



Masque Sound and Akustiks Install New System for Better Intelligibility at St. Bartholomew's Church

St. Bartholomew's Church on Park Avenue is a New York City landmark, holding one of the world's 10 largest pipe organs and hosting historic acoustical performances. But speech intelligibility has been an issue since the venue's opening 92 years ago.

Enter New York-based installer Masque Sound and Norwalk, Conn.-based Akustiks LLC, who calculated and analyzed the acoustic signature of the room to develop a model that helped create a comprehensive solution for the speech intelligibility problems.

Masque Sound deployed Intellivox DC 500 speakers in the main chapel, balconies and adjoining restaurant, used for weddings and other events. With no existing conduit run through the historic structure, a cumulative run of over 5,000 feet of cable was laid and connected to a total of 19 separate mic and speaker interface panels throughout the church. Ground-penetrating radar was used to guide the placement of discrete holes drilled through two-foot-thick brick walls and concrete flooring to avoid old gas or electric lines.

The installation sounds terrific according to Greg Harper, a key member of the St. Barts Building Committee who helped guide the sound system upgrade. "Not once since it's been online have I had to leave my family during worship to run the system myself."

www.akustiks.net | www.dandugan.com | www.duran-audio.com

www.masquesound.com | www.stbarts.org ■

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