



SERAPID MEETS SHAKESPEARE DURING PRODUCTION OF KING JOHN

The Oregon Shakespeare Theater Festival was planning to incorporate an elevator for their production of Shakespeare's King John. They had some unique design restrictions to allow them to bring up some large scenic elements stored under the stage.

"The elevator we were building had very little space for a traditional ram or drive," said Tom Knapp, Production Manager for the Oregon Shakespeare Festival Theater in Ashland, Oregon. In fact, little room or space was an understatement – there was no room.

Knapp turned to SERAPID. "The ability of the chain to form and unform a column was attractive," he said, referencing the unique ability of SERAPID's Rigid Chain to telescope and retract into tight spaces. There was no room available under the stage for them to store any equipment.

The Oregon Shakespeare Theater Festival group ordered four SERAPID LinkLift columns that were attached to steel columns to lift a 12 by 14 foot elevator up and down 10 feet with two electric motors.

Special elements were designed by the SERAPID team for this job. The chain is guided inside a hard nylon guide mounted to the wall, and is stored in a magazine in the floor. In order to not disrupt the performance, noise was kept to a minimum by the use of low vibration, high speed sprockets incorporated into the chain.

SERAPID has supplied lift systems for the theater industry for the last 13 years. Their systems accommodate high trim lifting applications quietly, smoothly and safely. The square links of the patented, award-winning LinkLift work like building blocks to form a tower stack, with the shape and locking technique making it capable of extra-high rigidity and strength.

For more information about SERAPID's stage engineering solutions, visit their web site: www.serapid.us, e-mail: info-us@serapid.com, or call 800-663-4514.

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