Press Release



Digital Cinema at Berlinale 2016

Over the course of the past six years, the Berlin International Film Festival has grown to be one of the biggest technological trailblazers on the film festival scene - thanks in no small part to the support of its Digital Cinema Partners. As a result, in the scope of the increasing digitization of the cinema world, since 2010 all of the Berlinale's cinemas have been successively connected to the festival's Film Office via a fibre optic network, a completely new workflow for the inspection and administration of the submitted films has been established and a central storage system with over one petabyte (1000 TB) in storage capacity has been set up to accommodate the film files.

The Berlinale is continuing this development in 2016 and is once again supported in its efforts by Colt Technology Services, Rohde & Schwarz DVS, ARRI, Dolby, Barco and Aspera, an IBM company.

One significant new development in this regard is an even more intense employment of the data transfer software Faspex from Aspera. In combination with a high-speed Colt Internet connection running at 10 gigabits per second, the software enables film production teams from all across the world to upload their film files directly to the Berlinale server. This welcome change has made the time-consuming shipment of physical hard drives containing DCPs (digital cinema packages), each with an average individual size of 180 GB, obsolete.

The Berlinale Film Office was already able to take advantage of this technology for its selection screenings for the 66th edition of the Berlinale, receiving over 100 films in DCP format securely through the Internet in the run-up to the festival.

Over 95% of the more than 2,500 screenings will be shown digitally in the DCP format - analogue screenings are only taking place on an individual basis, for the most part in the *Retrospective* and *Homage* sections. In the Berlinale Palast, the festival is equipped for film screenings in the immersive sound format Dolby Atmos, thanks to the support of Dolby.

A further milestone this year is the use of a 4K laser projector from Barco in the Friedrichstadt-Palast. This new laser technology enables the Berlinale to bring especially high-contrast and bright images to the venue's 22-meter-wide screen.

"The support of our technological partners is of particular significance for the Berlinale. They enable the festival to make use of the newest technologies for the distribution and projection of our films," as Festival

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Press Office

Potsdamer Straße 5 10785 Berlin

Phone +49 · 30 · 259 20 · 707 Fax +49 · 30 · 259 20 · 799

press@berlinale.de www.berlinale.de

Ein Geschäftsbereich der Kulturveranstaltungen des Bundes in Berlin (KBB) GmbH

Management:

Prof. Dieter Kosslick (Intendant Internationale Filmfestspiele Berlin), Charlotte Sieben (Kaufmännische Geschäftsführung), Prof. Dr. Bernd M. Scherer, Dr. Thomas Oberender

Vorsitzende des Aufsichtsrates: Staatsministerin Prof. Monika Grütters MdB

Amtsgericht Charlottenburg HRG Nr. 96 · HRB 29357 USt ID DE 136 78 27 46



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Director Dieter Kosslick commented.

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