

The Philips logo is displayed in a white rounded rectangle on a dark red background. It consists of the word "PHILIPS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Outdoor lighting

Sports

A wide-angle photograph of a basketball arena during a game. The arena has a red and white color scheme. The court is brightly lit, and the stands are filled with spectators. A scoreboard is visible in the background.

# Case Study A World Première for ArenaVision LED in Ekinox Arena

Ekinox Arena in Bourg-en-Bresse, France



#### Customer

Bourg-en-Bresse  
Agglomération (BBA)  
.....

#### Location

Ekinox Arena,  
Bourg-en-Bresse, France  
.....

#### Philips product

ArenaVision LED system  
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#### Project partners

Pierre Barillot, Architect  
Valery Bernard, INEO installer  
.....

#### Photography

Grégory Picout



## Background

The “Ekinox” arena, named in reference to the equinox, conveys an image of an illuminated half-sphere and hosts events, including basketball, business exhibitions, concerts and entertainment shows.

In 2011, Bourg-en-Bresse Agglomération (BBA) decided to renovate its exhibition center Ainterexpo. The center was built in the 1970s and had three halls. Beginning of this year a fourth hall was added with a space of 9,940 m<sup>2</sup>. Thanks to the modularity of its stands and its technical platform, the main hall can accommodate performances in 360°. Only an exceptional lighting system could match this modernity – that is how ArenaVision LED became involved.

The indoor arena is equipped with this latest Philips sports lighting innovation. The Ekinox Arena, home for JL Bourg basketball club, is the first venue in the world that is illuminated with ArenaVision LED.

## The Project

With a capacity of 3,500 seats for basketball, 2,600 seats and 5,000 sitting/standing places for shows, the main hall can also accommodate performances in 360°, thanks to the modularity of the spectator stands and the performance of the technical platform. The first requirement for the new lighting system was to maintain an

“ We needed a lighting solution for both basketball games and shows. **Hence, ArenaVision LED floodlights had to illuminate not only the playing area but also the stage and public area.**



In addition, we wanted to be able to create a complete blackout before each match starts, which was not possible with the metal halide lamps that we used previously”.

Sports

Fabrice Pacquelet, director of JL Bourg basketball club director



illumination level of 1,750 lux, which is needed for TV broadcasts. Additionally the color temperature had to be at least 5500K and the color rendering index 90. ArenaVision LED fulfilled all those specifications in the product development tests, but to warrant the same results the floodlights were installed in the arena as a pilot project. Philips' engineering department worked very close with the customer project team to establish the installation. And a television team did a series of tests in slow motion to check the efficacy of the system. ArenaVision LED proved to be a success, beyond all expectations.

The floodlights not only had to illuminate the playing area but also the stage area

and the public space. It was also important for the JL Bourg basketball club to be able to switch the floodlights off completely and then switch it on again a few seconds later for the show element prior to the game, which had not been possible with metal halide lamps. ArenaVision LED can get to full power in just a few seconds.

In total, 50 floodlights of 1.43 kW were installed, each one providing 86,000 lumen, with an average lifetime of 40,000 hours. Each floodlight has three LED modules that can be removed and replaced separately.

The solution includes a dedicated user interface and a DMX control system allowing quick, easy and reliable



**ArenaVision  
LED**

commissioning, monitoring and switching between optimal lighting configurations. The ArenaVision LED control system is also used to create special entertainment lighting effects that would normally require dedicated stage-lighting fixtures.

The first step was to define the electrical supply network and the connections to the floodlights. The 50 floodlights are installed in the new technical grid of the arena, where the decor, sound, and lighting are all suspended in the grid. To do this efficiently and properly the mounting was done on the floor and then the grid was lifted 14 m to its final position. The installer INEO made the last electrical and DMX system connections. ArenaVision LED proved in the pilot project that it could meet all lighting requirements of the basketball federation and additionally enables full integration of the floodlights in a lighting show.

## Benefits


To create the right feeling and atmosphere for the audience all that the technical operator has to know is how to use the keyboards in order to switch between fixed sports lighting configurations that fulfil sports federations' requirements and pre-programmed special lighting effects. With ArenaVision LED, there is

no need to change floodlights and connections in multipurpose halls. Black-out and full light are instantaneous and players and public benefit from a high level of visual comfort and also a show element. This brings a new experience for the spectators as the match has become a real show, and people are not only coming anymore for just the game but also the show. So the new lighting system attracts more spectators and increases the demand of events, resulting in an increased income for the venue owners.

Also for the players the new lighting is beneficial as it can be really fine-tuned via the control system to enable the optimum comfort and visibility for the players, contributing to the energy and tension of the basketball game.

Furthermore there are numerous technical benefits. The lighting system is almost maintenance free, no lamps replacements due to the high lifetime of the installation. Instant on/off switch, this enables energy savings, because of no warm up time. The system has dimming possibility to even further reduce energy consumption. The ArenaVision LED has a built-in flicker free system, providing high quality slow-motion broadcasting and the system is meeting the lighting levels set by international sports federations.



 [Watch the video](#)

**Instant**  
on/off switch

Flicker-free  
system  
for high quality  
slow motions

**Optimum  
comfort and  
visibility for  
the players**

**Magic  
show**  
experience  
for people

Reduced  
maintenance and  
energy costs

