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Elation Lighting on Dierks Bentley's "Somewhere on a Beach" Tour

Dierks Bentley is hot. Not only has the country artist's latest album "Black" debuted at No. 1 on the Billboard and Top Album Sales charts this summer, he's been selling out his "Somewhere on a Beach" tour at nearly every stop and has recently added a second leg that will have him out on the road through October.

Lighting Designer Chris Reade is in his 10th year with Dierks Bentley and for this year's summer tour has a large automated lighting rig at his disposal, a setup that includes Elation Professional's industry-standard beam light, the Platinum Beam 5R™, along with the increasingly popular SixPar 200™ color-changing LED Par light. The "Somewhere on a Beach" Tour is the largest touring production to date for the multi-Platinum singer and features a unique spearhead set design and large diamond-shaped drum riser. The large rig used to support the lighting includes a series of automated trusses, which allows for a variety of looks and shifts in tempo.



Reade uses Platinum Beam 5R fixtures with its 189W Platinum 5R lamp and 2.5° beam angle. "The 5R's are used more as a specialty instrument like big chorus looks for example," Reade explains. "I also use them in other songs with the frost feature for more subtle 'tempo' type verse looks. I prefer the color choices available on the 5R vs others for this tour. They have taken a beating, and keep coming back for more."

Reade has the Platinum 5Rs located in the air (12) on automated trusses with an additional 15 on the floor and set. With a fair amount of video in the show, including an upstage LED screen and large LED screen fronting the drum riser, the Platinum 5R's are also able to cut through the ambient video light.

Also in the setup are 30 SixPar 200 Par lights with homogenized RGBWA+UV LED source, which are used across the rig for truss toning. "I chose the SixPars as I don't like LEDs that show multi-colored diodes and wanted the color mixing behind the lens," Reade states. "They are located on every truss for toners and make the automation aspects of this year's tour very apparent." The SixPar 200 houses a high-



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power 6-color LED multi-chip (12x 12-watt LEDs) and can be used as a wash light, uplight, wall wash, truss warmer and more. "Both the Platinum Beam 5Rs and the SixPars have performed extremely well," Reade says.

Production designer for the tour is Bruce Rodgers of Tribe Inc., who Reade says is an honor to work with. "His creativity and vision are a huge inspiration to me," he stated. Christie Lites is supplying the lighting for the tour. "Rod 'Red' Gibson is our account rep and I can't say enough positives about my experience working with him. It's truly been a pleasure." Marc "Chainsaw" Wuchter is the head rigger and lighting crew chief. Also on the lighting crew are Jacob Alexander, Tim Lighthall and Heather Cossette. Automation is by Sebastien Richard. Production manager is Jay Ballinger. "I love our crew and this show wouldn't happen without them," Reade concludes. Dierks Bentley has been touring the U.S. in support of the "Black" release since May 12th.

Photos: Todd Kaplan

About Elation Professional

Elation Professional is one of the world's leading lighting and visual solutions providers and is the global brand of Elation Lighting. Founded in 1992 and headquartered in Los Angeles, with European sales, distribution and support based in The Netherlands, Elation designs and manufactures a comprehensive range of innovative yet affordable lighting and video products that are distributed through a global network of dealers and distributors. Made up of a spirited team of dedicated personnel, Elation is setting new efficiency and performance standards in Platinum lamp and LED technology and is acknowledged for a comprehensive commitment to Total Support. As a company in expansion with a presence in a growing variety of market segments, chances are you've experienced Elation lighting at a concert, special event, TV, theater, late night venue, House of Worship, theme park, cruise ship, exhibition, architectural space or elsewhere. For more information, please visit www.elationlighting.com

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