

# The Network Behind Baseball's Biggest Moments

How the New York Yankees use Lumen Network-as-a-Service to support one of the most demanding environments in sports.

## New York Yankees

[www.mlb.com/yankees](http://www.mlb.com/yankees)

- One of the most iconic franchises in professional sports for over 120 years
- Operates as both a Major League Baseball organization and a modern global media enterprise
- Technology operations spanning Yankee Stadium and critical facilities in Tampa, Fla.

### Challenges

- Rapid shifts in bandwidth demand from routine operations to sold-out games, postseason play, and major events
- Fixed-capacity networking forced a costly tradeoff between over-provisioning year-round and scaling for peak demand
- Critical media, security, and big data needed to move continuously between New York and Tampa operations
- Multimedia delivery, game-day operations, and fan experience satisfaction required always-on reliability
- Emerging AI, analytics, and digital initiatives demanded greater agility and scalability

### Solutions

- **Lumen® NaaS (Network-as-a-Service)** – consumption-based, programmable connectivity that scales up and down with real demand
- **Lumen® Internet On-Demand** – dynamically adjustable internet capacity at Yankee Stadium
- **Lumen® Ethernet Fabric Connect** - linking Yankee Stadium to the Tampa data center

### Results

- Two diverse 100G connections
- Greater cost efficiency through a consumption-based model
- Always-on reliability between multiple locations
- A future-ready foundation for AI, cloud, media services and fan experiences



## 2 x 100G

Diverse-path circuits out of Yankee Stadium

## 50K +

Fans and staff supported on game days

## 100%

Uptime with automatic failover and zero data loss

Current Lumen customer compensated for their endorsement.

**LUMEN®**

## Challenge

### When demand never stands still

For the New York Yankees, every moment is magnified on a global stage. With 27 championships and a fan base that reaches around the world, the organization operates at the intersection of professional sports and media content provider—where flawless execution is the standard.

"We have the most championships of any team in American sports history, and fans follow us from every corner of the globe," said Mike Lane, Senior Vice President of Technology & Broadcasting and CIO of the New York Yankees. "Everything we do is on the world stage – so it has to be perfect."

Much of the Yankees' digital operation now runs from a purpose-built facility in Tampa, Florida, where the organization backs up security video, game footage, and other critical data between Tampa and New York. Demand can shift quickly—from routine operations to sold-out games, postseason play, and major events—making uninterrupted connectivity essential. As Erron Pettry, Senior Manager of Data Center Facilities Operations, put it, "The Yankees cannot go offline."

## Solution

### A programmable foundation that scales with speed

To remove bandwidth constraints, the Yankees built their network on Lumen® Network-as-a-Service. With Lumen® Internet On-Demand at Yankee Stadium and Lumen® Ethernet Fabric Connect connecting the stadium to the Tampa data center and other sites, the organization can scale capacity for game days, playoffs, and special events, then scale back as demand eases. Because the model is consumption-based, the Yankees pay only for the bandwidth they use.

Lumen provides the backbone across the Yankees' footprint. As Erron Pettry put it, "Lumen basically becomes our backbone." Instead of building fiber between sites, the Yankees tap into Lumen's existing network to connect locations quickly and efficiently.

Resiliency is built in. The Yankees use two diverse 100G connections out of Yankee Stadium—one routed through New York and the other through New Jersey—both terminating in Tampa. One carries live traffic, while the second remains on standby for automatic failover. As Erron Pettry explained, "We can lose an entire central office and still maintain connectivity to the Tampa data center."

"Having a programmable network where I can easily scale between my Ethernet Fabric Connect and my Internet on Demand is a game changer for the New York Yankees."

— **Mike Lane**

CIO & SVP of Technology & Broadcasting, New York Yankees

## Results and Future Plans

### Always on. Rarely noticed.

With Lumen, the Yankees now run a single interconnected network across four sites in New York and Tampa, making it easier to move large volumes of data where and when it is needed. The diverse-path design delivers the always-on reliability the organization requires, with automatic failover and no data loss.

And when it works as intended, no one has to think about it. "If my team is doing their job and the network's doing its job, nobody notices anything," said Scott Swist, Senior Director of IT. "The goal of my team is to be invisible."

The consumption-based model has also changed how the organization plans and spends. Instead of provisioning for a year-round peak, the Yankees can align capacity to the event. "With Network-as-a-Service, we're on a consumption-based model that allows us to only pay for what we use, which allows us to prioritize other projects," Swist said.

The Yankees now have a stronger foundation for what comes next. The Tampa data center gives the organization room to grow into cloud and AI offerings, while the partnership with Lumen creates a network built to support future expansion.

As Lane put it, "We partnered with Lumen so we would know that our foundation – the building blocks of our network – are solid. The partnership between the Yankees and Lumen has been transformative for us."