

Barco Audio Technologies creates fully immersive sound experience for World Expo 2015

Visitors to the Kazakhstan pavilion at the World Expo 2015, which opened its doors in Milan (Italy) on 1 May, will be taken on a virtual journey through Kazakhstan's rich and varied landscape. Barco Audio Technologies is proud to deliver the immersive sound system that helps envelope the audience in a fascinating 360-degree virtual experience.



Occupying a total area of 2,396 m², the Kazakh pavilion at this year's World Expo - Expo Milano 2015 - aims to introduce visitors to the theme of protecting natural and agricultural resources, culture and the idea of sustainable development. The centerpiece of the pavilion is the Main Show, an immersive 3D stereo full dome theater supplied by Munich-based dome technologies developer Sky-Skan Europe. Here under the 15 meter domed projection screen, visitors are whisked away on a virtual flight over Kazakhstan's vast and magnificent landscape, passing cornfields, canyons, wild horses and other animals, to land safely in the Kazakh capital Astana, where World Expo 2017 will take place. To fully envelope the audience in the experience, Sky-Skan created a spatial audio environment with an IOSONO sound system by Barco Audio Technologies.

The 42.4 speaker audio installation uses the IOSONO CORE audio processor and loudspeakers from Fohhn Audio that are arranged in four layers for full acoustic immersion. Sound content creation for the CORE hardware processor, which was done by German company listen!, is made easy with IOSONO's Spatial Audio Workstation software. Sky-Skan took care of the audio-video systems integration in the Main Show, being commissioned by the German agency facts and fiction who was responsible for the architecture, design, content and construction of the complete pavilion. "Barco's IOSONO products provide not only a captivating sound experience but are also very reliable, which is important in an environment like this," says Glenn Smith, Managing Director of Sky-Skan Europe. "We are confident that the sound set-up will help touch the audience emotionally and physically."

The World Expo in Milan, Italy, runs from 1 May to 31 October and expects to draw more than 20 million international visitors. The main theme of this year's exhibition is "Feeding the Planet, Energy for Life".

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