

TV broadcaster seeks humidifier hire to remove static electricity

The build-up of static electricity within a TV or radio broadcasting studio is both undesirable and avoidable, with a range of implications for both people and equipment inside. Humidification is a very simple and effective way of eliminating the presence of static electricity, as moisture in the air increases conductivity which allows it to absorb and evenly distribute any excess charges.

As experts in the provision of temporary humidifier hire solutions, we were recently contacted by a well-known British satellite television company. Our client had noticed that static electricity was accumulating regularly, and they were looking for advice on how best to prevent this from happening.

Static build-up in a broadcasting environment puts electrical components at risk, including diodes, microchips and transistors. This is because they incorporate delicate elements that, when a negative charge is discharged onto them via static, a failure is caused as there is no conductor to dissipate. This could have devastating consequences and cause expensive hardware to be destroyed or interruptions mid-broadcast. Those working on set are also at risk of suffering painful shocks.

Friction will produce a static charge when relative humidity is below 45%, with reduced levels of build-up between 45-55%. By keeping the humidity of a broadcasting application at precisely 55%, the moisture content of the air is a natural conductor and so earths any potential static charge.

Our response to the customer's issue was to supply two Century Series 4 units which were installed within the studio to accurately control and maintain relative humidity at 55%. Following their deployment, the client has not been aware of any more static electricity – giving them peace of mind regarding future productions and transmissions.



Duty Rated 20% rh. 25°C 1.8 l/h

Air flow (max) 500 m3/h

Power supply 230 V 1 ph 50 Hz Run 0.65 A

Noise level 57 dBA @ 3 metres

Weight 11 kg

Dimensions (L x W x H) 550 x 345 x 610 mm

Reservoir capacity 19.5 litres

Average power consumption 150 W/h

Control Integral humidistat



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