



## Dynacord wins nomination for most outstanding sound at Minnesota political rallies

July 2008

In what is proving one of the most dynamic years in recent U.S. political history, the Democrat and Republican parties in Minnesota can say they have at least one thing in common: Dynacord sound quality.

Back-to-back DFL (June 6-8) and GOP (May 30–June 1) rallies held at the Mayo Civic Center in Rochester, MN were both enhanced by Dynacord Cobra and VariLine sound systems deployed by Urban Communications of Plymouth, MN.

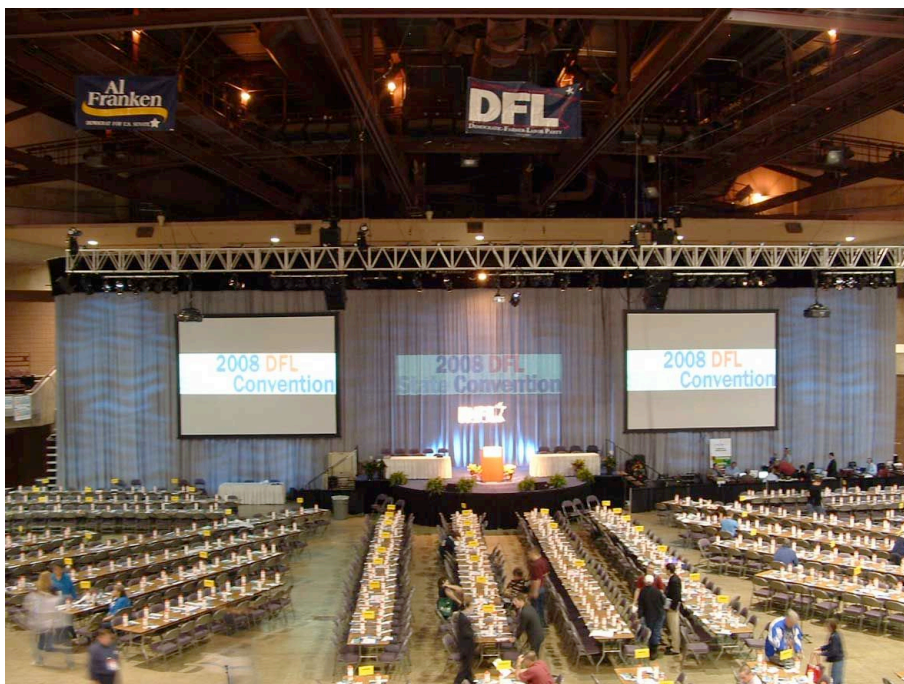
The main hangs at both events comprised Cobra-4 TOP boxes with a single FAR throw box on the top of each array. “We needed precise vertical coverage split between the balcony and the main floor,” says Andrew Loftus of Urban Communications, “aiming the upper and lower boxes in each array to avoid reflection off the 12-foot high wall at the back of the main floor below the balcony. The Cobra, as a compact vertical line array, was ideal for this application, and the hardware allowed us the fine-tuning we needed to make that critical gap in the vertical coverage. A couple of the cabinets were flown tight together; the others were all at six and nine-degrees. We used extra bumpers on the bottom fly bars to get the extra steep angles. This was something I’d never tried before; having done it once, I’ll be using that hardware for a lot more shows in the future—it’s easy to use and will work well for all kinds of applications. And, aside from being extremely versatile, the system always sounds great.”

Dynacord’s new VariLine VL262 loudspeakers, deployed as out-fills, also impressed. This super-compact line is dropping jaws across the audio industry, delivering an amazing size to performance ratio, and Loftus is a big fan: “We want more! We currently own four VL262s and are considering four more. They go out every week, and are great for an incredibly wide range of projects, from front-fills in clubs, to mains for small events, to out-fills in arena venues like the Mayo Civic Center, where we flew them from the truss. The coverage and power that comes out of these little boxes is simply amazing, and they have the same load-protection features and rigging flexibility as their bigger brothers, so they’re extremely user-friendly.”

Completing the compact picture, new D 8 boxes were given front fill duty; a CMS 1600 mixer and P 64 matrix manager streamlined the setup at FOH. “Again, I was amazed at the high SPL and definition the tiny D 8 boxes delivered,” says Loftus. “All the Dynacord speakers added up to a really small footprint relative to the size of the venue. We also had a nicely streamlined setup at FOH, using our CMS mixing console to create sub-mixes, which we fed into the P 64 matrix manager, enabling wireless control (via IRIS-Net control software) of all the zones. I’ve been drooling over the P 64 for the past few weeks! Its capabilities are incredible. You have an amazing amount of processing power in just two rack spaces, and an endless amount of time-saving capabilities.

“This was the first time I’d ever taken a laptop around a venue to tune the system, and I used IRIS-Net to tune the monitors while standing at the podium,” Loftus continues. “It was an exciting experience, especially when you think of the time vs. money angle. No more shouting back and forth across the venue; you can stand there and do it all yourself, tweaking any variable you can possibly imagine. And that’s not to mention that having the 64 inputs on the P 64 means you can use a smaller desk at FOH, dedicated for hands-on notching and sub-mixing—no need for a large format desk. In fact we could have run the whole show via laptop with the P 64, but it’s nice to have some hands-on mixing there, fingers on faders. Plus the P 64’s price puts it within reach of most smaller sound companies—even for small events, you can offer your customer an incredibly fine-tuned system without extra time or manpower. Like all the Dynacord gear, it’s a great product at a great price. Both rallies sounded excellent, and both our clients were very pleased with the results.”

[www.urbancom.us](http://www.urbancom.us)



Dynacord\_MN\_Political\_Rallies\_03.jpg – The Cobra/VariLine combination delivered a superb footprint to coverage ratio



VL262 boxes await deployment on the main stage truss

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