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SYMNET NEWS

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SymNet Goes to the Beach

TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS, CARIBBEAN:

A new favorite destination for the super rich and incomparably beautiful, the recently-completed Nikki Beach Resort and Spa, Turks & Caicos Islands, Caribbean is self-consciously glamorous, extremely expensive, and lavishly luxurious. Leeward Marina, owner of the resort (and the island!) hired Pensacola's All Pro Sound to design, build, and install a sound system befitting the glamour of the resort.

Dennis Ryan, commercial design specialist, relied on a SymNet open-architecture DSP system, in conjunction with a Crestron touch-screen interface to carve the resort's extensive sound system into enough zones to deliver absolutely seamless volume adjustment with easy source selection. Dennis completed the job with the help of project manager Angel Sedillo, who was charged with the enviable task of remaining on-site for eight weeks while the sound system was installed.

"The resort needed various levels in different areas, and the ability to change presets at certain times of the day," explained Dennis. "And it had to be perfect given the expense of staying there and the expectations of their VIP clientele. The source material is a combination of background music for the majority of areas most of the time, with supplemental DJ inserts for parties, weddings or special events."

The zones cover the large pool area, two outdoor bars, a dance club (complete with subwoofers), several VIP lounges, an indoor and an outdoor dining room, a wedding gazebo, the entryway into the resort, several breezeways, and the numerous paths that connect these various areas. Many areas were further sub-divided into zones to allow for nuanced volume control.

An Elan VIADJ-HC II Digital Music Server provides relaxing, upbeat, or Yber-hip music as the situation or time of day demands. A wireless Creston touch panel interface has a button for each zone (e.g. "pool deck left" or "pool deck right"), which allows the user to select a source and volume. Typically, a roving DJ uses the interface to adjust levels given the number of people and the vibe of each area.

Three SymNet 8x8 DSP units and one SymNet BreakOut 12 provide the processing, preset control and volume control for the entire system. QSC Powerlite and CX-series amplifiers power the tremendous distribution of Bay Audio and One Systems speakers. "It was a big challenge to find outdoor speakers that would deliver the fidelity that we needed and that would also stand up to Atlantic salt air!" commented Dennis.

Since its April christening, the system has been working flawlessly. A few power flashes have crashed other aspects of the system (which were quickly fixed), but the SymNet DSP has been, in Dennis's words, "the most bulletproof component in the whole system." He summarized, "At Nikki Beach we have a very distributed system with slick functionality that, from a listener's standpoint, is perfectly transparent. The music is one with the structure of the place. And yet from an operator's standpoint, it is remarkably robust and easy to use. SymNet gave us the ability to make that happen."



Nikki Beach, a lavish resort in the Turks and Caicos Islands, is now the enviable home to three SymNet 8x8 DSP units to seamlessly handle the processing and sound levels for multiple zones with nuanced volume control.



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