

Newsletter

Issue No. 04 | JANUARY - 2026



*image courtesy-J Davis Prosound & Lighting

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***"The Curtain Falls on a Remarkable 2025
... Setting the Stage for a Bolder 2026!"***

Wishing Everyone an Eventful New Year!

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REFORM | STANDARDISE | REVOLUTIONISE



Message from the PRESIDENT SANTANA DAVIS

Dear EESA Members,

Wishing you all a very Happy New Year 2026.

As we step into the new year, I would like to take a moment to thank every member for their continued support, unity, and belief in the strength of our association.

As we conclude 2025 and step into 2026, we are witnessing encouraging progress as the industry moves toward greater accountability, collaboration, and long-term stability.

The past year has shown steady progress—particularly in addressing payment discipline and reinforcing the importance of collective responsibility. While challenges remain, our journey clearly proves that a strong, united association is the only way to bring structure, fairness, and long-term growth to our sector.

As we enter the new year, let us move forward with renewed confidence, collaboration, and purpose. On behalf of the National Executive Committee (NEC) and National Coordination Committee (NCC) of EESA, I wish every member success, stability, and growth in 2026.

Warm regards
SANTANA DAVIS
President
EESA



Dear EESA Friends,

Happy New Year to everyone!

FOUNDER PRESIDENT &
REGIONAL CHAIRPERSON'S DESK
FELIX REMEDIOS

New Year is that magical season when we promise ourselves bigger business, better margins and dream clients... and then quietly settle for manageable stress and timely payments. But hope springs eternal

After nearly 45 years in this industry, allow me a quick trip down memory lane—those who were there will nod knowingly, and those who weren't may conclude we're all slightly mad.

I started in 1981, age 21, with a “massive” investment of ₹15,000—₹ 2,500 mine and ₹12,500 from the bank. That wasn't seed funding, it was life funding. Failure wasn't an option because Plan B didn't exist.

Back then, sound systems travelled to shows on rented cycle-rickshaws for ₹15. We charged ₹250 per show, did maybe four shows a month – and still walked around feeling like industry titans..

Imported systems? Forget it. We became international shoppers instead. Singapore trips were “audio missions”, not vacations—drivers in bags, suitcases, and sometimes more creative hideouts. Indian carpenters became our R&D team, and optimism was the secret ingredient.

The real boss fight was Customs. Duties were 360%, officers examined gear like alien technology, and whisky on the return flight was not celebration—it was courage before facing the green channel. Yet through all of this, we were sure—this was our industry. We were passionate, stubborn, and slightly foolish... and it worked.

Fast forward 45 years: everything is available locally, no contraband suitcases, no prayers at customs. Investments are larger, returns are better—but stress has also upgraded to the latest version.

Today we deal with price wars, undercutting, investor-funded newcomers, big inventory players, and now new labour compliances—all squeezing margins thinner than speaker cable in the 80s. Absorbing every new cost ourselves is not a long-term strategy.

As an industry, we need to sit together, talk honestly, and figure out how to pass these burdens where they belong—because collaboration is the only sensible path forward.

Wishing you all a fantastic year ahead—may your gigs run smooth, your payments come on time, your crews stay cooperative, and your clients be slightly less demanding!

Warm regards,
Felix Remedios

2025 Year in Review: Gamechangers in India's Live Events & Production Tech

As we close the 2025-26 cycle, India's live events and entertainment ecosystem continues its rapid evolution. Large-format concerts, festivals, exhibitions, sports, corporate shows and experiential marketing are now driving a dynamic and more sophisticated industry. Private stakeholder collaboration, better government recognition and rising international touring standards are reinforcing this shift.

Tech & Production Trends That Defined 2025

Immersive & Networked AV

Audio-visual systems continue to evolve with new technology and improvements with scalable and immersive solutions. beam-steered line arrays, and high-brightness LED/projection setups shortened deployment time while delivering cleaner coverage in arenas, stadiums and corporate ballrooms.

Wireless Reliability & Control

With events becoming denser and more complex, RF management and low-latency networking emerged as critical. Robust new wireless microphone, IEM, and control protocols were a clear upgrade for touring productions, reducing interference and improving operational flexibility.

Rigging, Truss & Stage Engineering

India's staging and rigging ecosystem matured significantly. Investments in certified hoists, engineered truss, 360° staging formats and load-calculated outdoor structures became more visible through the year. The push toward structured rigging practices and safety documentation is gradually aligning the local touring market with international standards.

Lighting, SFX & Visual Integration

Intelligent lighting, hybrid & IP Rated fixtures and pixel-mapped content continued to merge lighting, LED and laser workflows into unified show control. The wider availability of atmospheric SFX (haze, CO₂, low-fog, snow, flame) made arena-style looks more achievable for both touring artists and premium private events.

AI also entered production workflows through scheduling, ticketing forecasting, crowd management are early signs of a deeper shift to software-assisted live production.

The Road Ahead:

Across AV, staging, rigging, SFX, pyro, audio, lighting and infrastructure, the future of live experiences is being defined by engineering, interoperability, talent and software-driven workflows. Those investing early in these pillars will lead the next decade of innovation.

EESA remains committed to supporting and accelerating this advancement as India's events industry enters its next phase.

PRODUCT **Spotlight**

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MEMBER Spotlight

A RECAP - ACHIEVEMENTS THAT SHAPED 2025

January - March

International Awards

Amir Morani Fireworks LLP

AZAN MORANI



2nd Place at The International Fireworks Competition 2024 - Germany

People's Choice Award at The International Fireworks Championship 2024 - U.S.A



National Award

Giant Truss

Achievement in Trussing Solution at WOW Awards Asia 2024
(Ram Ki Paidi at Ayodhya - 200FT x 70FT Trussing for World's Biggest Outdoor Projection Screen)



ARVIND

MEMBER Spotlight

April - June

SPOTLIGHT AWARDS 2025

J Davis Prosound and Lighting

Silver -

Best Lights Company- Festivals/Concerts

Event 1:

Bryan Adams (So Happy it Hurts tour)

Event 2:

Prateek Kuhad (Silhouettes tour)

Gold -

Best Sound Company- Festivals/Concerts

Event 1: Bryan Adams (So Happy it Hurts tour)

Event 2: Prateek Kuhad (Silhouettes tour)



SANTANA DAVIS



WOW AWARDS 2025

Sound & Light Professionals

Gold - Audio/Trussing/SFX

Event - Cold Play

Bronze - Trussing

Event - Ambani Wedding



MANISH MAVANI

MEMBER Spotlight

July - September



ARVIND

A Historic Milestone: Giant Truss Roof System Exported to Germany

Our very own EESA Member Arvind of Giant Truss, shares a landmark achievement – For the first time in India's history, an Indian brand has exported such a large and advanced roof truss system to Germany, fully meeting European quality standards, norms, and certifications.

This milestone proves that Indian engineering and manufacturing are not just on par with the world's best – but fully capable of competing with and outperforming European brands in the global market.

The Roof System

- Dimensions: 35m wide x 16m deep x 18m high
- Load Capacity: Nearly 40 tons on the aluminum roof structure
- Engineering: Calculated and certified by German engineers
- Manufacturing: Built in our state-of-the-art 72,000 sqm facility in Rohtak, equipped with advanced welding technology, CNC machinery, and certified processes



The result is one of the strongest aluminum roof structures in the world and among the most powerful mobile stage constructions in Europe. With its impressive size, highest safety standards, and smooth logistics, it stands as a true engineering masterpiece

Azan Morani of Amir Morani Fireworks

India's own Amir Morani Fireworks, led by EESA member Azan Morani, has once again lit up the global stage – winning Blackpool's World Fireworks Championship 2025. Their "varied and diverse" display wowed over 30,000 spectators, earning praise from judges for its creativity, precision, and technical brilliance.

With this victory, the team becomes the first to qualify for the prestigious Champion of Champions Final in 2028, bringing yet another moment of pride for India's entertainment industry.



AZAN MORANI



MEMBER Spotlight

July - September



MEN AT WORK IN THE SPOTLIGHT WITH VECTORWORKS

MANKARAN SINGH

We're proud to celebrate our very own EESA member, Mankaran Singh from Men At Work, who has been featured by Vectorworks for his remarkable contributions to the production design space. Over the past two years, Mankaran and his team have been redefining large-scale event and experience design with innovation, precision, and creativity at the core of every project.

This recognition by Vectorworks highlights Men At Work's cutting-edge approach to integrating technology and design excellence – a true testament to the talent and vision driving India's live event industry forward. Congratulations, Mankaran, on this well-deserved spotlight



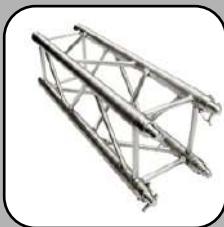
INDIA'S FIRST 22 METER SOUND TOWER WITH A 5 METER CANTILEVER

A Big shout-out to our very own EESA Member Mr. K.P. George from Coatsman who shared their recent achievement with us - "Coatsman is proud to have provided India's first 22 meter sound tower with a 5 meter cantilever for the Anirudh Ravichander World Tour Grand Finale in Chennai. The complete scaffold structure design, drawing and execution was carried out by our in house team and was design certified as per venue conditions, sound, light and trussing loads taken into consideration."



K.P. GEORGE

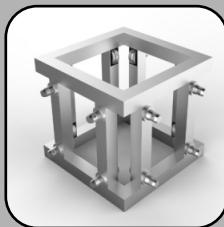




TRUSS



BASE UNIT



SLEEVE BLOCK



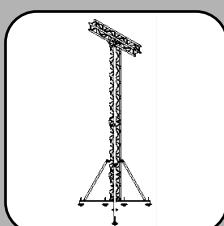
CORNERS BLOCK



TOP PULLEY UNIT



CRANK STAND



LIGHTING TRUSS



AUDIO TRUSS



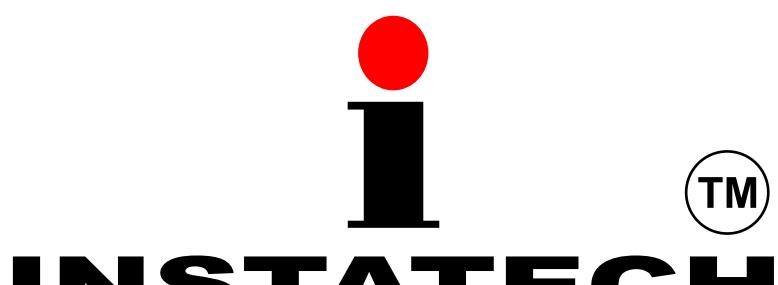
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LOADING RAMP - FIXED



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Lighting Bracket Aluminium



GERMAN TENT KEDER CLAMP



LED SCREEN CLAMP



RATCHET LASHING



MANUAL CHAIN HOIST



Electric Hoist - 1 Ton

QUARTER 4 - COMPLIANCES CALENDAR - 2025-26

DUE DATE	PERIOD	PARTICULARS
JANUARY		
07-01-2026	December	Deposit of TDS & TCS (Non-Government deductors)
10-01-2026	December	Filing of GSTR-7 (TDS) & GSTR-8 (TCS)
11-01-2026	December	Filing of GSTR-1 (Monthly filers > ₹5cr turnover)
13-01-2026	December	Filing of GSTR-6 (ISD) & GSTR-5 (NRTP)
13-01-2026	Oct to Dec (Quarter -3)	GSTR-1 for taxpayers under the QRMP Scheme (Oct-Dec 2025)
15-01-2026	December	Payment of ESI & PF contributions
15-01-2026	Oct to Dec (Quarter -3)	Filing of TCS Return (Form 27EQ) for Q3 (Oct-Dec 2025)
18-01-2026	Oct to Dec (Quarter -3)	CMP-08 for Composition Scheme taxpayers (Oct-Dec 2025)
20-01-2026	December	Filing of GSTR-3B (Monthly filers)
20-01-2026	December	Employee Professional Tax
22-01-2026	Oct to Dec (Quarter -3)	GSTR-3B for QRMP taxpayers (based on state category) for Q3.
30-01-2026	Oct to Dec (Quarter -3)	Issuance of Quarterly TCS Certificate (Form 27D) for Q3.
31-01-2026	Oct to Dec (Quarter -3)	Filing of Quarterly TDS Return (Forms 24Q, 26Q, 27Q) for Q3 (Oct-Dec 2025).
31-01-2026	Companies ROC Filings (FY 2024-25)	Extended deadline for Annual ROC Filings (AOC-4 & MGT-7) for FY 2024-25 (per latest circulars)
FEBRUARY		
07-02-2026	January	Deposit of TDS & TCS (Non-Government deductors)
10-02-2026	January	Filing of GSTR-7 (TDS) & GSTR-8 (TCS)
11-02-2026	January	Filing of GSTR-1 (Monthly filers > ₹5cr turnover)
13-02-2026	January	Filing of GSTR-6 (ISD) & GSTR-5 (NRTP)
15-02-2026	January	Payment of ESI & PF contributions
15-01-2026	Oct to Dec (Quarter -3)	Issuance of Quarterly TDS Certificate (Form 16A) for Q3.
20-02-2026	January	Filing of GSTR-3B (Monthly filers)
20-02-2026	January	Employee Professional Tax
MARCH		
07-03-2026	Feb	Deposit of TDS & TCS (Non-Government deductors)
10-03-2026	Feb	Filing of GSTR-7 (TDS) & GSTR-8 (TCS)
11-03-2026	Feb	Filing of GSTR-1 (Monthly filers > ₹5cr turnover)
13-03-2026	Feb	Filing of GSTR-6 (ISD) & GSTR-5 (NRTP)
15-03-2026	Feb	Payment of ESI & PF contributions
15-03-2026	Financial Year 2025-26	Last Installment of Advance Tax (100%) for FY 2025-26 (Individuals & Companies).
20-03-2026	Feb	Filing of GSTR-3B (Monthly filers)
20-03-2026	Feb	Employee Professional Tax
31-03-2026	Financial Year 2025-26	Last date for Tax Saving Investments (ELSS, PPF, LIC) for Individuals for FY 2025-26.
31-03-2026	Financial Year 2025-26	Completion of Year-end Stock Taking and Depreciation calculations.

RECAP OF 2025 - EVENTS, INITIATIVES & IMPACT

In 2025, EESA advanced fair practices, collaboration, governance, skill development, and global representation within the events ecosystem.

MEMBER PROTECTION & FAIR PRACTICES

DRC resolved 18 out of 25 disputes raised from 2021 till 2025 helping members recover approximately 2.85-3.41 crores

Industry incidents highlighted how supplier unity prevents unfair last-minute client practices, protecting value and integrity.



COLLABORATION, REPRESENTATION & LEADERSHIP

COREA 3.0 (Apr 2025): EESA participated alongside 23 associations, focusing on education, compliance, safety, and representation.

WOW Awards 2025: Joint EESA x EEMA dialogue addressed trust deficits, communication gaps, and agency-supplier reform.

Honorary Membership: Renowned Industry Icon and Thought Leader Viraf Pocha inducted as an Honorary Member of EESA, strengthening creative leadership within the community.



GLOBAL PRESENCE & MARKET POSITIONING

GET Show, China:

President Santana Davis represented India's evolving equipment rental industry on a global stage. Key messages:

India's market is fast-growing across concerts, weddings, corporates, and festivals.

Demand for high-end audio, lighting, LED & AV systems is surging.

China-India collaboration opportunities highlighted in:

- Affordable quality gear
- Custom R&D
- Local service support
- Scalable supply chains
- Tech partnerships

Clear takeaway: India is ready, expanding rapidly, and open to global innovation.



SKILL BUILDING & TECHNICAL TRAINING

PALM- EESA Rigging & Trussing Workshop: Continued to raise technical and safety standards for rigging professionals.



InfoComm India: EESA made its debut as Association Partner, unlocking potential for AV training, certification and collaboration with InfoComm & AVIXA teams.



MEMBER-LED TRAINING SUPPORTED BY EESA:

Coatsman Scaffolding: 3-day Competent Person Scaffolding Workshop focused on safety protocols and compliance.



Giant Truss: 7-city Rigging Workshop Series delivering nationwide access to safety practices and load management training.



COMMUNITY, RECOGNITION & NETWORKING

Meet & Greet : Cross-zone networking during Palm Expo, strengthening relationships and collaboration.



BIG Awards 2025:

President Santana Davis served on the jury panel.

Anil Kumar Balakrishna spoke on Health, Safety & Environment—advocating safety-first and wellbeing-led event practices.



GOVERNANCE & REFORM

EESA Task Forces & Committees 2025–26 were launched for:

- Fair Practices & Industry Advocacy
- Sponsorships & Partnerships
- Events & Networking
- Memberships & Renewals
- Dispute Resolution
- Education, Workshops & Skill Development
- Social Media, Website & Marketing
- Accountancy & Compliance

EGM & AGM:

- Election term updated to 3 years
- New NEC & NCC announced
- FY 2024–25 financials shared



In summary - 2025 was a year of mediation, resolution, collaboration, global representation, reform and reinforcing the importance of Safety & Skill Development.



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