

## Lorient

### Lead role at the Young Vic theatre

A combination of Lorient's acoustic, smoke and fire seals has been installed in one of London's most loved and unique theatrical venues, the Young Vic. Theatre specialists Hawarth Tompkins completed the rebuilding project 2007, creating an informal, unique space while maintaining its *ad hoc* ambience.

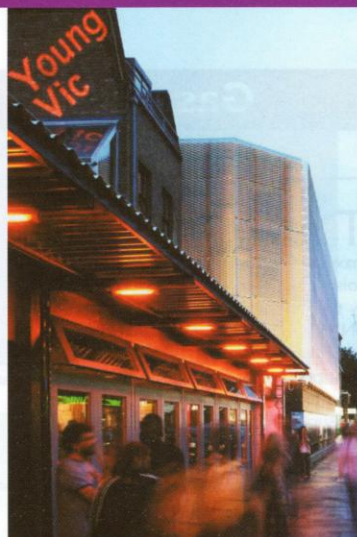
The Young Vic required the doors to achieve an acoustical rating of 35dB  $R_w$ , both to enable the sound in the auditorium to be amplified without disturbing the rest of the building, and also to prevent noise from the outside disturbing performances. The high-performance acoustic doors were fitted with an integrated sealing system, incorporating Lorient's acoustic and smoke perimeter seal - the curved fin batwing® - a plain fire seal and the IS8010 si automatic threshold seal. This selection of Lorient seals was

also installed throughout the rehearsal areas, changing rooms and around the public spaces, providing an effective, practical solution for acoustic insulation, smoke control and fire containment, to meet the requirements of Approved Documents E and B.

However, the need for access for all, covered by Approved Document M, demands that many doors have minimum operating forces to enable doors to be easily used. With 100,000 people, young and old, passing through the Young Vic each year, it was vital to fit a sealing system that did not impede the door's smooth operation. The Lorient seals provide exceptionally low frictional resistance to everyday opening and closing forces to help the doors meet Document M requirements.

Lorient's integrated approach, which the company calls its Threeedom® concept, provides a straightforward solution to enable the requirements of all three Approved Documents to be met, and offers complete peace of mind for specifiers, installers and clients.

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The Young Vic's front doors are designed for an  $R_w$  of 35dB

## Soundguard Acoustics Ltd

### NoiseMeters Equipment at Notting Hill Carnival 2008

Soundguard Acoustics Ltd was contracted to undertake the first Control of Noise at Work risk assessment for this year's London Notting Hill Carnival and selected NoiseMeters Ltd to provide the noise monitoring instruments.

London Notting Hill Carnival has existed since 1965 and now, in its 44th year, has grown to become the largest street festival in Europe. Carnival provides an annual reminder that music, good times and dancing will bring over 1.5 million people together in a defining moment of multiculturalism. The traditional Caribbean roots of the Trinidadian and Barbadian communities is voiced by the music of steelpan and drums, sitting alongside the Jamaican sound systems which arrived in the 1970s. Stacks of battered speakers and amplifiers have become one of the quintessential images of Notting Hill Carnival, the noise levels of which are possibly only outdone by the parade route and the thousands of masquerades.

NoiseMeters provided 30 Cirrus CR:110A Dosebadges, two RC:110A Dosebadge readers, and three Cirrus Type I integrating sound level meters to support the Cirrus equipment already in use by Soundguard. Rob Shaddick is director of Soundguard Acoustics and said that because the company already used Cirrus equipment, they were confident in hiring further units to fulfil this contract. NoiseMeters was able to provide the quantity of equipment required and was very supportive. The correspondence was professional, the equipment arrived on time and the whole service represented excellent value for money.

Working with the London Notting Hill Carnival Ltd, the London Metropolitan Police and the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea, the Soundguard consultants formulated a plan that would reveal the likely noise doses of carnival marshals, judges, security and traders as well as the levels of noise at policing locations, first aid points, and entry points to the carnival route. In addition

the sound level outputs of the passing floats, background levels, noise mapping and a complete assessment of all 40 static sound systems were studied.

After the contract Rob Shaddick reported that the Dosebadges and sound level meters had been terrific, and the consultants had been happy and confident in using the equipment. The way in which the equipment was arranged and delivered in a short time scale had been excellent. The approach from the outset had been to maintain the vibrant and noisy tradition of Carnival, whilst reducing the noise exposure risk of those working on it, a challenge in itself. The same team and methods would be fundamental in the planning of next year's Notting Hill Carnival.

#### Contact details

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The team prepares the sound level meters



Dosebadges ready for deployment



Yes, it is switched on - it's just the camera angle!