

15th ASIAN GAMES DOHA 2006 DAGBS NEWSLETTER

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HD CINEMA - AN ASIAN GAMES FIRST

The High Definition Cinema, located in the International Broadcast Centre (IBC) adjacent to the DAGOC Venue Technology Office, will show live coverage of all events that are broadcast in High Definition Television (HDTV). The 35-seat theatre is accessible to all Rights Holders and will open its doors on 1 December at 19:00 to showcase the Opening Ceremony.

Other events scheduled for HD broadcast include Aquatics (*Diving, Swimming and Synchronised Swimming*), Athletics (*Track & Field*), Gymnastics and the Closing Ceremony.



Yousef Mohamed Al Othman, Deputy Director General of Operations, (right) and Francis Tellier, DAGBS CEO, sampling the benefits of the HD cinema

DAGBS is excited to offer for the first time in Asian Game history the broadcast of HDTV signals. "It is [HDTV] state of the art in television," says Mike Wilmot DAGBS Project Director of Production "and the HD Cinema," he continues "is the perfect venue to showcase the High Definition pictures that we are producing."

Viewers in the HD Cinema will enjoy a clear and detailed picture projected on a large (4.50m x 2.53m) screen. In comparison to Standard Definition television (SDTV), the visual information is about 2-5 times more detailed and the colours more realistic. Other features of the HD cinema include stereo sound and air conditioning.

ROAD CLOSURES

A chart and map detailing road closures pertinent to the Road Races (the Corniche & Al Khor) are now available in the venues area of the www.dagbs.tv download section.

Also available in the same area is a map detailing the training venues.

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

BROADCASTER BRIEFING RECAP - 30 NOVEMBER

The main points raised in today's briefing were:

- Technical power was lost in the IBC for a couple of minutes last night. Although the problem has been identified and rectified, DAGBS has flown in an expert to ascertain and enhance the power supply's reliability from this point on. Should any further maintenance be necessary, the decision on when to perform it will only be taken after consulting Rights Holders. DAGBS takes full responsibility for this problem and apologises to Rights Holders.
- For today's matches in Badminton and Table Tennis, there is an interim procedure. Rights Holders can request certain matches on TV feeds. All previous Badminton requests were confirmed and the relevant information is available on CATV channel 1. For Table Tennis the morning schedule is confirmed and available on CATV; requests for the afternoon quarter-finals must be sent to booking@dagbs.tv before 14:00 today.
- Some schedule amendments are expected today and will be flagged on the DAGBS website's homepage.
- An amended Transmission Schedule is available in the download section of the DAGBS website.
- Rights Holders are reminded that access to the DAGOC or DAGBS back offices should be arranged beforehand by contacting the respective front offices.
- Guided tours of the IBC for Rights Holders' VIPs may be arranged by contacting Sabine Heinzinger at infoofficer1@dagbs.tv

OPENING CEREMONY:

- A detailed running order for the Opening Ceremony (including the pre-show) will be made available later this afternoon on both the DAGBS website and at the IBC Broadcast Information Office. Scripts of speeches will not be available at this time but DAGBS and DAGOC are working on providing them to Rights Holders.
- In case of rain, some elements of the Opening Ceremony may be changed slightly but it is expected that the duration of the show will be unchanged.
- There will be a brief fade-to-black between the pre-show and the ceremony itself. DAGBS' world feed multilateral commentary of the Opening Ceremony will begin at 19:00.
- Rights Holders may pick up their SADs for the Ceremony from the Booking office as of 14:00, in accordance with confirmed bookings. In addition to a full accreditation, a sticker will be necessary to access the Khalifa stadium venue perimeter, with the exception of Observer Seats, for which a ticket will be sufficient. Commentary Positions and Announce Platforms will also require specific tickets.
- Rights Holders are advised to arrive early so as to allow for enhanced security procedures as well as avoiding possible traffic jams.

OPERATIONS HQ - THE COMMUNICATION HUB

Peter Angell, DAGBS Project Director of Overall Management, and Tony Gavin, Managing Director of DAGBS Doha, collectively make up the leadership of the IBC Operations Centre. The Ops Centre acts as a central point for the analysis and collation of all information received from DAGOC, the venues and other DAGBS departments which is then distributed to the Rights Holders via the IBC BIO.

The two directors bring a combined 16 years of event experience to their job. Peter for the past six years has held the post of Director of Production at HBS and Tony has over ten years of experience with IMG Media. Both have a background managing joint ventures and Tony adds an cultural insight having once before lived in Qatar in the 1980s. "The transformation in Doha has been incredible," admits Tony. "It has gone from being almost a small village to an international city with amazing development."



Tony Gavin (left) and Peter Angell - Operations HQ

"In addition to hiring very good people across the board," says Peter, "it is constructing a clear chain-of-command so as to get the right information to the people who need it." "Developing simple clear lines of communication," adds Tony, "is the essential formula for achieving our success in conquering the main challenge of the department," that is, "managing the enormous amounts of information that flows from over 40 venues and 39 different sports."

Tony and Peter are pleased to be a part of the 15th Asian Games. Tony says "the opportunity to work with a country that has huge aspirations is exhilarating." He continues, "Qatar has set new standards, raising the bar of the Asian Games to Olympic proportions."

