

Rabobank, the Netherlands

A top-notch audiovisual platform to liven up any event

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Sebastiaan De Kriek,
System Engineer



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Barco solutions:

- Encore widescreen presentation system
- FSN-1804 & 150 production system
- ImagePRO II audio
- RLM-W12 projectors
- Precision auto-alignment software

Key benefits:

- high-quality solution ensuring low latency
- good price

In 2012, Rabobank proudly inaugurated the Verrekijker (binoculars); its brand-new headquarters in Utrecht, the Netherlands. The two 105 meter-high towers, Utrecht's second largest skyscrapers, have been seamlessly linked to the existing Rabobank building, which also got a makeover. Made of glass and steel, the result is a strikingly modern, transparent and sustainable building.

The major construction works were the ideal moment to also upgrade the audiovisual platform at the Duisenberg auditorium, which dates back to 2005. The venue now features a robust, flexible system built around two of Barco's flagship event solutions: the Encore presentation system and the FSN production system.

BARCO

Visibly yours



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Headquartered in Utrecht, the Netherlands, Rabobank is a full-range financial services provider that employs approximately 59,5000 people in 42 countries. In 2005, the group installed an auditorium at its Utrecht headquarters, which the bank and its stakeholders use for corporate events. The auditorium was equipped with the most advanced audio, light and video equipment available on the market at that time. However, as technology changes at rollercoaster speed, the projection and image processing solution needed an upgrade in 2011.

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Sebastiaan De Kriek,
System Engineer

Great images and ease-of-use

Rabobank wanted an advanced, innovative system that would allow projection onto a wide, blended screen. System engineer Sebastiaan De Kriek was asked to specify how the new system should function: "Great image quality was, of course, key, as was the ease-of-use of the installation. One of our main concerns, on top of that, was that the equipment should have the lowest possible latency." MK2 Audiovisueel, the bank's trusted AV supplier, translated De Kriek's specifications into a more detailed requirements list, which was submitted for tender. Barco's Abbe Westerlundh worked intimately with MK2 to best meet the technical requirements, at a competitive price.

All-connected set-up

The new set-up consists of many cameras sending the signal over coaxial wires to the FSN system. The presentation computers are also fed into the FSN where all major switching and routing is done, with a full overview in the integrated Multiviewer. The FSN system then feeds several monitors in the auditorium as well as outside, in the main lobby for example. Connected to two Barco RLM-W12 projectors via BarcoLink, the Encore system allows operators to create large blended widescreen applications. The system gets native backgrounds from a single computer to create ambiance on the screen. It also places the output of the multi-window FSN production system on screen in layouts defined by the producer or in line with predefined configurations.

Overlap and geometry

Equally interesting in the set-up is Barco's Precision automated camera-assisted system for warping and blending, used with two projectiondesign WB1920 image processors. The Precision software application captures test images with a standard Canon DSLR camera, calculates the perfect geometrical corrections needed and writes the data to the Barco WB1920 units, thus ensuring geometry corrections.

Happy to go Barco

"Having worked with Barco - and Folsom - in the past, I was happy to hear that Rabobank had chosen the Barco solutions," De Kriek admits. "Both are easy to use and offer endless presentation support features. As our in-house automation system is perfectly integrated into the installation, anyone can easily operate the auditorium. A short training was sufficient to teach our team how to create dynamic scenery, graphics and video elements to enliven our events."