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## Houben Souren and Elation team up on MECC auditorium renewals

AV rental and production company Houben Souren has installed Elation [Fuze Profile™](#) and [Colour 5 Profile™](#) luminaires in two auditoriums in the recently refurbished Maastricht Exhibition and Convention Center (MECC) in the Netherlands. As the audiovisual partner for the biggest convention center in the southern part of the country, Houben Souren enjoys special insight into the audiovisual needs of the venue and drew upon its close relationship with Elation's European office to realize a successful installation.



The upgrades to the facility, begun in 2019, included investment in new lighting equipment for two newly renovated auditoriums. Under the supervision of theatre consultants Theater Advies bv and the MECC, Houben Souren won the tender and was awarded the contract to deliver and install the new lighting gear.

Tijs Verfurth, Operations Manager at Houben Souren, contacted Bert Schmeits, Key Account Manager Benelux at Elation, for input on a suitable solution. “We were looking for an LED-based light that was silent; something with a framing option and good color mixing,” Verfurth explains. “The venue also needed an automated fixture with a high CRI value because the congresses are often livestreamed and recorded on camera so good quality lighting was a must.”

### **Performance vs price ratio**

Schmeits and Verfurth considered several options before examining closely the Fuze Profile LED moving head and eventually setting up an on-location demo. “The MECC were surprised at the output and were excited about its performance vs price ratio,” says Verfurth. “The assumption was that if we were going to spec automated lights, we wouldn't have the budget for many fixtures. With this fixture

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though, we got a very good product at the right price range, a good combination of product features and price that fit the project well. It was a real win-win.”

The Fuze Profile, with its 305W RGBMA LED engine and high CRI, is loaded with features: two gobo wheels, animation wheel, full blackout framing, 7° to 42° zoom, variable frost, prism, iris and more, and also provides color manipulation features like virtual color temperature and Magenta/Green adjustment plus CMY emulation. Output is over 10,000 lumens.

“Each auditorium had 1000W and 2000W conventional lights installed sometime in the 1980s so this was a significant upgrade. With the color mixing, animation wheel and framing, there are a lot more possibilities with the Fuze Profile compared to a conventional profile light.”



### **Two auditoriums into one**

The auditoriums are situated back to back and are unique in that a dividing wall can be retracted to combine the two rooms (1100 and 600 capacity) into one large performance space for 1700 guests. Each auditorium houses 14 Fuze Profiles for front lighting while Colour 5 Profile ellipsoidals with 180W RGBAM LED engines and 26-degree lenses, 8 per auditorium, provide top light from positions in overhead electrics.

All of the lights are discreetly hidden in the space, an aesthetic that could have had consequences for the lighting crew. “The way the space is built, it is very difficult to access the fixtures to focus them manually,” Verfurth says. You need someone to put on a harness and climb up into the ceiling. With the Fuze Profile we can focus at every moment from the lighting console so that’s really a lot more efficient, and we are always able to adapt to last second changes.”

### **NETRON**

When data distribution for the system was discussed, Tijs turned to the NETRON RDM645™ and NETRON EN4™ from Obsidian Control Systems, a brand he is very familiar with from his many visits to Elation’s nearby Kerkrade office. “I visit the Elation office several times a year so I am quite up to date on the different brands and what is available,” he said. “The NETRON products both look nice and work flawlessly so they were the best choice for this installation.”

### **Houben Souren**



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Roermond Location  
Noordhoven 17  
Industrienummer 5511  
6042 NW Roermond  
+31 (0)475 724 700  
info@houbensouren.nl  
www.houbensouren.nl

**About Elation Professional**

Based in California with facilities in Florida and Mexico City, as well as European offices in The Netherlands, Elation designs and manufactures a comprehensive range of innovative lighting products known for its superior performance, excellent efficiency, and outstanding price: value ratio, all backed by a hard-earned reputation for Total Support. Elation also offers an advanced line of lighting control products through Obsidian Control Systems, as well as a full range of dependable specialty effects called Magmatic. Our mission has always been simple: to provide best-in-class products and service while offering the best value: performance ratio in the industry. Elation products continue to be a part of the industry's most exciting projects across the globe. We invite you to take a closer look at [www.elationlighting.com](http://www.elationlighting.com)

For more information, contact:

**Elation Professional US**

6122 S. Eastern Avenue  
Los Angeles, CA 90040  
USA  
Tel: (866) 245-6726 (toll free)  
Tel: (323) 582-3322  
sales@elationlighting.com  
www.elationlighting.com

**Elation Professional EU**

Junostraat 2.  
6468 EW Kerkrade  
The Netherlands  
Tel: +31 (0)45 546 85 66  
info@elationlighting.eu  
www.elationlighting.eu

**Elation Professional Mexico**

Av Santa Ana 30,  
Parque Industrial Lerma,  
Lerma, Mexico 52000  
Tel: +011 52 728 282 7070  
ventas@elationlighting.com  
www.elationlighting.com