

**Privilege, Ibiza**

PRIVILEGE is officially recognised by *The Guinness Book of Records* as being the largest club in the world.

Having started life in 1978 as Ku, a tiny disco for no more than 125 people, it is now more than three times the capacity of most big clubs, sporting an aircraft-hangar size main room, a 25-metre ceiling, 16 bars, an overall capacity of 10,000 and a substantial swimming pool. As the club expanded, the tiny hamlet of San Raphael didn't know what had hit it.

Sound reinforcement at the venue is currently provided by a colossal Funktion One system – designed, supplied and installed by the Blue Box Company, which has been involved in audio systems for over 20 years and has also kitted out heavyweight dance clubs such as Space Ibiza, BCM Mallorca and Heaven London.



The main system at Privilege comprises 20 Funktion One Resolution 5 boxes in four groups of five, each ground-stacked on top of three F218 double 18-inch bass enclosures – 12 in total. A further 12 self-powered F218A enclosures featuring XTA A6 amplifier modules provide added bass extension. The passive units are powered by a total of 12 Funktion One E25 OEM amps designed and manufactured by MC2. The entire system is managed by two XTA DP226s and a single XTA D2.

In the VIP room, three Funktion One AX88s complement another two F218 bass enclosures. These are amplified by three QSC PL236s and managed by a single Funktion One XO1 crossover. A pair of F118s again feature in the DJ booth, where 2 Res 2SH mid high enclosures complete the monitoring solution. Booth reinforcement is amplified by two E25s and one XTA DP224.

Blue Box builds the majority of its systems around Funktion One loudspeakers. The company believes that the clarity and dynamics of the units are unmatched in high-end pro audio. Recently it has been investigating new approaches to attaining optimum clean and open sound in its systems utilising bespoke technology.

**Beta, Colorado**

THE brand new Beta club in Denver, Colorado is the first in the US to install Funktion One's four-speaker Dance Stack system, of which it has two – one in the main room and one in the Beatport lounge, named after the dance music download site that founded the club.

Beta's installation of eight dance stacks was undertaken by Speed of Sound Pro Audio's Michael McCray. Each stack comprises two F221 sub bass enclosures, two DS15 low-mid boxes and one DS210 mid-hi box. The club also employs a further two F221s, along with two AX88s and two F215s. In the racks sit at least 17 Funktion One E Series units – 12 E45s, three E25s and two E15s. Five XO1 processors manage the whole system.

The Dance Stack was conceptualised in 2001 in response to a request from Sound Investment AV's Dan Agne, for a no-holds-barred design approach. Funktion One then proceeded to develop a sonically and visually imposing stack of coordinated components to provide the dance world with the kind of bespoke solution that it was waiting for.

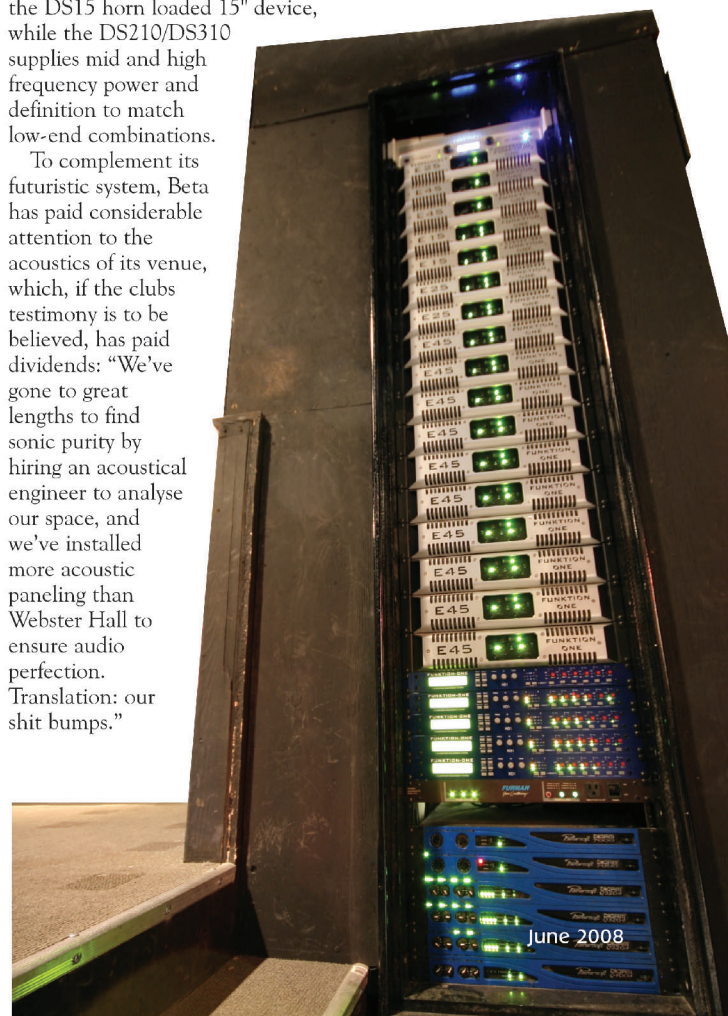
The Funktion One design approach offers significant level of power and transparency, yet avoids the usual pitfalls of system EQ and associated phase problems. This leads to a considerably transient delivery, which, combined with the system's lack of distortion, provides club-goers with an involving and pain-free experience.

The performance of the individual Dance Stack components can be altered with different configurations to facilitate control of bass content and mid-high dispersion. Super-low bass is delivered by the Infrabass 218. Tight and well-defined bass punch is provided by the F215, F218 or F221 enclosures. Upper-bass and low-mid speed comes from the DS15 horn loaded 15" device, while the DS210/DS310 supplies mid and high frequency power and definition to match low-end combinations.

To complement its futuristic system, Beta has paid considerable attention to the acoustics of its venue, which, if the clubs testimony is to be believed, has paid dividends: "We've gone to great lengths to find sonic purity by hiring an acoustical engineer to analyse our space, and we've installed more acoustic paneling than Webster Hall to ensure audio perfection. Translation: our shit bumps."



The main room at Beta with its foreboding Funktion One Dance Stacks



A towering rack of E-Series amps behind the scenes at Beta