

QolorFLEX Multiverse Wireless DMX Dimming at Stranger Things



PROJECT SNAPSHOT

Stranger Things, Season 4, Episode 5: The Nina Project. Photo: Netflix

Project Name: Wireless DMX and Dimming Control for Season 4 of Television Series

Stranger Things on Netflix

Season 4 (Part 1) Release Date:
Director of Photography:
Chief Lighting Technician:
Assistant Chief Lighting Technician:
Programmer:
Fixtures Foreman:
Fixtures Technician:

May 27, 2022
Caleb Heymann
Bob Bates
Mike Chateneuf
Nate Selee
Joy Britt
Anna McKindley

Fixtures Technician: Anna McKindley
Lighting Package: Wavelength Lighting

City Theatrical Solutions: Multiverse® Transmitter 900MHz/2.4GHz (P/N 5910), Multiverse Node 900MHz/2.4GHz (P/N

5902), and QolorFLEX® 2x2.5A 900MHz Multiverse Dimmers (13 units)



Stranger Things is a TV Horror show with four seasons since it first began on Netflix in 2016. The show is set in a small town that uncovers a mystery involving secret experiments and supernatural forces and one strange little girl.

Q&A WITH ANNA McKINDLEY

City Theatrical (CTI): What were some of the unique challenges for the project?

AM: The wireless dimmers had to perform while being enclosed in an aluminum flashlight body. On a stage full of signal challenges. Structural ones, inter-departmental frequency clashes. The dimmers also had to perform in a relatively hot environment being in a flashlight. Especially when they were used to drive 30W LEDs, which put out enough heat to melt plastic. We also hid the dimmers on bicycles. That was fun.

CTI: Were there any issues with existing Wi-Fi on set while broadcasting Multiverse?

AM: We used QolorFLEX 2x2.5A Multiverse Dimmers on the 900MHz* band and a dual band 900MHz/2.4.GHz Multiverse Transmitter and Node, and there were no issues with the 900MHz band.

CTI: Why was Multiverse the right solution for this project?

AM: More often than not, other departments were on the 2.4GHz and it was good to be able to switch to the 900MHz band. The price of the QolorFLEX Dimmers was absolutely right since we needed so many of them. Accounting was not going to let us buy or rent that many of a competing more expensive brand.

CTI: Did any unique testing go into choosing or installing Multiverse?

AM: We did have to get creative with power. They made it through several iterations of current/voltage testing to have the least amount of battery but the longest running time.





Joe Keery as Steve Harrington, Gaten Matarazzo as Dustin Henderson, Maya Hawke as Robin Buckley, Sadie Sink as Max Mayfield, Natalia Dyer is Nancy Wheeler, and Caleb McLaughlin is Lucas Sinclair in Stranger Things. Photo Courtesy of Netflix, © 2022

QolorFLEX 2x2.5A Multiverse 900MHz Dimmer (P/N 5917)

Q&A (Continued)

CTI: What was it like to work with Multiverse wireless DMX?

AM: I enjoyed it. I like how easy it is to start using it and I always remember how to use it every time I work with Joy. It's definitely a trusted system. It doesn't have the same link/unlink issues that I've seen competing products have. SHoW ID and SHoW Key are the best things since sliced bread.

CTI: What was it like to work with QolorFLEX 2x2.5A Multiverse wireless DMX dimmers? Do you have any memorable "dimming moments" from using them during any of this season's episodes?

AM: I loved these little guys! They're easy to set up, we didn't need to use external antennas, and they connect to the Multiverse Transmitter every time. Yes, we used the miniature dimmers in Episode 5, *The Nina Project*, with the kids in the attic with flashlights. Any time any main cast flashlights were used or they were on their bikes, the dimming control was provided by QolorFLEX 2x2.5A Multiverse Dimmers.

CTI: Are there any specific people you would like to credit for having worked with or around Multiverse wireless DMX on set or on location?

AM: My fixtures foreman Joy Britt. She has used the Multiverse equipment on every show since this one. Nate Selee, our programmer, said he was impressed by Multiverse. It was easy to set up and start controlling devices immediately. I think he was shocked it was very "plug and play" to his Grand MA console. Our Chief Lighting Technician Bob Bates was very happy with the results every time we used our Multiverse system.

"I like how easy it is to start using Multiverse wireless DMX and I always remember how to use it every time I work with Joy. It's definitely a trusted system. Show ID and Show KEY are the best things since sliced bread."

- Anna McKindley, Fixtures Technician, Stranger Things, Season 4



Learn more about Multiverse Transmitters at: www.citytheatrical.com/products/multiverse-transmitter



Learn more about Multiverse Node at: www.citytheatrical.com/products/multiverse-node



Learn more about QolorFLEX 2x2.5A Multiverse Dimmers at: www.citytheatrical.com/products/qolorflex-2x2-5a-multiverse-dimmer

