

## **Backman Vidcom Chooses Community for Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station**



*Community RSH-462 Loudspeakers at Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Canada*

Located near Saint John, New Brunswick, Canada, the Point Lepreau Nuclear Generating Station, which began operating in 1983, has been redesigned to meet all current nuclear facility standards. This included upgrades to its life safety systems and a plant-wide public address system completed by Backman Vidcom using Community loudspeakers for the outdoor and large indoor areas of the site.

Based in Halifax, Nova Scotia, Backman Vidcom is a leading



*Community RMG-200AT at Point  
Lepreau*

specialist in commercial audiovisual design, integration and service in the Atlantic Provinces.

Backman Vidcom's Audio Division Manager, Steve O'Rourke, commented "Since 9/11 there has been a real focus on life safety systems. Along with security, fire protection and rescue systems, the PA system plays a vital role in plant safety. In an emergency situation, the ability to hear announcements and alerts clearly can be a matter of life and death."

"The initial design of the Point Lepreau PA system clearly identified several different loudspeaker types," explained O'Rourke. "Some were basic loudspeakers, for offices, hallways, storage and work rooms, and loudspeakers for these rooms were straightforward and easy. The tougher locations were outside and the large indoor industrial areas. Many of these areas had poor acoustics, were very noisy and had environmental challenges. Very careful consideration was given to choosing only the best loudspeakers for these areas. In our search we looked for loudspeakers that were manufactured under ISO standards, had high sensitivity and accurate coverage angles, and were durable enough to last for 25 years in all conditions."

O'Rourke continued, "To meet these demands and provide the site-wide coverage required, over two hundred and fifty Community RMG-200AT loudspeakers were selected for the large indoor spaces and short throw outdoor locations. Four Community RSH-462s were chosen to deliver voice pages across the large yard at the plant."

To ensure the system met specification, Backman Vidcom left nothing to chance. Every loudspeaker that was delivered underwent the usual tests at the factory, but when they were received at Backman Vidcom they were put on the bench and further tested with an FFT analyzer to ensure they still met factory stated performance specifications. Results were documented and provided to the plant owner along with the loudspeakers.

O'Rourke commented, "As expected every Community loudspeaker passed the rigorous tests after being received - the only brand to do so. The quality of the Community brand has always impressed me. From manufacturing standards to acoustic performance there are no surprises from Community, they deliver as promised every time. "

The Point Lepreau system uses a Peavey Page Matrix Control system with Nion audio DSP, and Crown power amplifiers driving the Community loudspeakers. It is designed to be redundant and supervised to give the highest safety standards possible. O'Rourke concludes, "The Community loudspeakers are the final link in the chain, holding up their end with high quality sound."

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