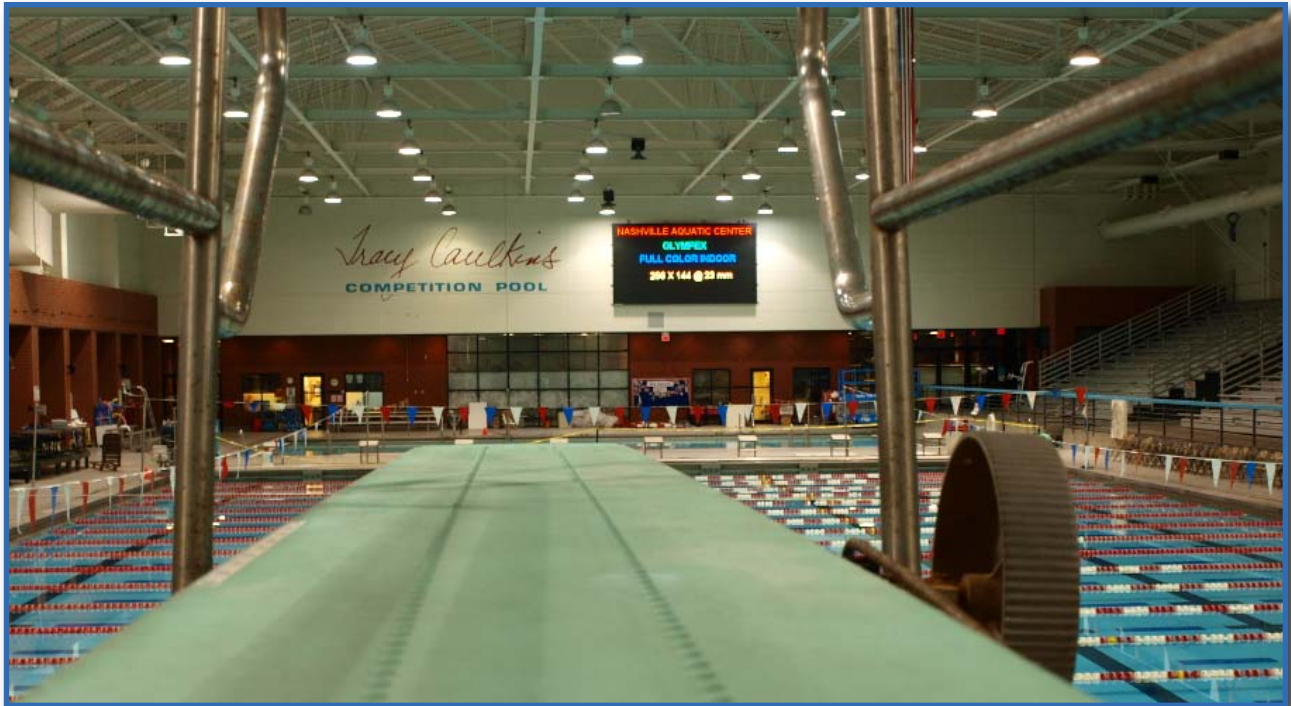


# Project Summary

## Nashville Centennial Sportsplex



The Dr. Thomas F. Frist Centennial Sportsplex is a large, heavily used facility in middle Tennessee that houses the Tracy Caulkins Competition Pool. The facility, constructed in the 1980s and featuring CTS equipment, serves a diverse community and is in constant use for swimming, safety and fitness classes, parties, school field trips, and recreation swimming and diving. In addition, the pool is home to such high-profile national events as the U.S. Senior and Junior National Swim Meets, the YMCA National Swim Meet and the U.S.A. Water Polo Olympic Trials.

To serve the many groups that use the pool, the facility installed a new CTS Full Color Indoor LED Matrix Display and upgraded to a System 6 Timing Console. CTS' Mark Polansky and Vanderbilt University Swim Team Head Coach Jeremy Organ describe the process of working together to upgrade the Club's system.

"They have been a customer of ours since the '80s," says Polansky. "Their equipment was still functional, but they had seen the video displays installed around the country and wanted to upgrade so that they could have the same functionality as those venues."

CTS installed a new 23mm Full Color Indoor LED Matrix Display (144 x 256) - 3.3m x 5.9m (10.8 ft x 19.4 ft) as well as a System 6 Timing Console with software for Water Polo, Pace Clocks, Swimming, Diving, and Synchronized Swimming.

Located in the heart of Nashville, the Centennial Sportsplex is a very busy place, says Organ.

"The competition pool is used by the Nashville Aquatic Club, Vanderbilt University Women's Swimming and Diving, numerous local high school teams, the Nashville Parks and Rec team, the SwimAmerica lesson program, water aerobic classes, and any other programming done by the city of Nashville," explains Organ.

“The pool also hosts numerous large meets over the course of the year including the Tennessee High School State Meet, College Dual Meets, College Conference Championships, Southeastern Swimming Championships (long course and short course) and Sectional Championships. The Nashville Aquatic Club, which uses the facility, also hosts meets such as the Summer Sizzler and Nike Music City Invitational.”

With all that traffic, one of the big advantages of the Full Color LED Matrix Display is the ability to display ads -- but the board has many more uses.

“We also wanted to be able to enhance our relationships with our sponsors by displaying their names and logos on the board and make it more exciting for our audience and athletes by showing future events and important messages,” says Organ. “Swimmers love the larger display and seeing their names on the board during meets.”

“The pool’s previous scoreboard was the board originally installed when the Centennial Sportsplex was constructed in the late ‘80s. The board had two sides: One side, for the main pool, was an eight-lane single-line display with yellow flip numbers. The other side of the board had a single-line display for the far pool, which was very hard to read. An upgraded board was very much needed!”

The upgrade project began as an idea in 2006 when the facility first approached CTS for a quote on a new display board. Over the next two years, CTS worked with the client to develop a solution that worked for everyone. Much of the cost of the upgraded display was covered by a grant from Nashville’s Frist Foundation, a philanthropic organization dedicated to sustaining and improving the quality of life in Nashville.



## The upgrade process

Polansky spoke with Organ and Nashville Aquatics Club Head Coach John Morse periodically about their specific needs and what they wanted from the installation.

Says Polansky: “They wanted to display video and wanted something impressive in size. They’d been to the University of Minnesota, saw what they had, and wanted a comparable display. They actually ended up getting the exact same display that the University of Minnesota has -- so that was a good comparison for them.”

Going from a 1980s-era single-line display with flip numbers to a Full Color LED Matrix Display and a new timing system took some adjustment - but Organ says the learning curve wasn’t that difficult, partly because of the training provided by CTS staff.

“The system has been relatively easy to use,” he explains. “Basic operations can be performed by anyone. Some of the more technical functions can be learned very easily, and the Colorado Time Systems’ staff does a great job during and after the installation, teaching everyone all of the functions of the board. So far, everyone has been extremely impressed by the scoreboard. Meets at the Sportsplex have always been very well run, and with the new board in place, the meets are just that much better!”

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