

Shanghai Gets the Checkered Flag



Formula One raced into Shanghai for the first time and drivers and teams alike are relishing the challenge in a country rapidly establishing itself as a sought after sporting venue. If any doubts remained, they faded in the exhaust fumes as Rubens Barrichello's flaming red Ferrari F1 shrieked past the checkered flag before thousands of fans at the first Chinese Grand Prix auto race.



The drivers were helped by an outstanding new track which combines a rich architectural spectacle with a layout that encourages the drivers to attempt the breath taking maneuvers that can be the thrill of motor racing.

In 18 months, the 5.2 km² parcel of land was transformed from a muddy field to a world-class track. Designed by renowned architect, Hermann Tilke, the circuit, loosely mirroring the Chinese character "shang", meaning upwards, can hold 200,000 spectators, including more than 29,000 in the grandstand opposite the pits.

The Sinopec Chinese Grand Prix set out to integrate a sound system solution that copes with a high level of background noise at races with the long throwing distances of the large circuit. Both clear intelligible speech and music were essential requirements. The owners of the track also

did not want the sound system elements to interfere with the elegant architecture. Bose Greater China met the challenge.

The 400m long grandstand complex on the main straight away of the circuit is the focus of the entire construction and employs the most elaborate part of the speaker system. Using Bose® Modeler® software and Auditorer® systems, the technical department of Bose Greater China Operations, was able to predict acoustic performance accurately and make the precise decisions on speaker models, cluster positioning and their aiming angles. "As F1 cars generate over 130dB of noise, sound systems must be powerful enough to compete and sophisticated enough to provide clear speech for the spectators." commented Ma Jun, assistant technical manager, Bose Greater China.

Two rows of Panaray® LT clusters provided smooth and even coverage for music and commentary for the grandstand spectators. To meet stringent requirements for other outdoor and indoor areas, FreeSpace® Model 32SE environmental speakers and over 1,000 FreeSpace Model 16, known for its wide 170 degrees conical firing pattern, were installed throughout the Grand Prix venue.



THE VENUE:

The Sinopec Chinese Grand Prix makes history with the opening of the first Formula One auto racing circuit in China.

THE CHALLENGE:

Design and install a sound system that can add to the excitement and entertainment value of a world class race track. Do not intrude on the clean architectural lines of the grandstands.

THE SOLUTION:

Custom designed Panaray® LT system along with FreeSpace® Model 16 and Model 32SE loudspeakers throughout the concourses and concession areas of the venue.

THE RESULT:

At the momentous introduction of F1 racing to China, over 150,000 spectators enjoy the roar of the engines and still hear the announcements and music.

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