



RFK Stadium Hits a Home Run with Digital Surveillance System

The Client:

The Robert F. Kennedy (RFK) Stadium in Washington, D.C. opened on Oct. 1, 1961. It was originally used to house both the National Football League's Washington Redskins and Major League Baseball's Washington Senators. Today, the 56,000-seat stadium is home to Major League Baseball's Washington Nationals and Major League Soccer's DC United. Due to its capacity, the stadium has also proven ideal for concerts and other major events.

The Situation:

On April 14, 2005, President Bush was scheduled to throw the first pitch at the inaugural season of the new Washington Nationals baseball team at RFK Stadium. After more than 33 years without a Major League Baseball team, the stadium's security system was hardly up to date. "The old system was pushbutton switches with old domes and old multiplexers," said Bob Ryan, vice president of sales and marketing for ASG Security.

With the President in town in six weeks, the stadium's management company decided to allocate much of the \$14 million renovation budget to security and hired ASG to update the current system.

The Solution:

ASG installed two separate systems – one to protect the stadium 24/7 and a separate system for game day. The new video security system, all by Honeywell, consisted of 56 cameras, rugged housings and lenses, a MAX-1000 switcher, three Fusion DVRs and the ULTRAKey® system.



ASG designed a touch-screen system that would allow presets to be labeled by section, which was accomplished by the ULTRAKey controller. According to Ryan, “If the guard sees a disturbance in Section 217, with the ULTRAKey and the macro commands written behind it, it tells the

system. All he has to do is hit 217 and go. Other competitors forced end-users to match a fixed set of keys to the cameras. To use this system, all the security people have to know is the ballpark.”

“With this system, all the security people have to know is the ballpark.”

*Bob Ryan,
ASG Security*

In addition, the stadium was given 1,000 hours of recording time, accomplished by the Fusion DVR. Since the stadium covers events such as concerts, they wanted the system to be able to back up enough to recall for security purposes. They stadium was also given state-of-the-art equipment that could move with them in three years when the team would be moving to the new 41,000-seat ballpark built on the Anacostia River near the Capitol.

The Benefits:

With Honeywell's help, it took one week to engineer the system and an additional week to receive the OK to proceed. Once that was complete, what should have been a 12- to 16-week project was completed in six weeks – all in time for the President's first pitch to begin the inaugural season of the new Washington Nationals baseball team.

The Product:

- Rugged housings and lenses
- MAX-1000 Switch
- Fusion Digital Video Recorder
- ULTRAKey



More Information:

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