

# Project Summary

## University of Maryland



**Colorado Time Systems** helped the University of Maryland upgrade its display from a 10-year old Myriad matrix display to a Full Color Indoor LED Matrix Display. The project also included a full in-deck solution, which was completed in an earlier phase of the project.

But this installation, which is just part of an ongoing relationship between CTS and the University of Maryland, shows how dedicated CTS is to working with its clients to make the most of their existing facilities and equipment -- even as they upgrade it.

### **The University of Maryland facility**

Carrie Tupper, Director of Aquatics for the University of Maryland's Campus Recreation Services, describes the school's natatorium:

"The University of Maryland has a 50-meter by 25-yard competition pool with two 1-meter boards and 3-meter boards. This pool has two moveable bulkheads, underwater speakers and a full complement of CTS equipment. We also have a shallow 25-yard instructional pool which is used primarily as a teaching pool."

The natatorium is primarily used by students and varsity athletic teams (Men's and Women's Swimming and Diving and Women's Water Polo).

"The Men's and Women's [swim] teams train twice daily in the pools and also coordinate their dryland exercises on deck," Tupper explains, emphasizing just how busy the facility is.

### **Upgrading a busy pool**

Tupper says that part of the challenge of upgrading University of Maryland's facility is that it's hardly ever closed.

"There is limited downtime at our facility," she says. "We are closed only 10 days each year (for the Thanksgiving holiday and the week between Christmas and New Year's Day). When installing equipment, we must limit the impact on patrons."

With such a frequently used facility, it was critical that CTS' installation not be disruptive to the swimmers who depend on the pool. So when the university refurbished its pool and had the deck torn up, CTS took advantage of the construction to install new Quick Connect deck plates and change out the wall plates.

CTS added the finishing touches when it installed a 23mm Full Color Indoor LED Matrix Display (240 x 128) - 5.5m x 2.9m (18' x 9.5') in place of the older Myriad board.

## Blending the old with the new

"The old Myriad board was about 9 or 10 years old," CTS' Rick Connell recalls. "It didn't have any video display capabilities, just alphanumeric characters and animations."

Tupper agrees that the older board didn't fit with the image the school wanted to project.

"Although the equipment was working," she says, "we knew that the Myriad display was outdated for the industry and for what we would like to accomplish with our programs. As our department looks to continue to host high-quality meets, we know that our equipment has to be top of the line."

But that didn't mean the old board was no longer useful.



"One of the cool things we did is that we took part of their existing display and moved it to another location -- so now they really have two displays in the natatorium," says Connell.

Tupper agrees that CTS helped her make the most of her existing equipment when while replacing it with newer, cutting-edge equipment.

"Rick provided good insight on CTS products that would work in our facility," she recalls. "We chose to move half of our old Myriad display to the south wall of our facility, which allows coaches and athletes a better view of a scoreboard while standing on the north side of our facility."

"CTS is always there for us for support," Tupper emphasizes. "CTS staff members have all been instrumental in the design, feedback and installation of our equipment. I feel that any question I have, no matter how big or small, everyone is always there to provide me with assistance."

Revised 03/11

