

Oasys sets the stage for ANC victory party

Oasys Audio Visual provided the infrastructure and technical support for the ANC's victory party held at the MTN Expo Centre on Friday, 24 April 2009. With a significant number of national dignitaries attending, the event was broadcast live across the SABC's television and radio channels and was attended by both local and international media correspondents.

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From staging through to technical infrastructure and support, the event required a variety of specialist experience. Says Chief Operating Officer for Oasys Audio Visual, Craig Browning: "This event had to follow strict protocols as it was attended by forty-five government ministers, top-ranking MEC's, and the ANC's national executive committee. The event combined feed of confirmed incoming election results with live entertainment for the audience in attendance. In addition, the Oasys video crew provided all of the footage for live broadcast on national television and radio channels, as well as for the large international press contingent."

Oasys Audio Visual installed six giant video screens, two measuring six metres by eight metres, and four measuring three metres by four metres, so the crowd of over 15 000 spectators and dignitaries could view the updated election results and performers. The Oasys crew purpose-built the stage, designed to accommodate the government ministers, dignitaries and speakers, as well as the 22 bands and five DJ's who played throughout the event.

Says Browning: "Due to the additional performance aspect we installed 36 moving lights on stage, a sound system, and traditional lighting, so the audience could really enjoy the live performances. We also draped Hall 6 at the Expo Centre with 400 running metres of fire-retardant draping. We had two days to prepare for the event and worked through the night on Thursday to ensure our infrastructure was installed and ready. With everything running off a 145kVA generator, we were prepared for every eventuality and the event went off without a hitch."

Browning concludes: "The victory party ran from 5pm on Friday night until 5am the following morning and those in attendance completely enjoyed the event."

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