

OVERVIEW

New Training Tool for Team USA™: Enterprise-Class Networking

At the three Olympic Training Centers (OTCs) across the U.S., staff, coaches and athletes are taking advantage of a new tool that may help re-shape the training landscape for the U.S. Olympic Team. It's not a new conditioning regimen, or coaching philosophy.

It's high-speed, high-performance networking.

The coaches, athletes and staff at the U.S. Olympic Training Centers are powered by the same type of networking and communications capabilities that boost productivity in corporate environments and leading university campuses.

Says Karen Jennings, Senior Executive Vice President at AT&T, "We saw that the United States Olympic Committee (USOC) had many of the same goals and challenges that we address with our business clients every day. They were looking to help their people – their athletes, their coaches and their staff – perform more effectively. That's precisely where networking can help."

As a sponsor of the United States Olympic Team, AT&T designed and manages the networking environment for the three U.S. Olympic Training Centers in Chula Vista, California, Colorado Springs, Colorado and Lake Placid, New York.

The goal is to enhance the overall training process by offering USOC staff, U.S. Olympic athletes and hopefuls, and coaches new ways to collaborate, communicate and access resources that support their training efforts.

And not so incidentally, the networking at the OTCs improves day-to-day life for the athletes by helping them stay in touch with friends and family back home and to gear down after the day's training is done.

A Trainers' and Athletes' Network

The core of the OTC network is an IP-based Virtual Private Network that supports all the key administrative systems for the Training Centers, which includes everything from e-mail to event management, databases, and record-keeping. To assure that these 'must-have' tools remain up and running, the actual applications run on servers in secured AT&T Data Centers where they're directly managed by AT&T staff 24x7.

To support more advanced and bandwidth-hungry applications such as real-time video and imaging, AT&T is now upgrading the network to utilize high-speed, high-capacity DS3 circuits.

And to help athletes and staff make maximum use of the capabilities, AT&T designed the network to be accessible virtually everywhere on the OTC campuses – as well as off campus.

Wireline and Wireless Internet

All coach and USOC staff offices and all athlete dorm rooms are equipped with hard-wired Internet connections, which provide broadband access to the OTC network, as well as to e-mail, the Web and messaging.

AT&T also designed a wireless network for the OTCs, so that athletes and their coaches can access the network even while they're at work in the training venues and practice areas. This allows a coach to capture video or stills of the athletes in the field – then upload the images from a laptop to the network for later analysis, or immediately forward them to a distant coach for evaluation via web-chat.

Full Connections From the Road

The OTC network even supports staffers, athletes and coaches when they're away from the campus at competitions or conferences. Using either AT&T Cingular, now part of the new AT&T, data service, or wired Internet connections, they can link to the network remotely. They can access information, exchange e-mail, upload video, or otherwise use the network just as if they were on site. To protect these remote communications, AT&T provides an advanced 'tunneling' technology that creates a secured path back to the OTC network.

Virtual Video Meetings

USOC staff, as well as coaches and athletes can also collaborate with distant colleagues without leaving the OTCs at all. AT&T's videoconferencing services let them set up 'face-to-face' meetings via video on a moment's notice.



Enhancing 'R&R'

After their long training days, athletes also take advantage of the AT&T Connections Lounge, a Blue-Room space that provides AT&T DISH® satellite TV, Internet connections, cell service and even charging stations for their cell phones.

"I think we have only begun to tap the potential of networking and communications in our training programs. AT&T is showing us new ways to utilize the talents of our coaches and staff to help athletes grow, and achieve the Olympic ideal."

Kory Washburn, Managing Director of IT for the USOC

Networking Services and Technologies At Work At the United States Olympic Committee Training Centers

- AT&T Business Internet Service (for remote access to the VPN)
- AT&T Hosting Services
- AT&T Inbound Toll Free Services
- AT&T International Long Distance and Inbound Toll Free Services
- AT&T Local Services, including local switched and dedicated services
- AT&T Long Distance Services
- AT&T Managed Internet Service
- AT&T Pre-paid Phone Cards
- AT&T Teleconferencing Services
- AT&T Virtual Tunneling Service (VPN)

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