

SYSTEMS SOLUTIONS



Overnewton's State-of-The-Art Sports and Performing Arts Complex

By Jade Leopoldo

Overnewton Anglican Community College has a proud history of encouraging and supporting its students to achieve in a wide variety of endeavours. As a result, the school has always made a point of providing its students with the greatest facilities in which to foster their learning. This was no more evident than in the recent development of the Sports and Performing Arts (SPA) complex. Completed in 2007, the centre was purpose built as a multi-functional space for sports, performing arts, assemblies and chapels.

Having completed works for the school previously, D.I.B Australia was invited to assist in the planning process by Mr Sean Kaule (Head of IS). After developing a design for this advanced space, which successfully met with the schools requirements, D.I.B was chosen as the supply and installation organisation, and was to work closely with consultants from CPS (Connor Pincus & Saunders) and Project Managers CBRE Projects.





With the installation now complete, the central feature on the ground floor is a large stage area that opens out to the assembly hall and the larger sports hall (indoor basketball court). Both these areas enable a range of small and large congregations to meet for assemblies and other events. Located approximately 2 metres from the stage edge (facing the indoor court) is the showpiece; a rear projection screen that combines the two areas. Projecting towards the audience, the screen is ideal in this high light environment as it allows assemblies to take place in near daylight conditions, whilst still providing the audience with excellent picture quality. The screen works in conjunction with the EPSON EMP-8300, a powerful projector that affords high-quality rear-projection images.

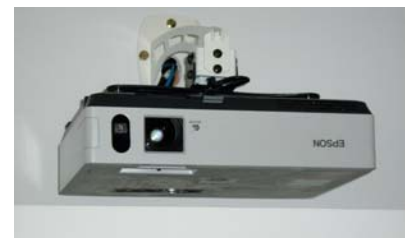
Both the screen and projector are controlled by a Joey Lite control panel, which, at the simple touch of a button can fire up the projector and lower the screen ready for action. Control of large auditoriums or lecture theatres such as Overnewton's SPA centre can be quite complex. However, with the addition of a Joey Lite panel, presenters at the school can stand in front of an assembly audience, confident in the knowledge that the entire space is under their control.

In the assembly area, two LCD colour touch screens control the sophisticated audiovisual system. This area provides the opportunity for a range of presentation options and allows for a high level of noise separation. It includes 20-premium ceiling speakers that are fully sealed with each speaker enclosed in its own metal box adding bass response and audio isolation so that sound doesn't travel to the music precinct on the upper level.



The installation of an advanced 'control switcher' is another handy addition, as it enables users to control the projector in the drama area with a projection screen in the assembly area. This means that when the school runs a smaller assembly in the multipurpose area, it will only be a matter of opening the doors and pressing this button to join the two areas if needed. The switcher also enables the drama space to operate either stand-alone (as a part of the Assembly area) or as a projection solution in the Gym space.

The Gym (indoor basketball court) space itself, can hold up to 2200 hundred students at any one time. It includes an amplifier, which is linked to the AV system in the drama space to facilitate integration with the large rear projection screen when required. It also includes special sound sphere speakers designed specifically for this type of environment, which are suspended from the roof structure above and 'drop' the audio onto



listeners below, minimising echo and power wastage.

Rounding out the install, the upper level music precinct incorporates intricately designed practical spaces and classrooms complete with EPSON EMP-82 projectors, Joey Micro control panels, interactive whiteboards and panoramic views of the city and surrounds.

Overall, Overnewton's state-of-the-art SPA centre is a complex system that integrates seamlessly, demonstrating the significant flexibility, which can be achieved with combined AV technology in a large multi-purpose area. www.dibaustalia.com.au