



PRESS RELEASE
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Comcast Business Powers Nation's Premier Esports Facility

Collaboration between Comcast Business, Harrisburg University and Whitaker Center Connects Collegiate Gamers from Coast-to-Coast

HARRISBURG, PA – February 7, 2019 – Comcast Business today announced that it has teamed up with two leading nonprofit institutions in central Pennsylvania, Harrisburg University of Science and Technology and Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts, to create a best-in-class facility for competitive, organized video gaming or “esports.”

Esports is a growing global phenomenon, [which generated \\$906 million in revenue and engaged 389 million viewers worldwide in 2018.](#)

Harrisburg University established its varsity esports team, “The Storm,” in 2017. To address growing interest, the University turned to neighboring Whitaker Center to build a physical home turf for the team, which is outfitted with a one gigabit fiber line from Comcast Business. Once the partnership was solidified, the first order of business was to implement the technological infrastructure required to host HUE Festival, an esports tournament with 32 teams from 21 universities. To support the intense network demand an event of this nature requires, the esports facility within the center installed additional fiber to extend their network to Whitaker Center’s Digital Cinema and Sunoco Theater.

“Consistent, reliable, lightning-fast connectivity is absolutely critical for our esports program,” said Dr. Eric Darr, president of Harrisburg University. “Slow internet for our gamers is worse than a blackout at a football game because the entire competition may have to be restarted.”

Since the inaugural HUE Fest event in September 2018, Whitaker Center has opened a 2,300 square-foot training facility for Harrisburg’s esports program equipped with top-of-the-line electronics, including 30 gaming computers with 24-inch monitors, high-end graphic cards and a 17-screen video wall taller than Fenway Park’s Green Monster.

“We are incredibly proud of the immersive gaming experience we’ve created; no one else in the collegiate space is doing what we’re doing here,” said Ted Black, president and CEO of Whitaker Center. “The Whitaker Center’s foray into esports is just the beginning of the exciting next chapter of this incredible facility’s story and we couldn’t have a better partner than Harrisburg University. Knowing our technology and set-up is unparalleled, we are already planning our next major esports tournament.”

In addition to the esports arrangement, Harrisburg University and the Whitaker Center both rely on Comcast Business to support their broader network solutions to handle day-to-day business operations.

“The technology needs of this incredible facility go beyond just the gaming,” added Toni Murphy, vice president of Comcast Business for the Keystone Region. “High-speed internet from the Comcast advanced network has allowed the Whitaker Center to implement seamless e-ticketing, and an easy-to-access Wi-Fi network for fans to stream and post to social media in real-time.”

About Comcast Business

Comcast Business offers Ethernet, Internet, Wi-Fi, Voice, TV and Managed Enterprise Solutions to help organizations of all sizes transform their business. Powered by an advanced network, and backed by 24/7 customer support, Comcast Business is one of the largest contributors to the growth of Comcast Cable. Comcast Business is the nation’s largest cable provider to small and mid-size businesses and has emerged

as a force in the enterprise market; recognized over the last two years by leading industry associations as one of the fastest growing providers of Ethernet services.

About Comcast Corporation

Comcast Corporation (Nasdaq: CMCSA) is a global media and technology company with three primary businesses: Comcast Cable, NBCUniversal, and Sky. Comcast Cable is one of the United States' largest video, high-speed internet, and phone providers to residential customers under the Xfinity brand, and also provides these services to businesses. It also provides wireless and security and automation services to residential customers under the Xfinity brand. NBCUniversal is global and operates news, entertainment and sports cable networks, the NBC and Telemundo broadcast networks, television production operations, television station groups, Universal Pictures, and Universal Parks and Resorts. Sky is one of Europe's leading media and entertainment companies, connecting customers to a broad range of video content through its pay television services. It also provides communications services, including residential high-speed internet, phone, and wireless services. Sky operates the Sky News broadcast network and sports and entertainment networks, produces original content, and has exclusive content rights. Visit www.comcastcorporation.com for more information.

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