

OVERVIEW

Product: ListenLoop

Location: Greensboro, NC

The First Presbyterian Church in Greensboro, North Carolina, recently underwent a comprehensive renovation. The church's floorplan of approximately 65 feet by 100 feet was a challenge to providing comprehensive and consistent coverage for an assistive listening system. The installation of a MLD9 MultiLoop™ Driver (9.2 Amps x 2) hearing loop system, whose cabling traversed the sanctuary floor more than 50 times underneath a complex combination of floor coverings, and the use of a CMR3 calibrated receiver, assures that clear, intelligible audio is available for all congregants.

As the exclusive distributor of the Americas of Ampetronic, Listen Technologies provided the phased array hearing loop system that enables congregants who need assistive listening to receive clear, amplified sound directly through their t-coil hearing aid, cochlear implant, or hearing loop receiver. The MLD9 MultiLoop™ Driver provides a solution for situations where a simple loop around the room perimeter will not work. Phased arrays, such as the one used at First Presbyterian Church, provide an elegant solution for buildings with metal structure or reinforcements by dramatically decreasing the spill of the magnetic signal outside of the room, allowing hearing loops to be installed in adjacent rooms without interfering with one another. Arrays can also be used to change the way two loops interact with each other, providing solutions to even the most complex installation problems.

"This was by far the largest loop project we have ever done," observes Brent Everhart, Sales Engineer at Audio & Light, the Greensboro AV systems integrator that sourced the Listen Technologies system and installed it, in conjunction with Curtis Kasefang of the Theater Consultants Collaborative, the design consultancy on the project. The total square footage is over 6,500 square feet, and there was a unique challenge in keeping the cabling intact as the flooring was being installed. "The materials are different in various parts of the room, with either carpeting or vinyl covering on the floor," Everhart explains. "The concern was to avoid having the flooring installers damage the loop by cutting it as they installed the coverings. We trained them on the loop's location, but we also set up an alarm system that would alert us via the Crestron touch panel control system if it was cut, so we could repair it before the floor was finished."

Audio & Light is a Level II certified Listen Technologies Hearing Loop Integration Partner which ensures that their customers' hearing loop installations meet the IEC60118-4 performance standard.

Hearing loops are one of three assistive listening technologies available for houses of worship – radio frequency (RF) and infrared (IR) are the other two assistive listening technologies Listen Technologies provides.

System Components:

- MLD9 MultiLoop Driver (9.2 Amps x 2)
- FB1.8 Flat Insulated Copper Cable 164 ft. (50 m)
- PWT Adhesive Installation/Warning Tape 164 ft (50 m).
- CMR3 Hearing Loop Calibration Measuring Receiver
- LP-IL Hearing Loop Receivers with Lanyard Package

“Between improved signal strength and the control of overspill, we get a strong, consistent signal throughout the sanctuary,” says Everhart. “When the new systems were first used, at a service on December 21 of last year, everyone noticed the improvement. The Listen Technologies system made a huge difference in a very large space.”

—BRENT EVERHART
Sales Engineer, Audio & Light

ABOUT

Founded in 1824, First Presbyterian Church has served the Greensboro community for over 185 years. For more information you can visit their website at www.fpcgreensboro.org

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