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CASE STUDY
NATO Summit Wales 2014

Lighting for International Delegates and Media



KEY INFORMATION

- **THE CLIENT**
Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- **PRODUCTION AGENCY**
M-IS
- **VENUES**
Celtic Manor, Cardiff Castle
Welsh College of Music and Drama
HMS Duncan, moored in Cardiff
- **PROJECT TIMELINE**
Planning: 2 Months
Installation: 7 Days on site at Celtic Manor
Strike: Venues cleared in less than 12 hrs
- **BRIEF**
Deliver presentation- ready lighting, rigging, and power for NATO Summit Wales 2014 including meeting rooms, media areas, and conference dinners
- **ESSENTIAL REQUIREMENTS**
 - Impeccable presentation, Fit to tight deadlines, Suited to TV & Broadcast

Creative production agency M-is recently called on White Light to deliver lighting, rigging, and power distribution for the 2014 Wales Summit of the North Atlantic Trade Association (NATO). The international event welcomed more than 1500 delegates and nearly 2000 members of the press to Wales for two days in September 2014. White Light Project Manager Richard Saunders oversaw the project for White Light, working closely with M and other suppliers to achieve photo-ready spaces across four venues.

"Flawless presentation was the goal," said Saunders. To get there, the team relied on nearly two months of pre-planning, seven days of on-site prep, centrally managed technical drawings, and a tightly monitored production schedule. As the event was photographed and broadcast to the public around the world, it wasn't just about how it looked to the eye. Saunders explained, "We designed the lighting to suit the functions of the room but also look great on camera."

Overall, White Light supplied more than 300 metres of rigging truss and more than 350 lighting fixtures across four venues. At its height, during the event dinners, the total on-site White Light crew for the project totaled 34. Lighting fixtures included a mix of sources and fixture type from LED profiles and purpose built broadcast light panels to high output HMI units and weather-proof event uplighters.

High Quality Production on a Large Scale



At A Glance:

- 34 White Light Crew
- 4 Venues Across Cardiff
- 350+ Lighting Fixtures
- 300+ Metres of Rigging
- 1000+ Metres of Cable
- 12 Hours to Clear Venues

"For such a high profile event, we needed a lighting supplier that we could trust. White Light delivered exceptional results under quite unique pressures. The coverage looked great and feedback about the event was fantastic! "



Stewart Hudd
Project Manager, M-is

Unique Venues - Unique Challenges



CELTIC MANOR

In Celtic Manor (above), the main venue for the NATO Conference, White Light supplied lighting and rigging for the main meeting room (right) as well as listening rooms, photo areas and press/media areas. As these rooms would be seen around the world through photo and broadcast coverage - everything had to be up to the highest standard. White Light teams arrived 7 days prior to the event to organise equipment and ensure a successful installation. Post-event the team was able to clear the venue in less than 12 hours.



CARDIFF CASTLE

Cardiff Castle, seen by broadcast viewers for the exterior 'family shot', also hosted an event dinner for top delegates. White Light supplied lighting for the castle's exterior, the media areas, and exterior walkways. The team also brought the castle's architecture to life inside by adding uplighters and coloured environment lighting to suit the occasion for the conference dinner. The castle, which is usually open to the public, needed to be ready to reopen the next day, giving the team only a few hours to clear both interior and exterior equipment.



Meticulous Planning & Flawless Presentation



HMS DUNCAN

HMS Duncan, perhaps the most unique venue of the event, posed its own challenges. As the ship would arrive only one day before delegates, Project Manager Richard Saunders arranged for lighting equipment to be placed onboard several days ahead of time, while HMS Duncan was docked elsewhere. As the space was not originally designed for events, the team also had to work out power and rigging plans from scratch. Once the ship arrived in Cardiff, White Light crews had a small time window for installation and adjustments.



ROYAL WELSH COLLEGE OF MUSIC & DRAMA

A third conference dinner was held at the Royal Welsh College. White Light provided event lighting for the dinner and surrounding rooms as well as photo and media areas. With varying requirements and schedules at each venue, White Light provided dedicated crew and crew leaders at each location including Royal Welsh College so the events could be run independently, with oversight from a centrally location Project Manager.





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We like keeping in touch with our customers, partners and friends.



Photography Credits:

Cover - Photography by Stefan Rousseau

P1, P2, P3 - Photo courtesy of NATO

P4 - Photography by Patrick Tui

Back cover - Photo courtesy of NATO

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