

INDUSTRY NEWS

Send your news to Peter Saunders, Editor, psaunders@signmedia.ca

The Roots play 'light' beats

CeeLite's light-emitting capacitor (LEC) technology took centre stage earlier this year at the **Grammy Awards'** pre-show party, where **The Roots** performed with a sound-activated illuminated drum set and 0.9 x 9-m (3 x 30-ft) backlit stage signage.

The hip-hop group held its fourth annual pre-Grammys jam session at the Key Club in Blue Bell, Pa., introducing the technology that will be used on tour. The LEC panels mounted on **Yamaha** drums were powered by CeeLine's flat-line inverters at 25 per cent brightness throughout the set, increasing to 100 per cent each time drummer Ahmir 'Questlove' Thompson struck them. Flash durations ranged from 0.2 to 0.4 seconds to keep in synch with Questlove's drum rolls.

"The drums look great," he said. "I've never seen anything like them before. I'm glad we were able to use this technology on tour before everyone else gets a hold of it!"

The Roots' backlit sign, comprising five 0.9 x 1.8-m (3 x 6-ft) LEC panels, can also be illuminated to the beat of the group's music.

