BRINGING BACK THE BRIGHTNESS

PANASONIC FLAGSHIP PROJECTOR USED FOR PROJECTION MAPPING ON FAÇADE OF THE BUCHAREST PALACE OF PARLIAMENT
In September 2014, to celebrate the 555th anniversary of the first documented record of the Romanian capital, the facade of the Bucharest Palace of the Parliament was transformed into a giant outdoor theatre for the first time.

The iMapp event was watched live by an estimated 100,000 people and proved so popular that it was repeated in 2015.

The second edition brought together the four primordial elements: earth, wind, fire and water. 37 video mapping artists from around the world answered the call to participate. Of these, six teams were selected: AVA (Mexico), Dirty Monitor (Belgium), Urbanscreen (Germany), RadugaDesign (Russia), Light Event Consulting (France) and MotionScape (Romania).

Once again, the infamous Palace of the Parliament, was to provide the backdrop on to which the teams would display their video mapping masterpieces.

Built in 1990, it is the second largest administrative building in the world, behind the Pentagon, USA. The vast symbol of communism can be seen from space and now serves as an attraction for tens of thousands of tourists every year.

The demand for more

An impressive 104 Panasonic ultra-high brightness projectors were used to create the huge display by using edge blending and geometric mapping software to create a single seamless image. Architectural lighting was also added in sync with the projection show.

Five Pandora Box QUAD Servers from Coolux were used for control.

Adrian Pochiscan, Technical Director of 360 Revolution, the company that produced the show, said, “iMapp is one of the biggest projection mappings in the world. The palace is the second largest civilian building in the world, and the video projection covered an area of 290m x 80m, or more than 23,000m².”

Upgraded projection

Panasonic’s newly launched flagship projector, the PT-DZ21K2 Evo offers breathtakingly beautiful images, easy maintenance, and reliable operation. Featuring 20,000 lumens of brightness and a host of rich creative capabilities, the projector is packed into an extraordinarily compact body.

With the PT-DZ21K2 Evo, every feature is designed and developed to meet the needs of highly critical projection professionals.

It is the updated version of the DZ21K series which has been used extensively across the rental and staging industry, most recently at the Circle of Light Festival in Moscow. 142 projectors were used to create a Guinness World Record for the largest projected image.

“We were able to take advantage of the new PT-DZ21K2 Evo. A total of 104 projectors generated a beam of over two million lumens,” continued Adrian Pochiscan.

“Brightness was very important. A pixel projected on the building was just 2.3cm, which is tiny compared to the area we needed to project on and the distance to the audience.”

Panasonic has redesigned the lamp modulation system, which has lowered the power consumption and extended the recommended lamp replacement from 2,000 hours to 3,000 hours. The new series is significantly more efficient, due to the use of reusable, long-life eco filters and lower-wattage lamps. A hermetic liquid cooling system has reduced noise levels from 49 dB to 46 dB, which represents a 50 per cent drop in perceived noise.

“The new projector has many enhanced features, the energy consumption has decreased by 10% and the image quality has improved with the newly developed picture enhancement system. The powerful new Real Motion Processor enables 120 frames per second,” explained Eduard Tronaru, Panasonic Partner Account Manager.

“With this projector only two installation crew members are required to handle it, it weighs 43kg, making it easy to stack into towers. Each projector also has four lamps so, if one lamp fails, the show will go on.”