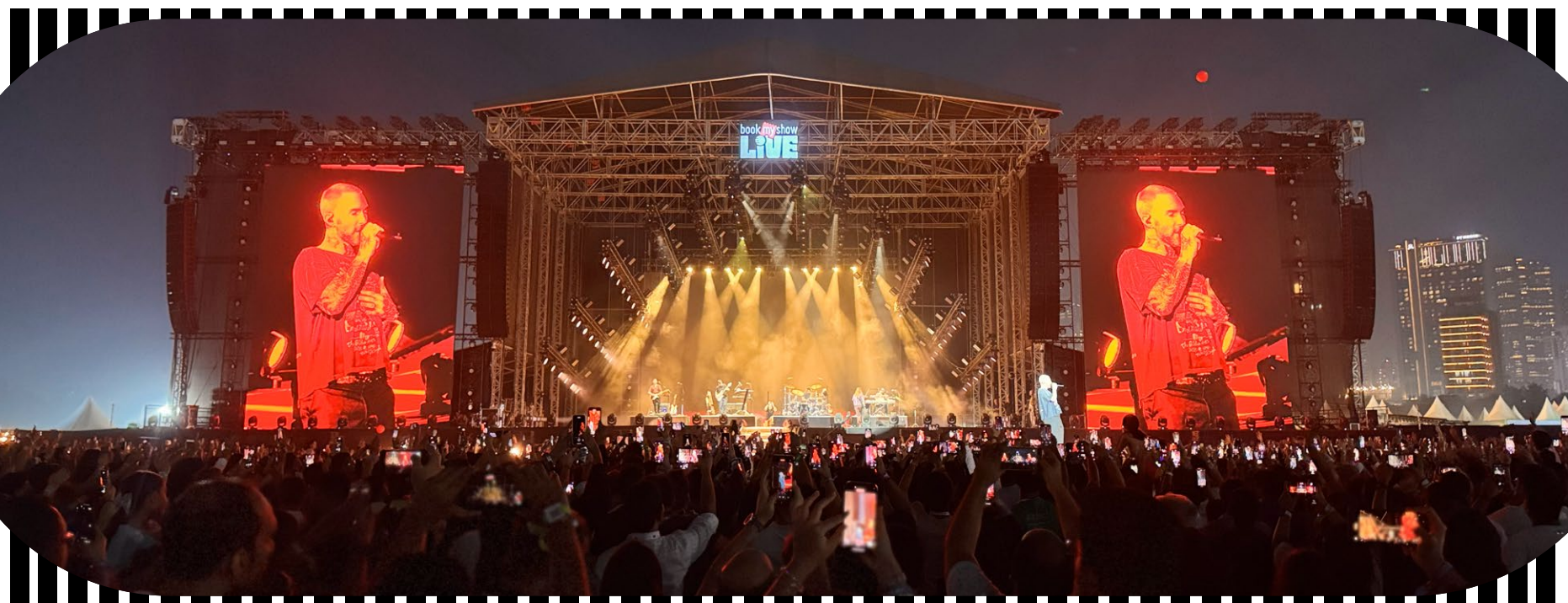


MEGA SOUND HITS THE RIGHT NOTES WITH MAROON 5'S INDIA DEBUT

*When Maroon 5 made their much-anticipated debut in India, the event was nothing short of spectacular. Behind the scenes of the 20,000-strong crowd's euphoria lay a technical marvel in sound engineering, executed by **Mega Sound**, one of India's leading sound rental companies. The company's meticulous planning and execution ensured that the concert's audio met the highest international standards, solidifying India's standing as a venue capable of hosting world-class events.*



Maroon 5's Debut in India sonically powered by Mega Sound

From Design to Deployment

The planning phase involved creating detailed simulation files tailored to Maroon 5's needs. These designs outlined the audio setup, covering aspects such as speaker configurations, signal flow, and coverage patterns. The simulation files were shared with the band's engineers for review and received approval with minimal adjustments, demonstrating the accuracy and foresight of Mega Sound's initial design.

"After presenting the initial system design, there were only minor tweaks needed, which validated our understanding of their requirements," Mega Sound's Head System Designer, **Vishrut Joshi** said.

Once the designs were approved, Mega Sound transitioned seamlessly into the deployment phase. The team worked tirelessly to set up the massive audio infrastructure while maintaining constant communication with Maroon 5's technical crew to ensure every detail was executed to their satisfaction.

The team from Mega Sound for the Maroon 5 concert was led by Audio Director **Siddharth Chauhan**, with Vishrut V. Joshi as the Head System Designer.

The design of the front-of-house (FOH) and signal transport was handled by **Sanjay K**, while the FOH technical team included **Swapnil Elpass** and **Harshal Phillare**. **Devender Jethi** led the stage operations as the Stage Head, supported by Stage Tech, **Lokesh Salvi**. This experienced team worked together seamlessly to ensure the flawless execution of the sound system, making the concert an exceptional audio experience.

Meeting Maroon 5's Audio Requirements

Maroon 5's technical rider laid down stringent requirements: a powerful, clear, and evenly distributed sound system to fill the expansive outdoor venue. Mega Sound rose to the challenge by deploying the **L-Acoustics K1 KX system**, a globally renowned choice for its power, clarity, and tonal fidelity.

The sound setup featured:

- **48 L-Acoustics K1 Tops** for primary sound coverage.
- **20 L-Acoustics K2 Tops** for extended range.

- **24 K1SB flying subwoofers** paired with **48 KS28 subs** to deliver deep and resonant bass.
- **L-Acoustics KARA** fills for near-field clarity
- Amplification via **L-Acoustics LA Rack II AVB** for efficient and reliable sound power
- **DiGiCo Quantum 5 Production Console** for sound mixing

Mega Sound utilised advanced simulation software to design a custom sound map, incorporating the venue's acoustics and the band's unique specifications for speaker placement. These plans underwent rigorous review by Maroon 5's technical team, who approved them with minimal adjustments.

Vishrut Joshi explained why Mega Sound chose these companies and their products, "We consistently take CAD designs and integrate them into our simulation software to ensure that the system delivers the best possible sonic experience on the field. Recently, we added the L-Acoustics K1 KX standard system to our inventory, and we are fully aware of the power these boxes can deliver. Alongside this, **DiGiCo** consoles are also known for their unparalleled

challenges.

Overcoming Challenges

Setting up the sound system at such a massive venue, the Mahalaxmi Racecourse, required an extraordinary level of coordination. "The stage itself was massive, and the production was truly impressive," Joshi shared. "However, the planning for the entire truss and tower setup was so well thought out that it allowed for minimal obstacles during deployment." The scale of the production, which saw 20,000 fans gathered in the open-air venue, presented unique challenges, including the need to deliver consistent sound coverage across a vast space.

The team initially faced setbacks due to the logistical delays, which pushed them back by a full day. But rather than let this hinder progress, Mega Sound used the extra time wisely. The team kept its focus on staying ahead of the revised schedule and continued fine-tuning the setup to ensure every aspect of the sound system was executed to perfection. "We quickly adapted and ensured that every detail was executed with precision," the team added,



Mega Sound's notable set-ups include the L-Acoustics line arrays and DiGiCo's Quantum Consoles offering unmatched sound precision



Mega Sound's team conducting checks before the concert to ensure all is smooth running

sonic quality, making them the preferred desk choice for top-tier audio professionals worldwide."

Building a Unified Vision

From the outset, Mega Sound and the event organisers established clear lines of communication to align their technical goals with the overall vision for the event. Understanding that sound was only one part of the intricate production puzzle, Mega Sound worked closely with the organisers to ensure that the audio system complemented and enhanced other elements like stage design and lighting.

Joshi says, "We began by reviewing the CAD designs of the stage layout and overall event space, integrating our sound system simulations into the broader production plan. This early collaboration allowed us to account for sightlines, visual elements, and potential obstructions while ensuring optimal sound coverage for the entire venue."

Sound Equipment Breakdown

The concert's sound configuration extended beyond the speakers:

- **Main Hangs:** Each array included 4 K1SB subs, 12 K1 tops, and 2 K2 downfills
- **Outer Hangs:** Included 4 K1SB subs, 6 K1 tops, and 4 K2 downfills
- **Delay Hangs:** Extended coverage to the farthest areas with a similar configuration featuring 4 K1SB subs, 6 K1 tops, and 4 K2 downfills
- **Mixing Consoles:** Mega Sound provided a **DiGiCo Quantum 5** console for the opening acts, seamlessly complementing Maroon 5's **DiGiCo SD5** and **SD10** units, that the band bought on their own

The system's precise alignment was achieved using the **L-Acoustics M1 calibration tool**, ensuring even sound distribution despite environmental

demonstrating their ability to pivot and keep operations running smoothly.

Signal routing was a critical component of the setup. Maroon 5's technical team required a system that was reliable. Mega Sound implemented **Luminex Gigacore switches** for seamless network connectivity, ensuring smooth data transmission across the venue.

The concert also utilised audio over **Ethernet** with a 96kHz sample rate, bypassing traditional analogue-to-digital conversions. Throughout sound checks and rehearsals, Mega Sound maintained constant communication with Maroon 5's engineers, making real-time adjustments to fine-tune the mix and meet the band's precise preferences. This approach preserved audio fidelity, allowing every note, beat, and lyric to reach the audience with pristine clarity.

Another key challenge that Mega Sound had to navigate was the unpredictable weather conditions. Being an open-air venue, the Mahalaxmi Racecourse exposed the sound setup to the elements, particularly wind, which could easily disrupt the stability of the equipment. In preparation, Mega Sound proactively adjusted the rigging, ensuring the entire setup was secure and resilient against the gusty conditions.

"One key factor we had to consider was the wind," Joshi explained. "We proactively prepared for this by adjusting the rigging and ensuring the setup could withstand any weather challenges." This foresight ensured that the sound system remained stable, delivering consistent and high-quality audio despite the environmental variables.

Maintaining International Standards for an Iconic Act

Maroon 5's stature as a global band demanded audio quality that matched international standards. Mega Sound achieved this through meticulous planning and innovative technology using only the best the industry has to offer.

"We continuously remained in close contact with Maroon 5's system en-



The L-Acoustics K1 System deployed by Mega Sound

gineer throughout the process, collaborating on every detail to ensure their expectations were met,” Mega Sound’s team shared.

The collaboration with Maroon 5’s technical team was grounded in professionalism, clear communication, and mutual respect. From the very beginning, both teams worked closely to align on every aspect of the event’s audio setup. Mega Sound established direct communication channels with the band’s system engineers, ensuring every requirement from their technical rider was understood and implemented.

“Our first step was reviewing Maroon 5’s technical rider and collaborating with their engineers to define the exact specifications for the sound system and signal routing,” Mega Sound team explained. “This included preferences for speaker placement, audio coverage, and venue-specific considerations such as acoustics.”

Sound Check: Fine-Tuning Excellence

The real test came during sound checks and rehearsals, where the collaboration between the two teams reached its zenith. Mega Sound and Maroon 5’s engineers worked side by side to fine-tune the system, focusing on balancing the instruments, vocals, and overall audio coverage. Advanced tools like the **DiGiCo Quantum 5 console** were used to ensure precision in the audio mix, meeting the band’s exact specifications.

“During sound checks, Maroon 5’s team was highly involved, providing real-time feedback on the sound mix. We adjusted the system collaboratively, ensuring optimal performance,” Joshi shared.

Technical Walkthroughs and Pre-Event Planning

Given the scale and complexity of the production, Mega Sound participated in multiple technical walkthroughs and pre-event meetings with **BookMyShow Live** and **Live Nation**. These sessions were invaluable for addressing potential challenges and refining the integration of the sound system with other production elements.

“We shared our system specifications and technical plans early on to prevent conflicts with power supply, cable management, or data flow, thus laying the groundwork for a smooth integration of all systems,” Joshi noted. “This proactive approach ensured that every team was aligned, minimising last-minute adjustments and enabling a smooth setup process.”

Integrating with Stage Design and Lighting

The placement of **speakers, trusses, and towers** was a critical factor in achieving both functional and aesthetic goals. Mega Sound’s team liaised with the stage and lighting design teams to ensure the audio setup did not interfere with visual elements or block sightlines for the audience. “This collaboration allowed us to work within the constraints of the stage design while still

delivering exceptional sound coverage,” the team said.

Additionally, Mega Sound coordinated the technical elements of signal routing and audio distribution with the lighting and video teams to ensure synchronisation across all systems. The result was a harmonious integration of audio and visual effects, creating a multi-sensory experience for the audience.

A Collaboration Built on Precision and Trust

The collaboration extended beyond technical adjustments. Mega Sound ensured the entire process was smooth by accommodating specific logistical requests and providing solutions that anticipated potential challenges. The partnership was characterised by a shared commitment to delivering an audio experience that matched Maroon 5’s international stature.

Executing a large-scale event featuring a global act like Maroon 5 demands meticulous coordination between various production elements to deliver a seamless experience. Mega Sound’s collaboration with event organisers



The Maroon 5 concert was an unforgettable experience due to the efforts of Mega Sound under Siddharth Chauhan

BookMyShow Live and Live Nation exemplified how careful planning, open communication, and technical precision can align sound delivery with stage design, lighting, and other logistical components to create a cohesive and immersive production.

A Turning Point for Indian Live Sound

Welcoming a global sensation like Maroon 5 signifies a new era for the Indian live sound rental industry. With India becoming a prominent stop on international artists’ tours in 2024 and 2025, the demand for high-quality audio production is at an all-time high. This surge is driven by the growing popularity of live entertainment and an expanding audience base eager for world-class experiences.

“India is witnessing the highest number of international artists touring in 2024 and 2025,” Joshi observed, highlighting the rapid growth of the market. These developments are challenging the industry to match and exceed international benchmarks, fostering a shift towards advanced technology and top-tier equipment.

The Maroon 5 concert required meticulous planning and execution to achieve audio quality that met global standards. From the use of L-Acoustics K1 systems, known for their unmatched power and clarity, to DiGiCo Quantum 5 consoles for precise audio control, the event demonstrated the Indian industry’s capability to handle productions of global magnitude.

Raising the Bar for Production Standards

The increasing scale and complexity of international acts in India are driving an upskilling of the country’s live sound professionals and the adoption of cutting-edge equipment. As Mega Sound noted, the Maroon 5 concert highlighted the shift towards precision and high-quality sound demanded by such acts.

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“This milestone demonstrates the level of audio precision required to meet international standards,” the team explained. With equipment like audio-over-Ethernet systems operating at a 96kHz sample rate, traditional A/D and D/A conversions are bypassed, ensuring superior sound quality with no fidelity loss.

Such advancements reflect the Indian industry’s readiness to invest in world-class technology, providing local sound rental companies with opportunities to partner with global brands and refine their capabilities.

Mega Sound’s Vision: Attracting Global Collaborations

Mega Sound, fresh off its triumph with Maroon 5’s first-ever concert in India, plans to capitalise on this milestone by showcasing its expertise to the global stage. “This achievement highlights our technical expertise, cutting-edge inventory, and ability to execute large-scale productions flawlessly,” the team remarked.

The firm’s strategic use of state-of-the-art equipment, such as the L-Acoustics K1 system and the DiGiCo Quantum console, and its proven track record in delivering for high-profile events make it a strong contender for international collaborations. Mega Sound aims to position itself as the go-to partner for global artists and event organisers looking for top-tier audio production in India.

By building on the success of the Maroon 5 concert, Mega Sound is setting the stage for more global partnerships, contributing to the growth of India’s live entertainment landscape. Their unwavering commitment to excellence and innovation is a promising sign of the industry’s bright future.

India on the World Stage

Hosting Maroon 5 has underscored the Indian live sound rental industry’s potential to rival global production hubs. As the country continues to welcome more international artists, the demand for superior sound and immersive experiences will only grow. With companies like Mega Sound leading the charge, India is on its way to becoming a major player in the global entertainment industry. This milestone is more than a success story; it’s a signal of the industry’s capacity to innovate, adapt, and set new standards for live sound production.

Siddharth Chauhan, Founder and Managing Director of MSIPL (Mega Sound India Pvt. Ltd.) expressed pride in the company’s achievements stating, “This event is a testament to our dedication to delivering uncompromising quality in audio production. We are proud to have set a benchmark in India’s live music scene and are excited to welcome more international collaborations in the future.”