



Smart-e

Case Study

Project	Visitor Centre
Client	The Epic Project
Product	SNX-8x8+
Location	Lincolnshire

Smart-e equipment used in £7m environmental centre



The Smart-e SNX-8x8+ distribution matrix was chosen by sound and vision company Hi Q Sound to feed signals to projectors in six zones of the Epic Project, a new £7m multi-purpose facility in Lincolnshire.



About the Epic Project

At over 100 metres long and 10 metres high, the Epic Project is one of the largest exhibition and seminar spaces of its type to be built in the UK. Sitting within Lincolnshire Showground, the centre provides a new multi-purpose space that operates as an educational hub promoting ways to tackle climate change. The centre also features three huge spaces which can be transformed into a variety of uses for business meetings, exhibitions and trade shows etc, and which can even be converted into a ballroom or concert venue.

The 'green credentials' were extremely important

The inspiration for the project was to provide a centre of environmental innovation that explores low carbon technologies and response to global warming; therefore the build and 'green credentials' of the equipment within the building were paramount. The construction ethos focused on sustainable materials, with minimal use of concrete and structural steel. The building includes rainwater harvesting, a living green

roof, a natural ventilation system and use of renewable energy, including unusual helical wind turbines that rotate on a vertical axis. Smart-e's matrix provides more efficient power consumption by remote powering the receivers from the matrix, whilst the use of aluminium enclosures, as opposed to non-recyclable plastics, ticks another environmentally-aware box. To view the Epic Project, visit www.epic-project.org

Smart-e's matrix delivers video content to six screens

Completed in June 2008, the building features three interlinked exhibition halls, effectively managed as six separate zones which can change in size to accommodate usage. The Smart-e SNX-8x8+ distribution matrix, housed in the main communications room, transmits signals to six projector screens located across the six zones. Hi Q Sound chose the Smart-e SNX-8x8+ above other matrices because it gave the most flexible and cost-effective solution for having multiple inputs with multiple outputs. The added advantage is that the unit is designed and manufactured here in the UK - to reduce the carbon footprint of the build, use of British products was high on the tender remit.





As Tony Hopkinson, partner at Hi Q Sound said "From an early point in the design process we decided that the quality of audio and video was to be placed to the forefront, with less emphasis on flashy digital control systems. Nice as they are, they would have eaten into



the tight budget leaving little money to spend on what we feel is important in the experience for the visitor. Our design is a largely analogue based control system that is flexible and easy to use.

Tony added "We used Smart-e's SNX-8x8+ matrix because their equipment is specifically designed to work with CAT 5*

the building is flood wired with CAT 5e - the result is that additional screens/projectors can be temporarily added to the system in various parts of the building's exhibition spaces. Two of the main halls feature two additional video outlet points in suitable locations when temporary screens are hired in, however all of the CAT 5e cabled points are within the limits of the matrix at XGA resolutions due to the central location of the comms and AV racks."



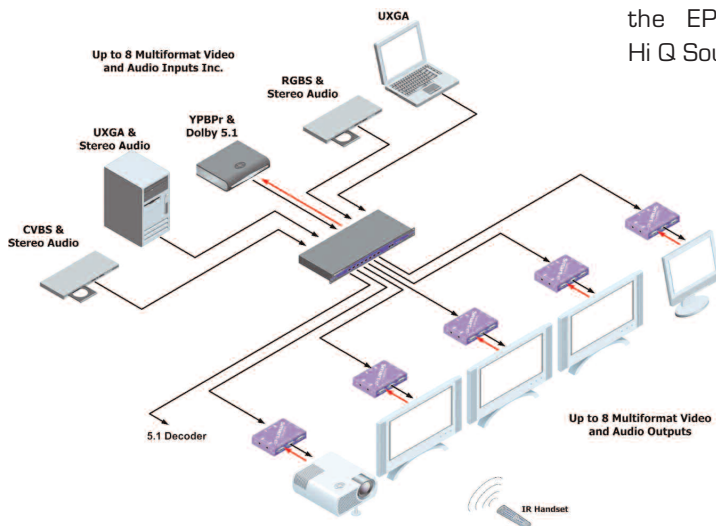
The Smart-e SNX-8x8+ distribution matrix used at the Epic Project

Smarte's SNX-8x8+

The Smart-e SNX-8x8+ is a compact matrix providing very high quality video and audio switching, with resolution up to 1600 x 1200. It is HDTV compatible (720p, 1080i, 1080p) features IR and RS232/422 control, PC Windows software controls and distributes signals up to 300m. The SNX-8x8+ provides a unique 'one cable solution' as it distributes via inexpensive and easy-to-install CAT 5 (and above) structured cabling.

About Hi Q Sound

Formed in 1986 Hi Q Sound designs and manufactures a range of components for PA systems and provides integrated AV solutions to installers and other PA companies. The company has developed a broad range of high specification SPL loudspeakers and associated analogue processing products, providing high performance, high SPL and versatile music reproduction of both live and recorded material. The company's products have been installed in a multitude of venues across the UK for clients including MOD, RAF and Army establishments in the north east, Babcock Dyncorp, Daubney, EDF Energy, CENTRICA, Motor Sport Vision Ltd Cadwell Park Circuit, Wharfedale IAG, Walkers Snack Foods and the EPIC Centre. For further information on Hi Q Sound visit: www.hiqsound.co.uk



A typical application for the SNX-8x8+

* Smart-e equipment is suitable for use with CAT 5, 5e, 6, 7 and 8 structured cabling.