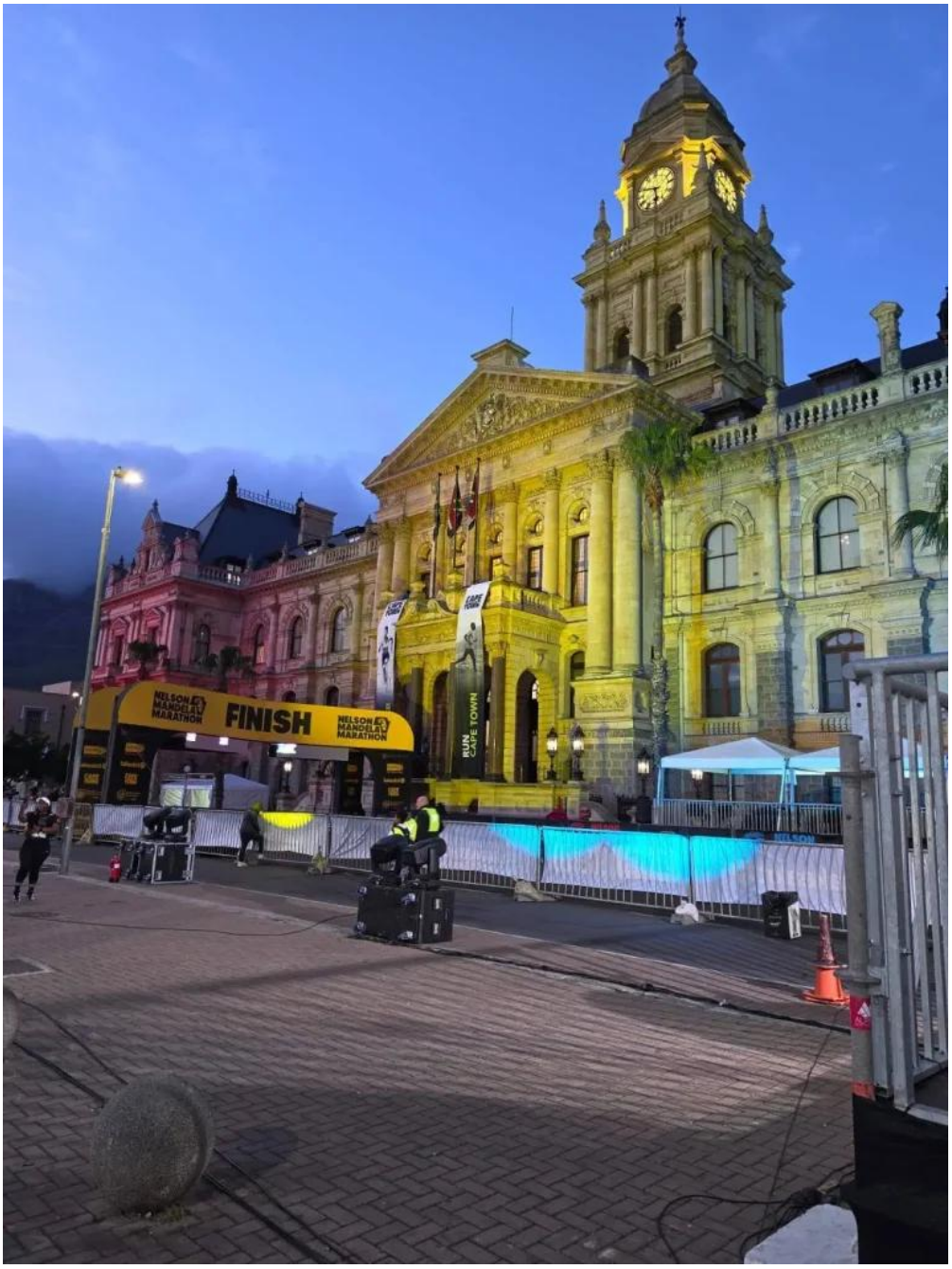
Ultra Events puts ADJ to work at Nelson Mandela Marathon

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If lighting fixtures had to pass a fitness test, the ADJ Hydro Profiles and Jolts would be right up there on the podium! For Costa Champanis and his team at Ultra Events in Cape Town, these fixtures have become firm favourites, keeping pace with everything from cycling events, marathons, corporate events and concerts.

Their latest outing was particularly special. The inaugural Nelson Mandela Marathon took place in Cape Town on 18 October and attracted 26,500 participants across its various events.



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“The Team had a good time working on this inaugural sporting event,” says Costa Champanis, owner of Ultra Events, a technical supply company based in Cape Town. We’ve been getting up early, working hard in the harsh Cape Town sun, setting up and getting into the vibe of each event. The running is contagious! There’s always such a great atmosphere at races, and it’s been wonderful to add the ADJ fixtures into the mix. I’m always proud of my team, getting things done, coming up with ‘on the ground solutions’ to curveballs, and overcoming with great ULTRA-spirit.”

To illuminate Cape Town City Hall, Costa deployed 12 ADJ Hydro fixtures, and more where used at the main stage offering a precision framing system, CMY colour mixing, extensive GOBO effects, and motorised zoom for creative control. In addition, 24 ADJ Jolt fixtures were positioned on Litec-truss totem stands, creating visual impact alongside the stage, where cheerleaders and dancers helped build excitement as runners prepared to set off from the starting line. The Jolt delivers vibrant RGB colour alongside intense white strobes and blinder effects, adding energy and excitement.



Practicality matters, especially when working outdoors. With IP65-rated options, the Hydro are designed to handle dust and unpredictable weather conditions, making them well suited to the demands of sporting events and outdoor productions.

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The Nelson Mandela Global Running Series is more than just a race. It aims to use running to bring people together, with Madiba’s five guiding values, namely courage, dignity, equality, unity and freedom at its heart.



The initiative aims to become an international movement, taking the spirit of the event to cities including Nairobi, Paris, Berlin, The Hague and Atlanta. Cape Town will host the final event in the series each year.

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The Cape Town route gave runners much to think about along the way. Combining the traditional Slave Route Challenge with a course through the city, participants passed landmarks such as District Six, the Grand Parade, Parliament and the Castle of Good Hope. The climb up Koesister Hill in Bo-Kaap added a tough physical test to an event already rich in historical significance.

Each runner wore a race number carrying 46664, the number assigned to Madiba during his imprisonment on Robben Island. The event also raised funds for the Nelson Mandela Foundation.

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