

Audio Insiders

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weakest link in the system.

Does it Carry That Weight?

The loudspeaker rigging hardware system can be the safest system in the world, but the venue must be able to support the load in order for the system to be of benefit. Specific load points should be available at any venue where loudspeaker arrays are to be flown.

Venue load points should be engineered and load rated with a design factor in place and for a specific load angle. Many venues will have specified suspension points in the ceiling structure. These points must have a specified working load limit. Don't take the production manager's word for it. Ask for proof! Remember who is responsible if there is an accident.

Larger venues may have a support structure constructed from steel, concrete,

or wooden beams. Again, any suspension point should be load rated and the 5:1 design factor must be applied. In any case, the work performed to attach to the venue structure should only be done by a qualified professional rigger.

Flying loudspeaker enclosures can be a challenging. And the benefits of a flying loudspeaker system are substantial. The added intelligibility and increased gain distribution can transform a potentially mediocre show into a brilliant success. But in all cases, the process of flying loudspeaker enclosures must always be approached with one primary concern—SAFETY. **LSI**

Andrew Martin is President of ATM Fly-Ware, Carson, CA.

ATM Fly-Ware is a manufacturer of loudspeaker rigging hardware systems, internal bracing hardware, and other rigging accessories as well as a consultant for loudspeaker rigging applications. You can con-

Loudspeaker Flying Check List

- ✓ Strong Finances
- ✓ Morally Responsible
- ✓ Fully Insured for Rigging
- ✓ Enclosures are Built for Flying
- ✓ Structural Certification In hand
- ✓ 5:1 Design Factor in Place
- ✓ All Rated for Overhead Suspension
- ✓ Qualified Riggers Doing Work
- ✓ Equipment Used Properly
- ✓ Using Venue Specified Points
- ✓ 5:1 Design Factor on Venue

Graphic #2: Loudspeaker Flying Checklist

tact ATM Fly-Ware at VOX (310) 834-5914 / FAX(310) 834-3042, or by mail at 21000 S. Wilmington Avenue, Carson, CA 90810-1247 USA.

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