

Winter 2005

Fibre Optic Signage



Signage & photographs by Harper Signs.

Universal Fibre Optics has supplied fibre optics for signage at the Golden Palm Casino in the seaside resort of Skegness. The signage design, manufacture and installation were carried out by Harper Signs of Newcastle Upon Tyne who also supplied the neon features seen in the photograph. Universal Fibre Optics provided the complete fibre optic system to give colour changing points of light arrayed to form the lettering. The brief was to produce colour changing lighting on the lettering for the "Golden Palm" logo and fibre optics provided an ideal low main-

tenance method of achieving this. The fibre optics consisted of over 6300 tails of 1mm diameter glass fibre supplying light to miniature stainless flanged sparkle points mounted into the sign to give an array of discrete points of light which meld into one when seen from a distance. Stainless steel flanges give the corrosion resistance vital in a seaside installation. The fibre optic light sources, 15 in number, used 150W discharge lamps to give bright light with a low maintenance cycle of 5000-6000 hours between lamp changes.



Creative Use Of Fibre Optics in 'Hospitalworks' Production

Universal Fibre Optics worked with lighting designer Hansjorg Schmidt to provide an unusual and striking lighting feature for the theatre production, Hospitalworks. A combination of 8.6mm and 12.6mm diameter stranded side glow fibre was used in conjunction with a 150W metal halide light source to provide illuminated lines which could be twisted into shapes and supported from the ceiling using clear C-clips.

Hansjorg Schmidt says "This was a devised show, set in a ward in a working hospital (the Mayday Hospital in Croydon and then the Burgerhospital in Stuttgart, Germany), and aimed at young audiences from age 3 up. One



of the key elements of the show was our wish to transform the ward at the end of the piece. The story was based on the concept that there were no patients in the ward, but that the objects and the building itself were unwell. We therefore developed electricity and light as one of the

New Website Coming Up

The new Universal Fibre Optics website is in development and should be active around the second week of November. It will be more accessible with even more technical data and advice for all types of user. The website is being written for faster download and will carry news items and design ideas. Keep a lookout in November for the new site going live at www.universal-fibre-optics.com.

Curtain Washers For Star Cloths In Stock

We hold a massive stock of black washer and top-hat sets for mounting fibre into star cloths and drapes. Sizes stocked are 0.75mm; 1mm and 1.5mm for single polymer fibres and 3mm for crimp terminated glass fibres.



Light Wands Are Magic

Light wands are small 19mm diameter aluminium tubes fitted with polymer end-lit fibre to give a linear wash of light. They come as standard with black or silver anodised finish but can also be painted to a custom colour. The Light Wands use fibres at close spacings of 12mm to 20mm to give a very even wash of light ideally suited to use in small display cases or to light pictures or information boards.



Smaller than normal light tubes and using 0.75mm, 1mm or 1.5mm unsheathed polymer, light wands are made to order in lengths of up to 3m depending on the amount of light required.

main symptoms - lightbulbs flickered and blew, for example, and needed attention by one of the nurses. The climax of the piece saw a life operation on a surgical light which then triggered the transformation of the ward - indicating the healing process. The fibreoptics were the ideal agent to illustrate this. Unlit they looked like pieces of wiring and were hardly noticeable - lit they thoroughly transformed the ward, resembling nerves running across ceiling and walls."

Hospitalworks was a co-production between theatres, Polka Theatre and Theater der Welt 2005. Directed by: Sue Buckmaster and David Harradine. Scenic Artist: Sophia Clist. Music: Olly Fox. Lighting design: Hansjorg Schmidt.

The Universal Fibre Optics Newsletter

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New look for New Look

Lighting design and photograph by Lighttechnica.



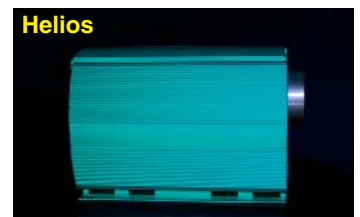
A stunning feature to the entrance of the New Look fashion store at the Metro Centre in Gateshead was achieved using special fibre optic lit acrylic rods. The effect is akin to icicles or stalactites but which glow and change colour in an intriguing and alluring manner. Such a feature helps differentiate the New Look store from others in the vicinity and the colour change is attractive to customers. Universal Fibre Optics supplied the complete fibre optic system including special rods with the fixings to allow them to be mounted into a suspended ceiling panel. The rods were supplied with light by six fibre optic harnesses consisting of 6mm diameter glass fibre and using 150W metal halide light sources to give a colour changing effect. The design has also been employed in the Oxford Street branch of this retailer.

New Light Sources

Universal Fibre Optics has launched a new range of light sources. The new **Compact Metal Halide** units are low profile with a small footprint which makes them ideal for installation in unusually shaped locations. Available in white light and colour changing decorative versions, they can be supplied with magnetic or electronic gear in 230V or 115V configurations and for plastic or glass fibre. The IEC socket for the mains power is at the front of the case. An easily removable lamp cradle speeds up lamp changes as there is no need to remove the case of the unit to change a lamp.



In addition to the Compact light source, Universal Fibre Optics has also unveiled a new DMX512 controlled unit. The **Helios 150 DMX** offers a choice of seven colours plus dimming controlled by the DMX protocol. The units can be programmed in a master-slave configuration or controlled using a separate controller. The light sources have a sturdy aluminium case and offer excellent value for money and specification.



Finally, our range of low voltage halogen light sources has received a makeover and a new name. Now known as the **Aurora** range, these units are well suited to smaller architectural features, display and cabinet lighting as well as starlight effects. They offer the benefit of instant start-up from power-on and come in white light only or decorative colour change versions. They all feature compact dimensions and low heat output. Please visit www.universal-fibre-optics.com for full details and options on the new light sources.



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