

Spectators enjoyed Winter Olympic action with Stageco in Vancouver

International staging and structures company Stageco designed and built the construction of the video screen supports across the 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics sites.

The 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics Games brought together athletes from around the world to compete in more than 15 winter sports events scheduled across different venues.

Stageco was commissioned to design and build a series of video wall structures across five outdoor locations in Vancouver's Whistler Mountains and at the BC Place Stadium in downtown Vancouver.

Stageco's team of engineers and R&D specialists designed a series of bespoke solutions for each location. The differing requirements of each support structure were determined by location, weight and size of the screens and the required viewing angles for spectators.

Stageco managed the design process, transport logistics and crew in advance of the icy build to start in November 2009, planning for the extreme weather conditions and transportation of material across mountainous areas. Project Manager Thierry Nataf explained:

"The Whistler Creekside, the site for the Alpine skiing was a very challenging build for the team, working on the side of a steep mountain at over 800m high and in snowy, wintery conditions. The structures across the sites had to support varying sized video screens and scoreboards, as well as take into account the spectator's visibility and location."

On Cypress Mountain, Stageco built two video screen structures to relay the snowboard, ski cross and freestyle action. A further three video screens were used on the Nordic Ski area for the cross country, biathlon and ski jump events.

Inside the BC Place Stadium, Stageco designed and built a further three video screen structures to relay the opening and closing ceremonies for the Games and nightly Victory Ceremony presentations to 55,000 spectators. The three screens, measuring 47m² and two 96m² displays were built into the stadium's infrastructure and were built in January ready for the Opening ceremony in mid-February.

Tom Bilsen, Stageco's Operations Manager added:

"We used the network of Stageco offices to transport the material required, shipping three containers from Stageco International head offices in Belgium and a further three trucks of mostly scaffolding from Stageco US."