



Case Study

London 2012 Olympic Games Ceremonies



London, England

JOB FACTS

Location:	London, England
Staging:	15,000 sqm
Costumes:	23,000
Work Days:	133
Cast:	15,000

Director Steve Richards was asked to take on the role of Senior Field of Play Production Manager for the London 2012 Ceremonies. In addition to ensuring the various staging elements of the four ceremonies were built correctly and safely, he was also responsible for the logistics of clearing the Olympic Stadium after each opening ceremony in order for it to be ready to host the athletics elements of the Games.

One of the main challenges was to coordinate 320 artic loads of show props, staging and other production equipment were clear of the stadium within 60 hours of the ceremony ending. In addition to this, the grass for the field of play in the centre of the stadium also had to be put in place. All this was achieved with 2 hours to spare.

Spectators in the Olympic Stadium for the opening ceremony were treated to a pre-show event, where the world's largest harmonically

tuned bell chimed at 21:00. Weighing 27 tons, it was cast at London's Whitechapel Foundry, where 13.5-tonne Big Ben was made in 1856 and took weeks of planning to manoeuvre it into the stadium...and out again.

"You've been a huge asset to our team. I hope you've enjoyed your time working on the project as much as we've enjoyed working with you, constantly hard working and always willing to do anything asked of you."

Piers Shepperd - Technical Director