

## CASE STUDY

# SAFETY CABLING FOR O<sub>2</sub> WORLD IN BERLIN

In September 2008 one of the most modern multi-purpose arenas in Europe opened – O<sub>2</sub> World in Berlin. In the event arena, the safety systems are powered using certified safety cables and components from Datwyler.

With an area of 60,000 square metres and a seating and standing capacity of up to 17,000 guests, O<sub>2</sub> World in Berlin is the largest event arena in the German capital city. In addition to concerts, the multi-functional arena is used mainly for sporting events, including the home games of Eisbaeren Berlin (ice hockey) and ALBA Berlin (basketball). Developer and financier of O<sub>2</sub> World is the Anschutz Entertainment Group, which operates and markets stadiums, arenas, and theatres worldwide.

Large public facilities such as this must meet extremely high safety standards. Fire-protection systems play a central role, and at O<sub>2</sub> World these were designed and installed by the engineering company hhpberlin. The emergency power supply is provided by a high-capacity battery array and two large diesel generators in parallel. Together, these supply the emergency lighting, elevators, air expulsion, and smoke extraction systems.

To ensure that the safety systems will function reliably in the case of fire, they are powered using tested and certified extended-integrity cables from Datwyler (E30, E90).

### 40 kilometres of safety cable

Two companies handled installation of the safety cabling: Wahlen & Schabbach Elektroinstallations GmbH in Weiskirchen and Elektro Volkmann in Zehdenick. Between October 2007 and July 2008 these two contractors installed some 40 kilometres of ceramic-insulated Pyrofil cable from Datwyler.

During this phase Wahlen & Schabbach alone used 35 kilometres of Pyrofil safety cable for power supply for the emergency lighting system, fire-alarm systems, sprinklers, and extinguishing-water system. Nearly 3,000 Hermann clamps were used, as well as numerous SAS single clamps, Type B strap clamps, and special plugs that were also tested for extended functional integrity.

The site manager reports that "the ceramic-insulated material is easy to work with on site. A great advantage of the Datwyler system is that it allows much longer distances between fixtures than standard cable".

### Strong partnership

"We've been in the market for nearly 40 years, and our reliable performance has earned us a good reputation amongst our customers," explains the procurement head at Wahlen & Schabbach. "According to our policy to use brand-name products only, Datwyler has been our first choice for safety cabling since the eighties because the company is both the market leader and the innovation leader in this field. And Datwyler has always been very consistent."

According to him, in this project it was proved once again that "Datwyler is a strong partner. That includes quality of the materials, comprehensive test certificates, availability and prompt delivery, and competent people who know what they're talking about – exactly what we need to perform well on site."

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