



TAO's [redacted] at the venue for the 40th anniversary celebrations, which took place in Tripoli and featured the largest temporary stage ever erected in the region.

The 40th anniversary of Colonel Gaddafi coming to power was celebrated at a spectacular event in Libya, where safety was a big priority for organisers. The Main Event found out more...

Safety key as Libya celebrates

THE biggest party in Libyan history took place in Tripoli and highlights included a history of North Africa performed by 800 dancers, a pre-dawn feast with floats, dancing and horsemanship and bands from around the world performing at the parade.

The Maltese President and his Serbian counterpart, Boris Tadic, attended, with other guests including the Palestinian President, Mahmoud Abbas, the Emir of Qatar and the King of Jordan.

TAO Productions provided safety and risk consultancy services for the main structure build – working with Serious Stages and Atlantic

Enterprises who were contracted by Le Public Systeme to provide a custom structure for the staging of the production.

For the largest temporary stage ever erected in the region, the companies utilised numerous Antonov aircraft to fly out the massive amounts of equipment required.

The build was project managed by Atlantic's Shane McCarthy and David Fletcher with design and engineering support being handled by Serious Stages' team back in the UK.

Both staging companies were passionate that given the scale and complexity of the build, it was essential that safety should be paramount and

built into the project from the start, despite a short lead in time.

Two main areas of concern were the scorching temperatures and the extreme heights involved in completing the custom roof structures.

Atlantic's Shane McCarthy developed a detailed build schedule and TAO worked closely with both companies in the development of detailed method statements, risk assessments, lifting plans, worker welfare strategies and a construction phase plan.

TAO's [redacted] was dispatched to Tripoli to conduct third party assurance of the safety systems put in place on-site, including work programming given the intense heat,

work at height compliance, lifting operations and workplace transport.

Head of TAO Andy Cotton said: "In light of recent tragic events related to the construction of temporary demountable structures, it is critical for companies to take stock of the hazards associated with such activities.

"We have a long standing arrangement with Serious to provide additional support for their proactive stance to safety management, and we were delighted to be asked to contribute to such a high profile event."