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Press Release

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State-of-the-art technology at the Munich Film Museum

The Film Museum, which is integrated into the Munich City Museum, is probably one of the oldest German municipal cinemas. Films are restored, archived and made accessible to the audience. The Munich City Museum has been trusting Kinoton's experience and competence for projection and sound technology for many years.

Contrary to commercial cinemas, the film museum does not only show the latest films, but also historic works in their various picture and sound formats. In the course of the years more and more formats came into being. All can now be shown with the museum's new technical upgrades carried out by Kinoton. What is new is that digital sound formats and video formats were integrated into the existing system. In order to have the same high quality as commercial cinemas the latest fully digital Dolby processor, additional power amplifiers with active crossovers and reverse scan analog and digital sound devices were installed by Kinoton.

For perfect presentation of all picture formats a screen masking system and a "silver screen", a specially coated screen which is also suitable for 3D films, were installed. The screen masking system meets the requirements of shrunken and recopied films as well as films produced in special formats due to separate masking motors. The top masking and the two side maskings can be positioned separately, even asymmetrically.

For hard-of-hearing people a state-of-the-art induction system was installed so that they too may enjoy the cinema.

For wireless transmission of up to 2 language translations in hi-fi quality an infrared transmission system was provided. The audience (165 seats) is provided with below-the-chin headphones. For hygienic reasons they are equipped with reusable ear foam material. After use this material is cleaned and disinfected in a hot ultrasound bath and then reused.

The infrared system, the induction system and the new sound system can be connected with two interpreter's booths. These can be used for simultaneous interpretations for conferences, discussions and film talks.

The theatre's sound reinforcement system is now independent of the cinema system. This allows for explanations and comments during films. What is of highest importance is freedom of feedback, excellent intelligibility and flexibility. Using suitable loudspeakers comments transmitted via wireless microphones from the audience are feedback free.

In order that the whole system of cinema technology, video technology, conference and sound technology meets all the Museum's requirements, video and sound signals are directed with routing switchers.

It was important to the Film Museum to integrate the existing equipment in order to be able to reproduce the oldest available formats and to keep costs low. At the press conference which took place in the renovated theatre on February 27, 03 it was announced that both cost and time frames were met.

Technical facts:

Existing Equipment:

2x Kinoton FP38 with dual lamphouses
lenses for 7 35mm and 16mm film formats
2x Killi 16/17.5mm sound follower
Kinoton 2000m rewinder
Dolby MPU1
Sony U-Matic player
Sony Betacam SP player
Sony S-VHS recorder
4 table microphones
3 stereo power amplifiers
monitoring amplifiers with speaker units

Newly supplied and installed:

Reverse scan sound devices, with accelerated drive for change-over
Dolby CP650D processor
4 CPS2 stereo power amplifiers
Ampetronic ILD252 induction loop amplifier
2 new Kinoton amplifier racks
3 projection booth panels
12 JBL 8330A surround speakers
8 video and audio routing switchers with patch cables
Spectral 240 3D screen
screen frame 3.15x7.90m (10.3 ft x 26 ft)
double vertical screen masking system with 8 programmable positions each and free positioning
horizontal screen masking system
textiles and drapery
special control device for coupling the masking systems
audio mixing panel
2 wireless radio microphone systems
EVI 12 sound speakers
2-channel infrared transmission system
multi format video player (Betacam SP, SX, IMX, digital)
studio video recorder (Betacam SP)
boundary layer microphone
2 microprocessor controlled table microphones for interpreters
1 headphone amplifier
2 headphones
1 interface amplifier for the connection of presentation PC's in the stage area