

Congress Rental speaks to Hurrairah bin Sohail about how it managed to deliver a conference and discussion solution for a security summit under extreme time constraints.

# Secure summit



**T**he International Institute for Strategic Studies Shangri-La Dialogue is a security summit attended by heads of state, foreign and defence ministers, high-level diplomats and government officials. The conference provides an opportunity to discuss policy in private as well the public domain.

This year the summit was held from May 28 to May 31, 2015. Congress Rental was tasked with providing the entire conference and discussion systems for the event which included providing microphones and interpretation equipment for the main plenary and three breakout areas along with coverage for the press area.

Jeremy Ducklin, managing director for Congress Rental, explains: "This is a highly technical client that likes to push the boundaries with regard to how the technology can enhance their event."

On the first day a gala dinner was hosted in the main plenary which was supported with Bosch interpretation equipment. The room was then cleared and reset with a "classroom" style arrangement overnight, with a total of 391 Concentus microphones deployed. Ducklin notes: "The biggest challenge each year is the massive microphone

setup on the Friday night that cannot start till midnight when the room has been cleared after the gala dinner. The microphones have to be setup and the software configured all before 7am. Sometimes there is also a bomb sweep which puts further pressure on the team."

The next day in the morning, speeches from high level dignitaries and guests are presented followed by questions from the floor. A smart card system using ID tags was deployed to control the microphones. Delegates wishing to speak must press a button on the microphones to enter their names to a list visible to the chairman. The chairman can then choose and activate the microphone of the delegate he wishes to speak. Operators from Congress Rental were on hand to monitor the open microphones, remotely turn off any that were left on or re-activate any microphone that the chairman wished to bring back online.

Interpretation for the event was provided in

Mandarin, Japanese and Korean. Delegates speaking or presenting in other languages brought their own interpreters and facilities were provided to allow them to interpret along with the provided languages.

Smaller breakout sessions for more intimate discussion were also provided in three smaller rooms. These rooms allow for an interactive debate thanks to the AV systems provided. Congress Rental delivered microphones and dome cameras.

Bosch Multimedia microphones were used in one of the rooms and Ducklin says: "This allowed the client to cut down on big screens to give a much tidier look and feel to the room."

All the audio and video from the three rooms, including all the interpreted languages was transported to the press room in a different section of the hotel outside of the secure zone. Video was transmitted to the press area with the help of Tricom solutions. 

*“ The use of Bosch Multimedia units allowed the client to cut down on big screens. ”*

*- Jeremy Ducklin, Congress Rental*

## Tech-Spec

Bosch Multimedia,  
Concentus microphone,  
smart card encoder,  
interpretation desks,  
dome cameras  
Tricom video systems