Helden, Fettes Brot, Mia, Slut, Blumfeld, Die Sterne, Emil Bulls and the Bananafishbones — the cream of Germany's up-and-coming rock bands — to the idyllic setting in a forest clearing they had chosen for the open-air event.

To provide for a change of ambience and a more diverse program, the organizers erected a marquee in addition to the main stage so that the 10,000-odd visitors could sample the buzz of the open-air event but also retreat to the more intimate club atmosphere of the tent.

The organizers had also commissioned a company with an excellent track record for handling open-air events, Soundhouse Musik-Meyer of Chieming, to

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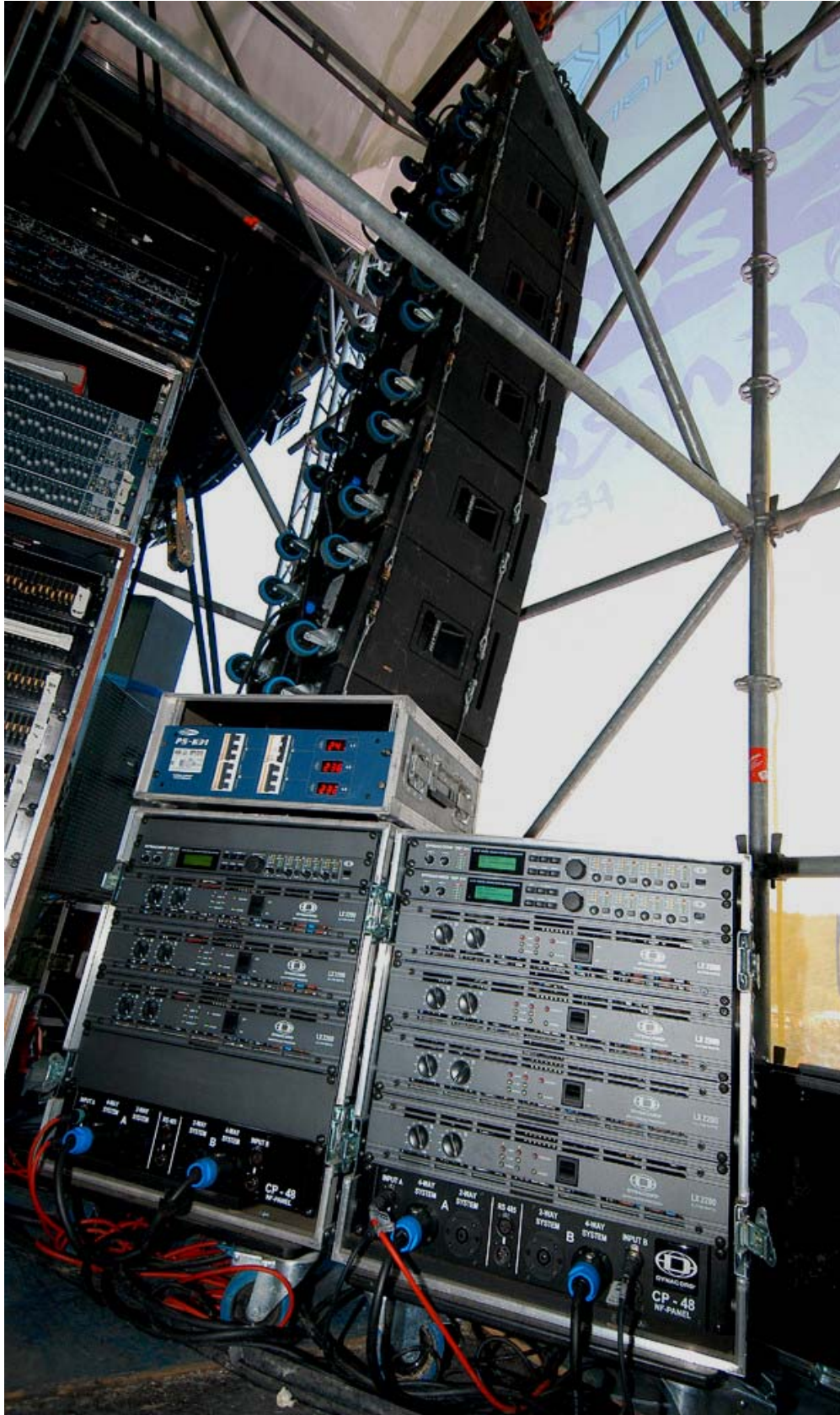
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provide the sound reinforcement for the festival. SMM's strategy for the event was built around a Midas Verona (FOH) and three Dynacord Cobra-4 systems (main stage PA) with around 14 flown cabinets in the wings (2 x 7 line arrays comprised of 3 Cobra Fars and 4 Cobra Tops) as well as 4 stacked Tops serving as front fills and 24 PWH sub-woofers. Hans Bürger of EVI Audio (Telex Communications European wing), who was on hand with Johannes Moeck of Badensound to provide the team from Chieming with advice, explained: "The Cobra-4 PA system was driven by four amp racks containing a total of 14 LX2200 lightweight amps. These delivered some 40 kW of power, extending the range of the system to 60 meters." Remote control also played a key role in the success of this strategy, as it made it possible for all six signal processors to be monitored and controlled remotely via RS-485 as well as affording access (if needed) to every driver in every enclosure.

If the festival was a blast, it wasn't only the fans that were happy; the Midas Verona console made the FOH mixers job a joy as well, as Sven Goldmann (of Hamburg events and entertainment service providers Dezent) who was handling the mixing for the Blumfeld tour, was happy to attest: "It was the first time I'd ever worked with a Midas Verona. It was great! The preamps have a really good sound and from the ergonomic standpoint, the Verona is the epitome of user-friendliness. Midas is quite simply cult!"



Club ambience inside the marquee — with the Dynacord Cobra & Madras (monitor) and Midas Verona



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(Photos EVI Audio / Marion Vogel)

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