

15th ASIAN GAMES DOHA 2006 DAGBS NEWSLETTER

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GRAND OPENING OF THE IBC - REMINDER

The Grand Opening of the IBC takes place at 14:00 with the ribbon-cutting outside the front entrance, between the IBC and the Main Press Centre. Several VIPs and dignitaries including DAGOC officials will be in attendance with an IBC tour taking place. There are no restrictions on Rights Holders' filming of the Grand Opening. Rights Holders should note that the vignettes will be injected just after the footage of the Grand Opening has been shown.

Today also marks the 'hard' opening of the MMC, with facilities and services offering extended opening hours and a number open 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

BROADCASTER BRIEFING - RECAP

The main points made in today's Briefing were:

- Rights Holders wishing to visit venues which have not entered competition phase must arrange a visit with either the DAGBS Information or Booking offices and with the DAGBS Broadcast Venue Manager. The exception to this rule is the Khalifa Stadium which is closed for all visits until 2 December due to restrictions imposed for the Opening Ceremony.
- The coordination of cabling of permanent venue facilities must be made between Rights Holders and venue management and must be completed at least 24 hours before the start of competition.
- Updates to V15 of the DAGOC Competition Schedule, including the new football schedule following tomorrow's revised draw, will be communicated as soon as they are available.
- DAGBS will progressively update the daily 14:00 feed which currently includes the opening sequences and vignettes. It will be bolstered by footage of the IBC Grand Opening, the 15th Asian Games medals (available in HD and SD from 26 November) and helicopter shots of the venues (in HD and SD from 27 November).
- Two of the beauty shots are currently available and the remaining three will be ready from 27 November.
- Full details on access to High Demand events will be available in tomorrow's newsletter.
- **Opening Ceremony rehearsal:** Rights Holders who have booked a commentary position for the Opening Ceremony automatically get a commentary position ticket for the rehearsal. Tickets must be collected from the Booking Office on 28 November. Rights Holders must apply for Observer Seat tickets, the distribution of which will be subject to arbitration. There will be extra shuttles, as well as the regular transport service, from the MMC at 17:30. The DAGOC Media Guide for the Opening Ceremony will be distributed with the tickets and also available on the DAGBS website from midday, 28 November. DAGBS reminds Rights Holders that shooting of the Opening Ceremony rehearsal is forbidden.
- **Opening Ceremony:** There will be a Press Conference for the Opening Ceremony at the MPC Press Conference room on 28 November at midday. There will be no access to the Khalifa Stadium from 18:00 on the day of the ceremony itself and the ceremony will last for approx. three to three and a half hours, with transmission commencing at 19:00 and the ceremony itself beginning at 19:05. There will be pre-show activities from 18:00 – 19:00. No stand-up interviews will be allowed from 19:00.
- Rights Holders wishing to interview DAGOC staff or sponsors must make appointments at the MPC News Desk.
- Full details of Open Day access to the Athletes' Village will be communicated in tomorrow's newsletter.
- Rights Holder concerns regarding the slow speed of the IBC internet connection will be relayed to Qtel.
- DAGBS apologises for the brief technical power shutdown this morning which was due to a series of circumstances and the provider has assured it will not happen again.
- Rights Holders without a VAPP for the Sport City precinct are encouraged to use the adjacent spectator parking (P1 and P2). A map is available in the download section of www.dagbs.tv.

THE MAN WHO MADE IT HAPPEN - PATRICK FURLONG

The Grand Opening of the International Broadcast Centre marks another important milestone in the run-up to the 15th Asian Games and one man in particular can look at this achievement with great satisfaction.

Patrick Furlong, DAGOC's Director of Broadcasting and Media Services, has been responsible for organising all media operations at the Games – a massive project, which, with the Opening Ceremony only a week away, he will soon be able to look back on with enormous pride.



Patrick Furlong - the media's best friend

Patrick, an experienced hand in the television industry and certainly no stranger to Asia having spent significant periods of time in Kuala Lumpur and Seoul, has been the driving force behind the Main Media Centre developing from a simple idea to a state-of-the-art reality. "The MMC is quite simply spectacular and on a par with anything I've seen," says Patrick. "Both DAGOC and DAGBS can be proud of the achievement and of a world class facility."

Patrick has worked closely not only with television and radio broadcasters but with the press, in dealing with all aspects of media operations from the selection of the host broadcaster to press and broadcast space and services in the IBC to the selection of feeds and sport coverage details. "When you think that on some days there are up to 25 sports taking place at the same time it gives you a feel for the scale of the operation. It's no exaggeration to say that in terms of size, the Asian Games are on a par with the Olympics," says Patrick.

Highly respected in the Asian broadcast world having spent a significant period working with the Asian-Pacific Broadcast Union, Patrick was the obvious and ideal person to organise media operations for the largest Asian Games ever. Having spent over three years in Doha, working for DAGOC and as DAGBS' key point of reference in the organising committee, Patrick has worked tirelessly in helping make these *The Games of Your Life*. He now looks forward to enjoying the action, "The Opening Ceremony will be something really special and both Qatar and Doha will look back on it with great pride. I am also looking forward to a broadcast first, seeing the High Definition events – Athletics, Aquatics and Gymnastics – a benchmark for the Asian Games."

DAGBS WEBSITE AND CONTACT INFO (WWW.DAGBS.TV)

The DAGBS website complements existing DAGBS printed material and features information on Venues, Production, Telecom, Broadcast and other general and technical data. The website is updated frequently with the latest DAGBS news and information.

For further general information and additional queries, please feel free to contact us at info@dagbs.tv

