

Full mobile signal coverage at BBC Studioworks

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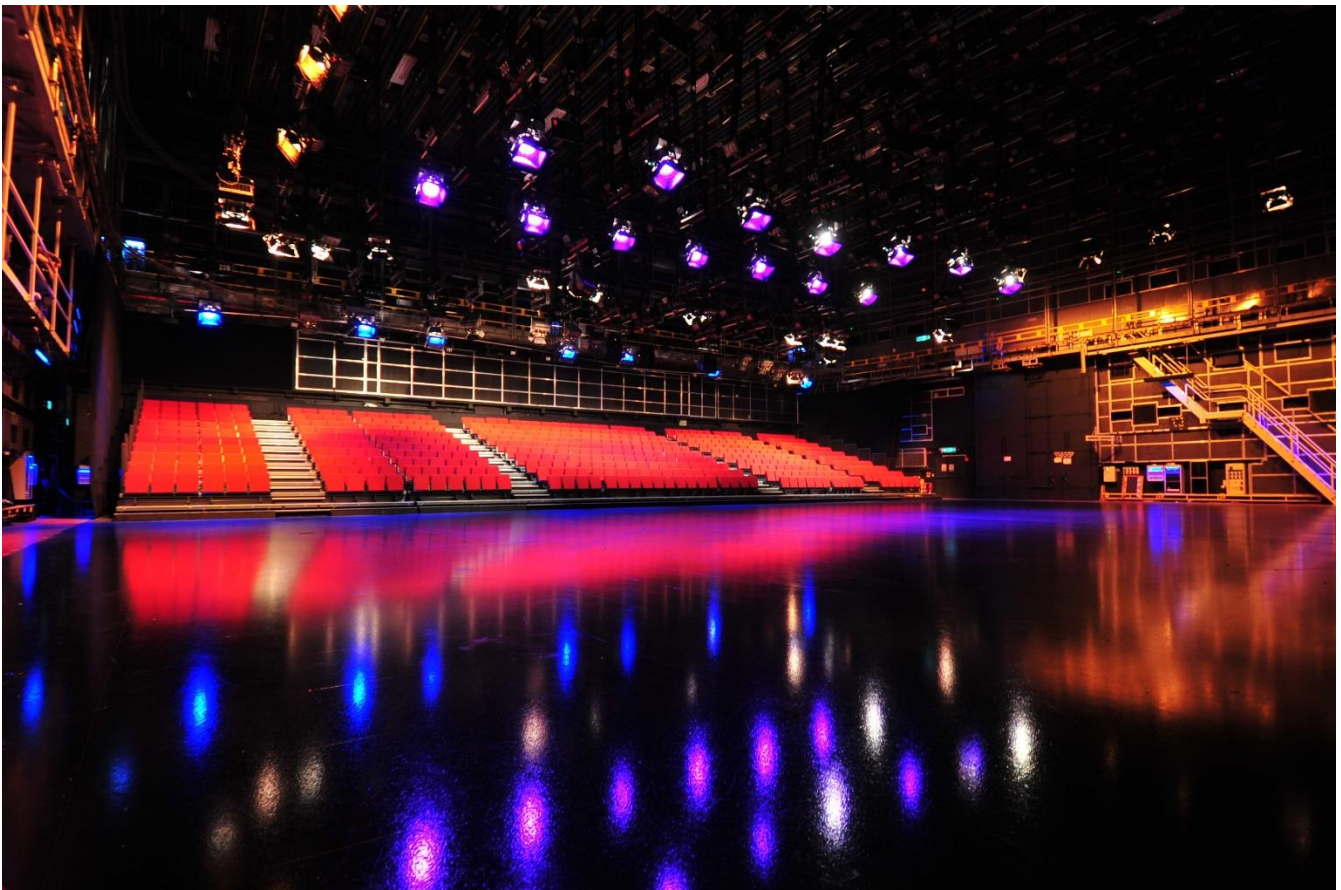
Award-winning Cel-Fi Quatra provides great mobile coverage on all networks in the world-famous Television Centre in London

Despite the central location of BBC Studioworks' Television Centre studios in London, the in-building mobile coverage was poor on all floors. After unsuccessful attempts to resolve this, Studioworks found Cel-Fi mobile signal boosters – an OFCOM-compliant solution that caters for all mobile networks.



The Business

BBC Studioworks is a commercial subsidiary of the BBC, providing studios and postproduction services to all the major TV broadcasters. Its studio facility in White City, London is home to some of the nation's most watched and loved television shows, including The Graham Norton Show, Good Morning Britain, This Morning, Sunday Brunch and The Jonathan Ross Show. Television Centre has three fully equipped TV studios, ranging from 3,430 ft² to 10,800 ft² which are fitted with industry-leading technology. Other facilities include edit suites, apparatus rooms, dressing rooms, green rooms, and production offices.



The Challenge

The purpose-built production facility is soundproofed throughout and comprises thick concrete external and internal walls. While this creates ideal conditions to capture TV shows, it can severely hinder mobile signal from penetrating the building.

With the facility used by BBC Studioworks' employees and freelancers, client production teams, on-screen talent and contributors, an in-building mobile coverage solution to cover all networks was required.

Mindful of the problem, BBC Studioworks set about finding a solution that could provide adequate mobile coverage for the scale and complexity of the building.

The Solution and Result

BBC Studioworks was referred to Frequency, the master distributors of Cel-Fi products in the UK, by Nextivity.

Colin Giles, Cel-Fi Account Manager at Frequency engaged with BBC Studioworks over several consultative sessions to discuss the requirements and present the business case for a Cel-Fi solution. With access to the site plans and an in-depth understanding of the requirements, Frequency provided BBC Studioworks with the outline of a solution design for addressing the coverage issues. However, it was imperative for a building of this size and structure for a site survey to be carried out to further refine and develop the design.

"A site survey is crucial for an installation of this size. No two buildings are the same. Only once you are on-site do you get to see the full extent of the layout of the building and the materials used. A survey also exposes the internal and external obstructions to mobile signal, not always visible on the site plans. This is further qualified by using specialist tools to measure the signal strength and quality inside and outside of the building," Giles explains.

Zonewave, one of Frequency's enlisted Cel-Fi certified installation partners, conducted the survey and found that the external signal quality and strength was at a sufficient level which Cel-Fi could utilise to enable the deployment of a reliable, stable solution inside the building. The survey also identified suitable cable routes from the roof down into the building and the use of existing cable trays and trunking to minimise disruption.

Armed with all information from the survey, the proposal to BBC Studioworks recommended Cel-Fi Quatra as the best fit and most cost-effective solution to boost the mobile coverage across all floors and all networks internally. Due to the length of cable runs and the internal

coverage requirements, it was clear that Cel-Fi Quatra would be the ideal solution to deliver the in-building quality needed. In addition, the ability for the system to be brought online and remotely managed was an important factor for BBC Studioworks.

CEL-FI QUATRA



Once installed, the all-network Cel-Fi Quatra solution consisted of 14 x Quatra NU, 53 x Quatra CU and 4 x external MIMO antennas spread over 16 positions throughout the building, with the external antennas mounted on the roof of Studio TC1.



The solution now provides mobile coverage on all networks to all areas within the building. All building users can now use their mobile devices for voice and data services throughout the building.



Zonewave is proud to have provided signal solutions for prestigious clients such as The Royal Opera House, The Government Legal Department, and Warner Media. Zonewave believes that the highest quality solutions deserve the highest quality installations. Point of sale connectivity, free to roam data collection, WHSE automation, IoT enablement, and patient data availability are just some of the reasons our clients have chosen our solutions.

Web: www.zonewave.co.uk

Email: info@zonewave.co.uk

Tel: +44 203 985 7666



Frequency Telecom is the Master Distributor of Nextivity's Cel-Fi range of mobile signal boosters in the UK and Ireland. Cel-Fi products are licence-exempt and fully meets the regulatory requirements in the UK (Ofcom SI 2018/399) and Ireland (ComReg S.I.No.283 of 2018). Frequency has successfully installed indoor mobile signal solutions at the NHS, Pure Offices, BBC, Hotel Chocolat, Lincoln Epic Showground, Premier League and many others.

Web: www.frequencytelecom.com

Email: info@frequencytelecom.co.uk

Tel: +44 208 397 2222



Headquartered in San Diego, Nextivity Inc. develops the award-winning line of Cel-Fi products that optimize cellular coverage in homes, office and enterprise buildings. Cel-Fi products are self-configuring and leverage the advanced signal-processing and radio design of Nextivity's IntelliBoost chipset to deliver the industry's highest gain at the lowest cost per square foot. The Cel-Fi commitment is to protect the operator's network, deliver the best in-building mobile performance, and be the easiest solution to install.

Web: www.cel-fi.com