

## LOBO acts as a fire brigade in Liechtenstein

Due to acute risk of forest fire, a LOBO laser show, organized in record-breaking time, replaced the cancelled large-scale fireworks on the occasion of the national holiday in Liechtenstein.



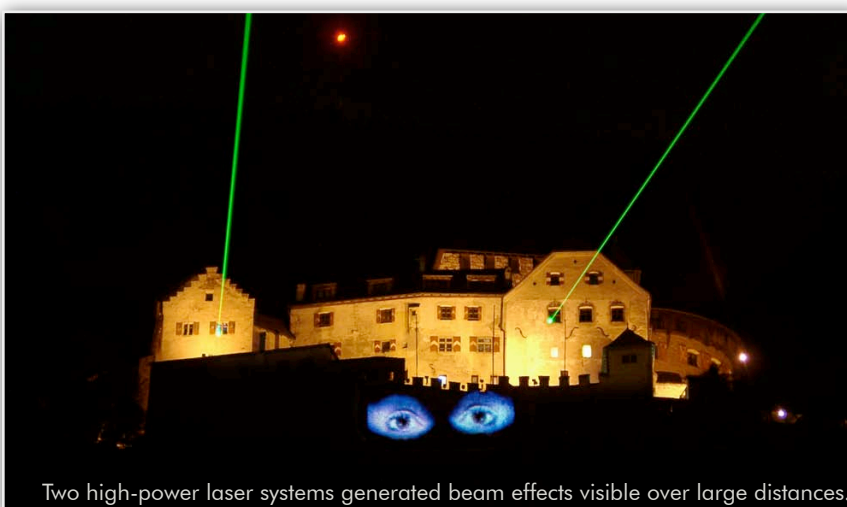
Laser outline the castle Liechtenstein. In just two days a giant laser show has been created to replace the traditional fireworks.

The long period of drought and the increasing number of devastating fires in the middle of Europe took their toll: The government of the Principality of Liechtenstein was forced to cancel the traditional fireworks on the occasion of the state's national holiday just 3 days in advance of the event.

It has been a hard decision of the tradition-conscious Principality in the heart of the Alps, as the national holiday and especially the magnificent large-scale fireworks are not only a symbol of national identity, but also an attraction for tourists from all over the world. Desperately the organization committee was searching for alternatives to arrange a dignified highlight for the state's national holiday within the remaining time.

The solution to the problem was not far away – precisely two hours by car:

Round about noon of the same day the telephone was ringing in the South-



Two high-power laser systems generated beam effects visible over large distances.



German city of Aalen in the facilities of the laser show market leader LOBO.

A few hours later, LOBO's President Lothar Bopp and Art-Director Alexander Hennig have been in Liechtenstein's capital Vaduz for an on-site inspection. Already at 4 p.m. the committee could announce that a giant laser show is going to replace the fireworks.

At the same time the crew in LOBO's headquarter in Aalen was already in train of configuring and packing the whole equipment as well as preparing all the custom's paperwork. At 12 a.m. - not more than 16 hours after the last discussions in Liechtenstein - 16 tons of equipment were ready to go for Vaduz



where it has been installed just a few hours later.

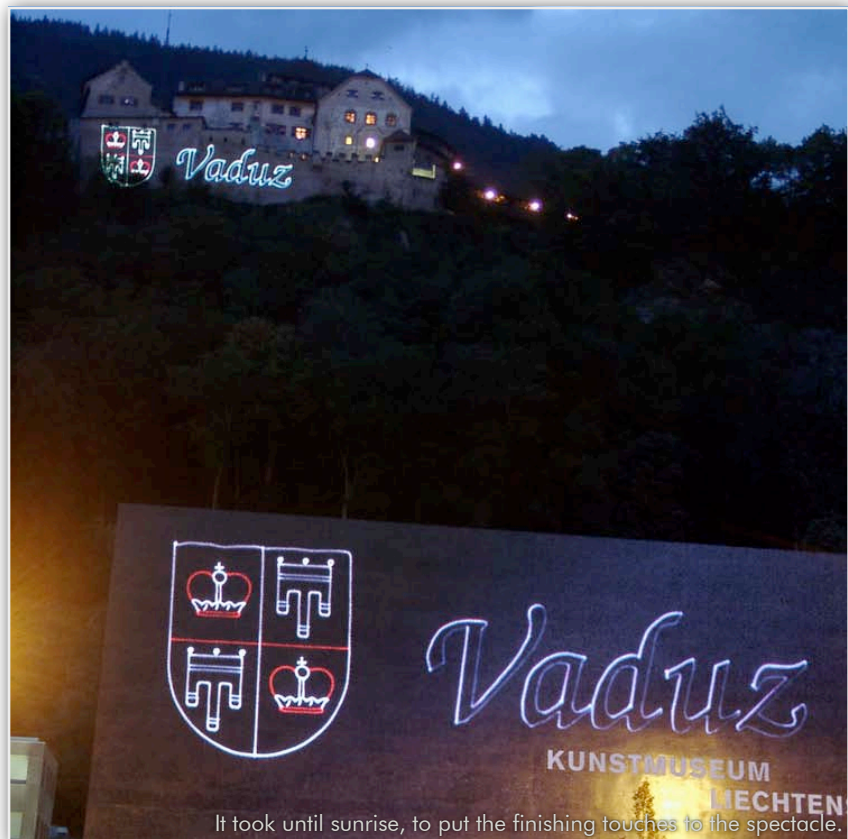
A Laser Truck with 57 Watt whitelight-power served as the central control station as well as for the projection onto the castle and the art museum in the city center. Within the castle of Liechtenstein's sovereign, two high-power solid-state lasers have been installed to create beam effects visible over large distances. Every laser installation was equipped with completely self-sufficient backup systems.

LOBO's President Lothar Bopp: "It has not only been the short distance to our headquarters, but also our sophisticated Laser Truck principle and the high production capacity of our studios which made it possible to react within the given short time frame."

In two night sessions an individualized spectacular of 20 minutes length has been created in the LOBO studios which has been adapted to the local conditions during the night before the event. Until sunrise the 10 specialists of LOBO used every second to put the finishing touches to the spectacle.

In the media of Liechtenstein the laser show quickly became the top story. No hour passed by without interviews, special reports and background information on radio. On initiative of LOBO, Radio Liechtenstein even transmitted the sound of the show live to allow for an easy-to-handle supply of the decentralized sound systems.

Creative-Director Alexander Hennig: "The support and the public interest we experienced in Liechtenstein have been



It took until sunrise, to put the finishing touches to the spectacle.

really impressing. Everybody, from the mountain service to the Principality, supported and assisted us where ever it was possible“.

On Friday, the 15<sup>th</sup> of August, at 10:00 p.m. the big show was about to begin. The Prince himself arrived at the LOBO Laser Truck and the spectators joined in loudly during the last seconds of the countdown which was projected onto the facade of the art museum.

Finally the first beats of the music carried filled the city and the state's heraldry of Liechtenstein appeared onto the castle's walls followed by 11 county heraldries.

Implemented in elements of LOBO's extensive show library, the spectators were pleased by many individual show



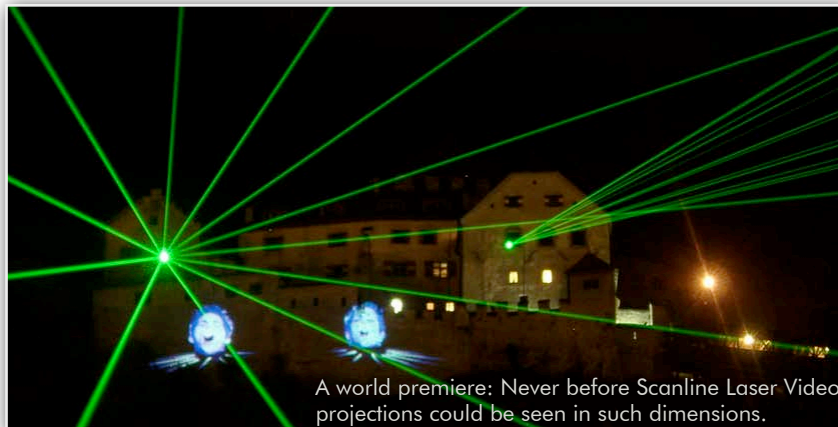
parts with direct reference to Liechtenstein.

Despite the time pressure there was also a world premier in Vaduz: Thanks to the enormous whitelight-power of the Laser Truck, it was for the first time possible to display Scanline Laser Videos as full-coverage outdoor projection onto the castle's facade. This technique developed by LOBO allows the projection of

high-resolution MPEG videos by means of common laser projectors.

And as at 10:20 p.m. the contour of the castle has been outlined by laser, the thunderous applause of the spectators rewarded the efforts of the past days.

According to a survey carried out on the following day, many citizens of Liechtenstein regarded the laser show as a welcome change and partly even as an alternative to the established fireworks.



Hennig: "We are very pleased about the positive response and would like to come again to Vaduz next year - and then perhaps as a supplement to the fireworks. This year the laser show was due to the size of the event surely without an alternative. The nature, nevertheless, probably was pleased as, besides the risk of fire, it did not have to put up with the pollutant and noise emissions of a fireworks.

## Commentaries of the Press

### „Liechtensteiner Vaterland“, 16th of August 2003

„The laser beams of the show did not represent a fire risk, but nevertheless they did not leave any spectator cold.“

### „Liechtensteiner Volksblatt“, 16th of August 2003

„The highlight was, of course, the laser show presented for the first time. The spectators waited eagerly and have not been disappointed.“

„The laser show, which has been pulled out of a hat within two days after the fire works was cancelled, filled the spectators in the city with enthusiasm. The exact synchronisation with the music turned the laser show to a worthy substitute spectacle.“

**Important Notice:** All laser effects on the images derive from real photographs and have not been generated on computers.