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THE UNITED STATES AIR FORCE  
**ACADEMY BAND**

# **BLUE STEEL**

## **TECHNICAL RIDER**

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## **I. ARRIVAL**

1. The hall or performance area should be available approximately 4 hours prior to scheduled performance.
2. The exact setup time will be determined prior to arrival at the facility.
3. The USAFA Band requires a Facility Manager who has complete access to, and is fully knowledgeable about the facility.
4. Facility Manager must be available at the venue from load-in through load-out.

## **II. PARKING FACILITIES**

Parking spaces are required for one 24-foot truck and 2 passenger cars/vans.

## **III. DRESSING ROOMS**

1. The USAFA Band requires one men's dressing room to accommodate 5 males, and one women's dressing to accommodate 1 female. The rooms should be furnished with coat racks, mirrors, and tables, and should be in close proximity to rest room facilities.
2. Dressing rooms must be securable and available for use exclusively by the performers.

## **IV. EQUIPMENT**

1. Approximately 5000 lb. of equipment is packed in heavy-duty flight cases with wheels. Most of these cases are extremely heavy and awkward. In the interest of safety, moving equipment up and down stairs must be avoided. Please ensure appropriate elevators and/or ramps are available if stairs should present a problem.
2. For outdoor performances, every effort must be taken to avoid moving cases over uneven ground, rocks, grass, etc., between equipment truck and stage area.

## **V. CASE STORAGE AREA**

1. A secure storage area approximately 15' by 15' is necessary to hold empty equipment cases.

## **VI. STAGE PREPARATION**

1. The stage should be cleared and ready for load-in.
2. For safety reasons, the stage must be clear of public traffic for one hour following the performance.
3. Minimum door size of 36" wide by 84" tall is required for loading and unloading of large cases.
4. Sufficient overhead lighting is required at the loading dock and on-stage for load-in/load-out.

## **VII. STAGE REQUIREMENTS**

1. Minimum stage dimensions of 24 feet wide by 20 feet deep are required.
2. Stage must have sufficient masking to hide backstage area.
3. No shell or acoustical ceiling will be used.
4. For outdoor performances, stage must have sufficient overhead coverage to prevent damage to sensitive electronic/musical equipment from direct sunlight and/or precipitation.

## **VIII. MIX POSITION REQUIREMENTS**

1. The house audio mix position should be located between 65-100 feet from the front of the stage, must be in full view of the stage and as close to the center of the house as possible.
2. An area of 8 feet wide by 6 feet deep is required. This may require positioning across the seating area to avoid blocking aisles.
3. It will be necessary to run audio and/or power cables between the stage and mix position. Every effort will be made to avoid tripping hazards across doorways and/or aisles.
4. For outdoor performances, a 12-foot square area is required. The USAFA Band will provide necessary overhead coverage to protect equipment from direct sunlight and/or precipitation.

## **IX. POWER REQUIREMENTS**

NOTE: ALL CIRCUITS MUST BE DEDICATED AND NOT TIED TO DIMMERS, HOUSE LIGHTING,ETC.

1. A minimum of four (4)/optimal of eight (8) separate 120-volt, 20-amp, 60 Hz, grounded alternating current (A/C) circuits is required for audio, band, and lighting equipment. (see Figures 1 and 2)
2. If the performance site does not have the necessary dedicated circuits, The USAFA Band can provide an electrical power distribution box. If this is necessary, please have a LICENSED ELECTRICIAN at the performance site upon arrival to connect a 3-phase 120V line requiring 150-amp service. The electrician must also disconnect the line after the performance is complete.
3. If location has no on-site electrical service (i.e. outdoor venue), Sponsor must provide a generator with the following requirements:
  - a. Must be properly grounded to Earth.
  - b. Must be positioned at least 25 feet from performance area.
  - c. Must not produce engine noise exceeding 70 decibels (A-weighted) at a distance of 25 feet.
  - d. Must produce a rated A/C output of at least 10,000 watts (10kW).
  - e. Must provide at least six separate 120-volt, 20-amp, 60 Hz grounded circuits.
  - f. Must be fueled for 6-8 hours continuous run time.

## **X. SOUND REINFORCEMENT SYSTEM**

1. The USAF Academy Band is fully self-contained with all necessary sound equipment, including speakers (mid/highs, subwoofers and wedge monitors), microphones, cabling and stands.
2. The USAFA Band utilizes up to ten wireless frequencies in the UHF 524-554 MHz and 782-806 MHz ranges. All house wireless systems in these ranges should be deactivated upon arrival.
3. In cases where the hall has an installed sound-reinforcement system, The USAFA Band Audio Engineer will contact the House Engineer to determine if any part of the house sound system will be used.
4. If any of the house system will be used, the House Engineer must be available from load-in through load-out.

## **XI. LIGHTING REQUIREMENTS**

1. For auditoriums, concert halls, and hotel/convention ballrooms, The USAFA Band recommends:
  - a. Minimum 60K 5-color stage wash (white/blue/green/red/amber)
  - b. 4-color cyc wash (blue/green/red/amber).
  - c. Seven focused stage specials (see Figure 2)
    - i. US Flag (always on)
    - ii. US Air Force Flag (always on)
    - iii. Lead Vocalist
    - iv. Lead Guitar
    - v. Keyboard
    - vi. Bass
    - vii. Drums
  - d. Two Spotlights
    - i. Rear House Left
    - ii. Rear House Right

If house lighting is to be used, the Sponsor or hall must provide two qualified lighting technicians, two spotlight operators, and intercom system. Lighting technicians should be available for set-up and sound-check in order to focus lighting and learn show cues. Spotlight operators should arrive 30 minutes prior to scheduled performance time to go over show cues with USAFA Band representative.

2. For small hotel/service club ballrooms or school gymnasium performances, The USAFA Band can provide additional lighting. Please be advised that additional electrical circuits are required (See Audio/Electrical circuits section) .  
Note: If additional power is not available, suitable overhead white lighting will be sufficient.

## **XII. SOUND CHECK**

The band requires a closed-house sound check prior to every performance.

### **XIII. FINAL NOTES**

Careful attention should be given to these requirements. If problems exist, or you have any questions whatsoever, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Please fill out the Technical Advance Form and fax to:

Blue Steel Concert Coordinator  
USAF Academy Band  
520 OTIS STREET  
PETERSON AFB CO 80914-1620  
(719) 556-9916  
FAX: (719) 556-9963

Figure 1. Blue Steel Power (With Lighting)

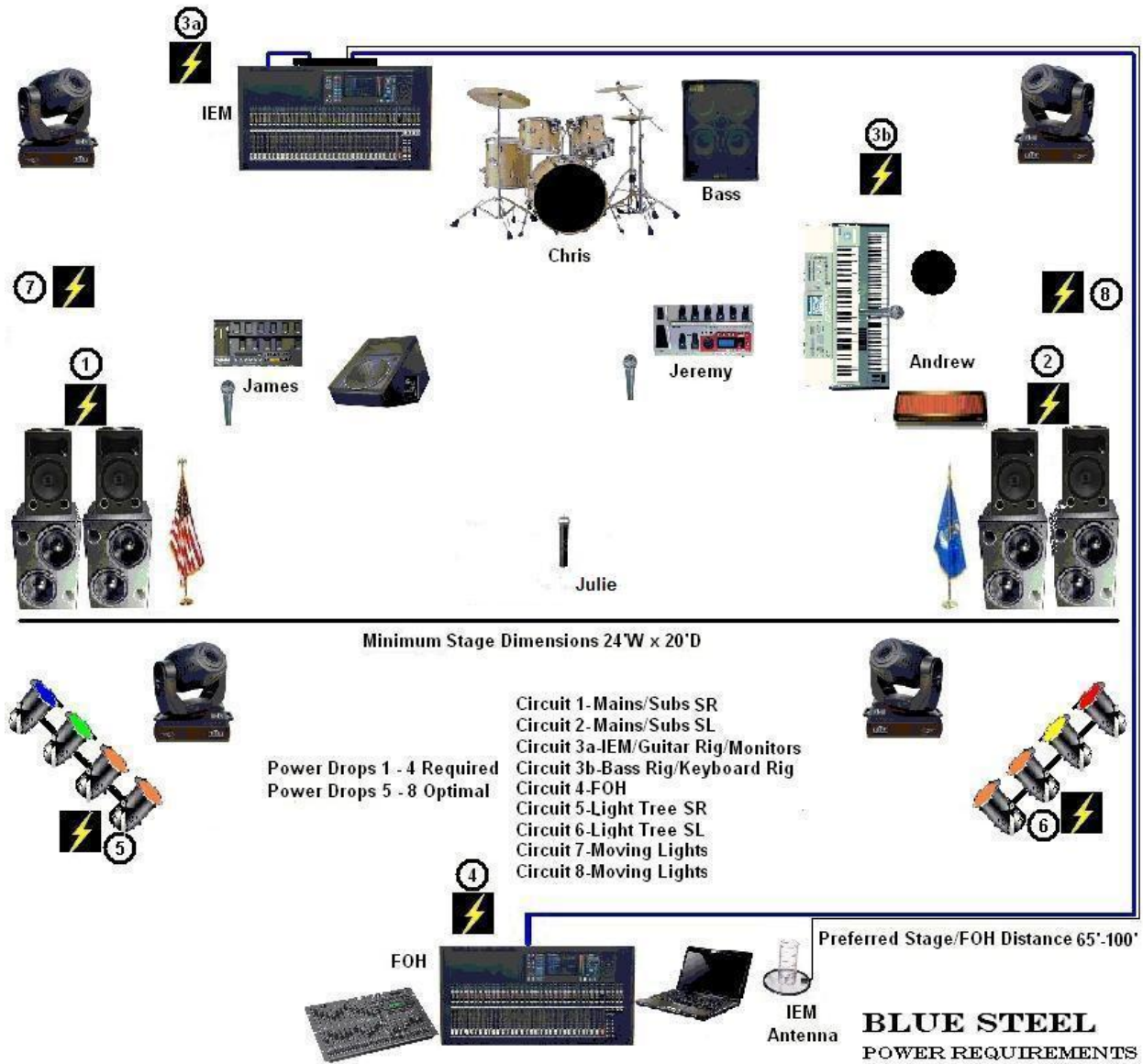


Figure 2. Blue Steel Power (No Lighting)

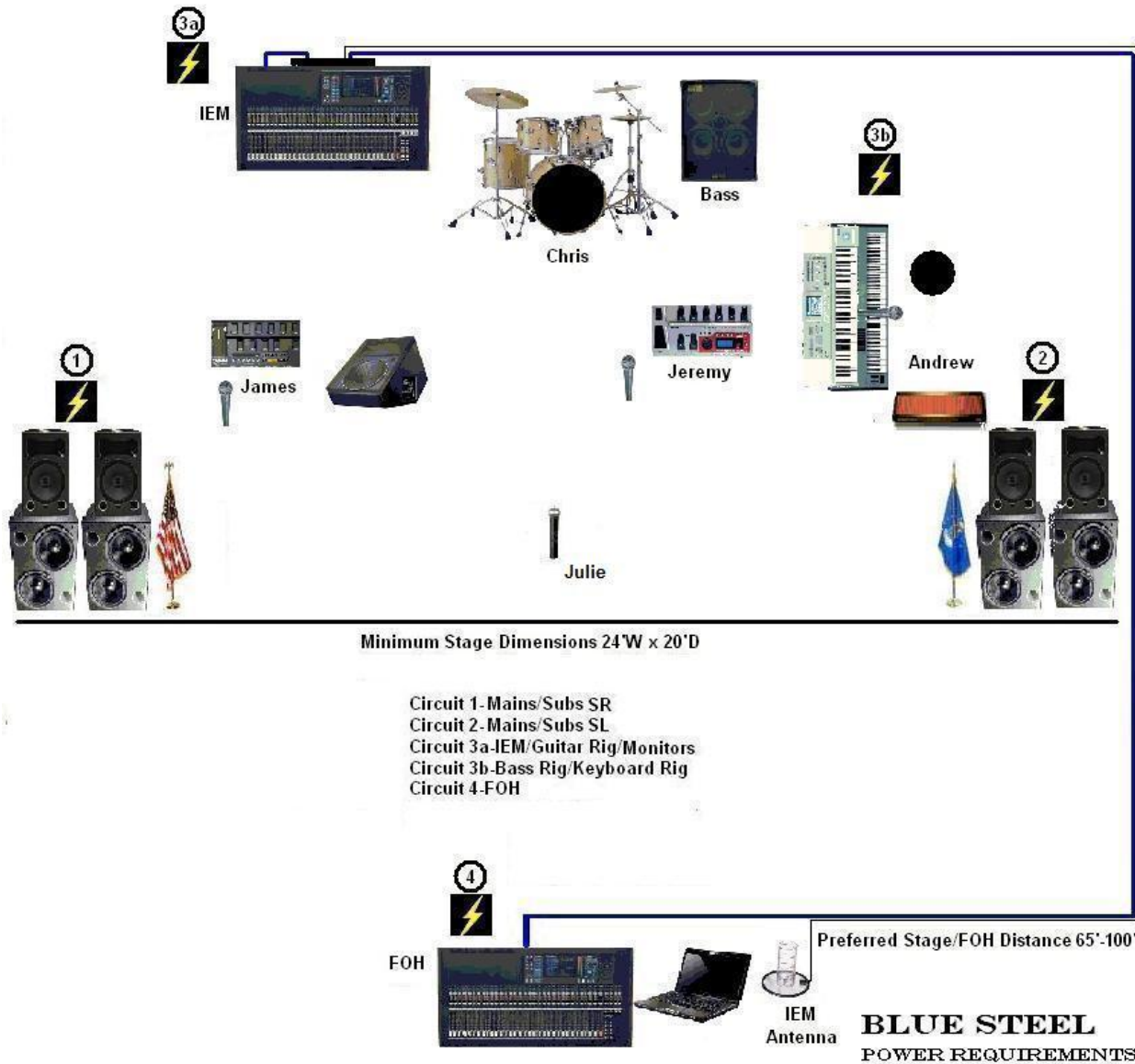


Figure 3. Lighting Specials

