

Q-SYS REVITALIZES HISTORIC CINEMA

Pavilion Cinema

Q-SYS Proves To Be A Sound Decision For Cinematic Upgrades

📍 Galashiels, UK

With slate-gray roofs speckling the Scottish Borders' verdant landscape, the town of Galashiels projects a quiet charm borne of long history. The same can be said for the Pavilion Cinema, an independent cinema that has been operating for over a century. This family-owned operation maintains an important role in Galashiels, providing not only access to the latest in film, but also showcasing streamed performances of the Met Opera and the National Theater in London. On its centenary year, the Pavilion team discovered their cinema had been approved for a £75,000 grant from the Creative Scotland Cinema Technology Fund. This unlocked assistance for a myriad of upgrades, including replacing the sound system for four cinema spaces as well as improving accessibility for hard of hearing and visually impaired customers.



📷 Photos provided courtesy of Pavilion Cinema

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Andrew Poole

Cinema Manager, Pavilion Cinema Galashiels

Challenges



To accomplish this, the Pavilion Cinema team engaged with installation providers [Omnex](#), who immediately selected Q-SYS to power the sound. The cinema's previous sound system had been a mix of unmatched equipment dating back to the 35mm era, with elements only being replaced when they experienced critical failure. And while the legacy of Pavilion Cinema is part of its allure, it also presented some difficulties for modernization. As a site built more than a century ago, it did not reflect modern cinematic design best practices.

Replacement and Revitalization

Maneuvering to extract the existing loudspeakers proved challenging, and the Omnex team only had a short span of time to complete the installation. "We needed to remove three of four screen sheets, and replace fifty surround loudspeakers," details Simon Tandy, Managing Director of Omnex. "Because of the architecture, the series and paralleling of the surrounds all had to be done in the wall itself, rather than in dedicated cable ducting. We also needed to rewire the auditorium loudspeaker arrays and remove two 35mm projection systems! Our plates were full, but the difference was worth it."

 Photos provided courtesy of Pavilion Cinema



Solutions

Q-SYS Powers Immersive Cinematic

To replace this antique system, the team selected a combination of [QSC DPA 4.2](#) and [QSC DPA 4.3](#) digital processing amplifiers to drive the loudspeaker system, which was a combination of [QSC SC Series](#) loudspeakers, including the [QSC SC-2150](#) screen channel loudspeaker which is optimized for smaller cinemas. With the [QSC SR Series](#) cinema surround loudspeakers and [QSC SB Series](#) subwoofers, the number totaled fifty replacements in all. The impact of these additions was further upgraded due to a rewiring of the surround speakers to accommodate 7.1 channels, as well as additional speaker cabling being installed to allow for bi-wiring of all stage speakers. Simon of Omnex explains, "The new 7.1 sound system lifts the entire experience with three-dimensional sound and improved spatial awareness. The Q-SYS amplifiers and loudspeakers do an amazing job of powering this upgrade, and translating these sites into truly immersive spaces."

Now more than ever the residents of Galashiels are hungry for entertainment, and the Pavilion Cinema is happy to oblige. "Our customers are now being treated to the best sound this cinema has ever produced in its one hundred years of operation," exclaimed Andrew Poole, Cinema Manager of Pavilion Cinema. "It's been one hundred percent positive feedback from our customers, including comments like 'That's the best sound I've ever heard in a cinema!'" From [massive premiere events](#) to family-run cinemas, Q-SYS is proud to continually partner in providing the best possible audio experience for patrons around the world.



QSC Equipment List

Model	Pcs Used	Description	Image
QSC DPA 4.3	6	QSC 4-Channel Digital Processing Amplifier for Cinema QSC Intrinsic Correction™ processing Total power up to 5,000 watts	
QSC DPA 4.2	8	QSC 4-Channel Digital Processing Amplifier for Cinema QSC Intrinsic Correction™ processing Total power up to 5,000 watts	
QSC SC-223	6	QSC 3-way bi-amplified screen channel system 90° horizontal x +20 to -30° vertical coverage Two main units - MH-1060 mid-high frequency & LF-2215 low-frequency	
QSC SC-2150	6	QSC 3-Way Screen Channel Loudspeaker, Passive or Bi-amp 90° horizontal x 40° vertical coverage Optimized design for smaller cinemas	
QSC SB-7218	5	QSC Dual 18-inch Cinema Subwoofer Dual 700-watt transducers Frequency range extends to below 25 Hz	
QSC SR-1030	28	QSC Surround Loudspeaker for Cinema 10-inch (254 mm) woofer with 2.5-inch (63 mm) voice coil 1.75-inch (44 mm) titanium diaphragm compression driver	
QSC SR-1020	22	QSC Surround Loudspeaker for Cinema 10-inch (254 mm) woofer with 2" (50 mm) voice coil 1.4-inch (35 mm) titanium diaphragm compression driver	



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