



Specialist sound, light & video systems integrators

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Case Study: Crystal Bar, The Dorchester Hotel

www.dorchesterhotel.com



Outline

The Crystal Bar carries through the Dorchester's themes of luxury, quality and high service standards to late night opening. Opening from the refined calm of the promenade, it offers relaxed drinks and discrete corporate or VIP entertainment. Following successful commissions, CGA Integration was chosen to provide an audio system reflecting the Dorchester signature values through high quality, attention to detail and intuitive operation.



Challenges

The Crystal Bar is a compact, opulent venue finished to a high degree of craftsmanship. The installation had to fit with the design brief, be invisible – and yet provide a dynamic audio range and usage flexibility for many different occasions. Interfacing with the hotel fire alarm and procedures was also essential.



Function Brief

Consultation with the Dorchester identified an extremely varied scope for events and entertainment. Routine opening required background music, while anticipated demand for special events ranged from live sporting and news events, film and product launches, DJ nights, private parties and karaoke. Live duos or bands should be able to play on the house PA or their own PA and the bar offered several options for positioning to create a unique feel for all events.



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Video

Video distribution architecture has also been included to widen opportunities and entertainment. A feed from the hotel system supplies live TV, but potential to add custom video or entertainment via direct input was included.



Technical

CGA Integration used Peavey X frame processing and wall mounted X- controls to create three zones in the bar, including an optionally secluded VIP area, allowing flexibility, sound quality control and customisation. Inputs from DJ console, two radio microphones, live

band and customised music solution, create a mix of opportunities for normal operation or high profile unique occasions. Band & sound engineer positions can be varied around the bar. Even, balanced audio is delivered from a carefully specified mix of EV S40 wall speakers and Evid c4.2 ceiling speakers, warmed by Evid 10.1 bass bins and Martin Audio. Mid and HF audio is driven by Cloud multichannel amps with EV Q series on the bass.

Response

Vivid commented after the successful opening night for 200 people: 'Vivid Interiors have successfully worked with CGA on a number of prestigious projects and the Crystal Bar at the Dorchester Hotel was another clear example why we continue our working relationship with them. This project involved CGA taking a proactive role in the coordination of the sound and lighting system to ensure that the architectural scheme was not compromised. The results were fantastic and the client delighted.'



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