CASE STUDY

NAME: Baxall Pyramid System Installed at IMAX Theatre in Germany

CASE: IMAX CINECITTA, NUREMBERG

BAXALL PYRAMID SYSTEM INSTALLED AT IMAX THEATRE IN GERMANY

Baxall Ltd. - the UK's leading manufacturer of CCTV equipment - has had its Pyramid matrix system installed in the new IMAX theatre in Nuremberg, Germany.

Opened at the beginning of the year, the IMAX am CineCitta Nuremberg has set records for a European multiplex attraction, welcoming more than 140,000 visitors in eight weeks. On average, 3,000 a day visit the complex. Situated in the heart of Nuremberg, it is built completely underground to a depth of seven stories and features 18 screens, along with the IMAX theatre itself.

To monitor this number of visitors and cinemas - and all the exits and entrances - an extensive CCTV system has been installed by VIDEOSYSTEMS GmbH, featuring 160 cameras and 45 domes. The cameras are controlled by a Baxall Pyramid matrix switching system.

At the heart of the Pyramid system is the matrix itself, featuring 48 video inputs and 16 monitor outputs. A further Baxall 'slave' matrix has been added to it to double the video inputs, along with eight PCB alarm input units. Such a set up allows any camera in the complex, including the infra red ones in the cinemas, to be held and sequenced on any monitor. In addition to the obvious safety function, this also enables operators and visitors to see what film is being shown and how many seats are still available as the infra red camera images are displayed on monitors outside each cinema screen.

A high speed RS485 data link is used to connect the matrices to the cameras, ensuring full and immediate control of the cameras' functions, including fixed and variable speed pan, tilt and zoom. These are operated via four Pyramid keyboards i n the control room.

Installation of the Pyramid system was made simple and efficient through the use of the new Pyramid installation tool. The PY2-INS installation tool is a serial adapter which allows connection of a standard PC or laptop computer to the Pyramid matrix. All devices operated through Pyramid can then be configured remotely, including titles, sequences, alarm configurations and other Pyramid matrix functions. This makes the whole installation and commissioning process simple, quick and cost-effective and a comprehensive record is maintained on PC.