

FOO FIGHTERS EUROPEAN TOUR A SUCCESS WITH ELECTRO-VOICE® AND BRITANNIA ROW

DUBLIN, IRELAND (February 3, 2003): The Foo Fighters have been a runaway success on their 2002 European Tour, garnering rave reviews from both the highbrow British press and their hordes of fans, who placed the band's new offering 'One by One' at the top of the charts across the continent. This time around Europe, the Foo Fighters are filling venues large enough to accommodate their burgeoning popularity: London's Wembley Arena and Glasgow's SECC were two of the stopping off points the band filled prior to heading across the Irish sea to Dublin's historic Point Depot. Britannia Row FOH wizard and his right hand man, system tech Simon Travis, have been responsible for ensuring Dave Grohl & Co.'s sonic magic hits the spot night after night, using a combination of EV's powerhouse X-Line and compact X^{lc} line loudspeaker systems.

For the Point show, Jock and Simon flew 6 X-Line 'S' boxes (Xvls, 90-degree horizontal coverage for long-throw applications) and 3 'T' (Xvlt, 120-degree horizontal coverage typical for medium-throw applications) boxes per side. They flew 6 X^{lc} 127+ boxes per side as line fills behind the main arrays. 8 X-Line subs were placed each side under the proscenium, with 4 EV Xi 1152/64's stacked on top. A cluster of two Xi 1152 boxes filled in center stage.

Just back from a triumphant European tour with ZZ Top, these self-proclaimed "International Rock Blokes" have found that bringing the two EV systems out on the road again with the Foo Fighters continues to allow made-to-measure sound coverage. In this regard it's worth noting that when the Point Depot was built in 1878, the architects were hardly in a position to plan ahead for rock concerts! However, such challenges are Jock and Simon's bread and butter, and even the Foo Fighter's bassist Nate Mendel was heard to comment on the Point's "weird but cool" interior, where raw blocks of stone enclose a high tech venue with bars, escalators and, of course, world class concert staging capabilities. Jock and Simon had a similar impression of the building's architectural nuances, which include a relatively narrow proscenium flanked by two enormous metal panels approximately 30 feet in front of the stage. This constituted a real sound challenge during the initial hanging process, as the X-Line would need to be flown directly above the throngs of fans at the front of the audience, projecting over their heads. The X^{lc} immediately presented itself as solution to this issue: Jock's instincts led him to believe that the compact boxes would be great as line fills delayed behind and beneath the mighty X-Line arrays flown out on front of the panels.

So, combining human-touch tweaking with the EV Line Array Prediction Software (LAPS), Jock and Simon flew the arrays with the intention of making the X^{lc} work for them in delivering the guitar and vocals during the Foo's signature drop out/build up song passages. These parts are an essential part of the band's show, where Dave goes walkabout, the crowd joins in, and the roof blows off. The line-fill X^{lc} would bear much of the weight of these crowd-pleasing, tension-building passages, before the X-Line takes the helm as the band kicks back in to

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the full-bore parts of a song. Come show time, the X^{lc} delivered the goods as planned, projecting a punchy, compressed sound that served as a perfect contrast to the whole group blasting through both sized arrays. Jock and Simon's use of the two EV systems mirrored the Foo Fighter's songwriting dynamics, and the effectiveness of this coupling was more than evident in the crowd's response to the sound.

Check in soon for Jock and Simon's full reports on the EV loudspeaker system's performance on the Foo Fighter's tour, along with photos of the arrays in action.

For more information, please visit www.electrovoice.com or call 1-800-392-3497.

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