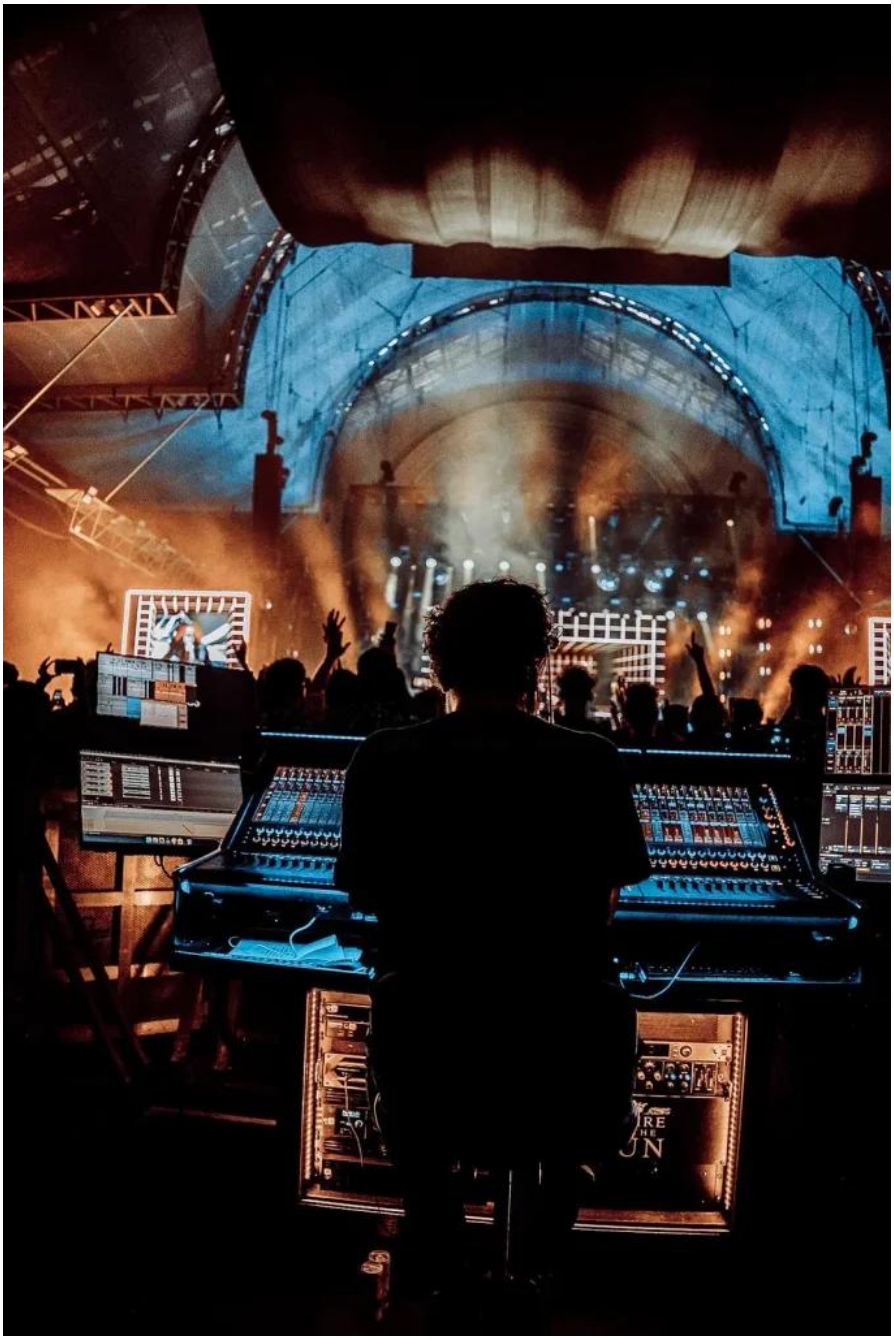
Empire of the Sun keep their options with DiGiCo Quantum consoles

Posted on November 18, 2026

The feeling of being a kid in a sweet shop was exactly what front of house engineer Paul Cooper (Coop) was hoping to capture for Empire of the Sun. Knowing that Luke loves his layers and effects, meant that the Fourier transform.engine and his Quantum 338 Pulse was a match made in heaven. Chad Halford was also using a Quantum 338 with Pulse upgrade at the monitor position. Together the pair could cover any combination of effect and instrument, while the high channel count of the Quantum 338 allowed plenty of space for ‘could we try this’ moments.

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Pictured Above: Paul (Coop) Cooper (***FOH***)

“Luke Steele is very knowledgeable about his sound”, Coop recalls. “We record a board mix for him every night and take visuals from a separate camera feed. He also loves his effects. A lot. I think half of my Fourier is taken up with layers of delays, doublers, reverbs, phasers, you name it. Thankfully, the DiGiCo Quantum 338 has the power and channel count to keep up with every ‘can we just try adding this’ request I experience.”

The Australian act have been performing for almost 20 years and throughout that time have built a reputation for experimentation, both in their musical style and staging. They utilise a combination of analogue drums, big synths, and soaring guitars mixed with layers of what Coop describes as ‘digital thickening’. For him, the functionality and customisation of a DiGiCo Quantum console was the logical choice to help him keep up.

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Pictured Above: Chad Halford (Monitors)

“The sound is ever-evolving, so having MADI and Dante on board is fantastic for us. We record each show in multitrack, which is essential for going back over the details with the band,” he continues. “Most of my detail on individual channels is handled with the power of the Mustard processing before heading to the busses and on to the Fourier. I find the latency much easier to deal with that way. Trying to keep often four or five instances of separate percussive bits in line can be rough. Thankfully with internal chaining and compression the DiGiCo software makes it

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easier. Paired with the ability to have my studio setup essentially in a box, the Fourier keeps me from needing a big old rack of extras.”

At the monitor position, Halford has always opted for DiGiCo. For him, workflow, flexibility and sonic clarity are key. As he continues, his DiGiCo Quantum 338 Pulse is the best combination of these attributes available in the industry.



“Coop and I share I/O in an Optocore Loop, it’s a fantastic system with a ton of flexibility,” he says. “It makes it easy to route anything anywhere in an instant, which is really helpful for last-minute feed requests. I also rely on Snapshots on this show, we have a huge amount of dynamics in the set and I will run multiple scenes per song to keep the mixes under control. DiGiCo’s Snapshot environment is very powerful and allows me to work fast which is crucial in monitors. I really like the Mustard processing and it’s getting used on a bunch of inputs, pretty much all my processing is done on the desk.”

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Brian Thorpe is General Manager for Major Tom USA Projects. The company has supplied Empire of the Sun in the USA for almost two years. DiGiCo is a natural choice for the band and for Major Tom’s wider inventory. “We stock DiGiCo for Major Tom because it is reliable, sounds great and is one of the most widely specified platforms in touring. It’s a proven console that engineers know and trust worldwide.”

With further worldwide tour dates well into 2027, the band will be continuing to develop their

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unique sound. For Coop and Halford, continuing to say yes in order to let that happen is a fundamental part of the process and as the pair conclude, DiGiCo is the best tool to keep up with their creative flamboyance.



“The DiGiCo Snapshot environment is very powerful and allows me to work fast, which is crucial in monitors,” Halford says. “The show keeps growing in size, and we add new channels all the time. I’m not worried, though, as we have the channel and buss count on the 338 to handle

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whatever anyone needs, along with the extra MADI and DMI cards it means we’re ready for pretty much anything.”

“Keeping on top of all the elements can be mind-bending,” Coop ends. “Thankfully with internal chaining and compression of the DiGiCo software makes it easier. Paired with Fourier, the setup keeps me from needing a big old rack of extras.”

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