



Other Football Leagues

League: Arena Football League (AFL)

Team: Arizona Rattlers

Principal Owner: Bobby Hernreich

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: U.S. Airways Center

Date Built: 1992

Facility Cost (millions): \$90 M

Facility Financing: The City of Phoenix contributed \$35 M with \$28 M going to construct the arena and \$7 M for the land. The Phoenix Suns contributed \$55 M. The city has a 30-year commitment from the Suns to repay a portion of the contribution at \$500,000 per year, with an annual 3% increase. The city will also receive 40% of revenue from luxury boxes and advertising.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Bobby Hernreich, co-owner of the Sacramento Kings, is the new owner of the Arizona Rattlers. Hernreich will be the majority owner, while Robert Sarver will retain minority ownership. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

After \$67 million and four years of renovations inside and out, the U.S. Airways Center has become a model arena to other franchises. Renovations started in 2001 when the Suns spent \$15 million to widen concourses, rebuild concessions, add rest rooms and build their first premium club with 1,400 seats. Prior to this, the Center had suites to accommodate a limited amount of wealthier patrons but it still lacked other premium experiences, such as clubs and restaurants, to increase revenue. In 2003, the Suns spent \$35 million to build a 15,000-square-foot glass pavilion, complete with will-call and ticket windows. Finally, in 2004, a new scoreboard and a second club were constructed. The Suns determined that renovating its arena would be just as profitable as building one from scratch.

NAMING RIGHTS: US Airways is paying \$26 M over 30 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019. In January 2006, the name of the arena was changed from America West Arena to the US Airways Center after America West and US Airways merged in 2005.

Team: Austin Wranglers

Principal Owner: Doug MacGregor, Jim Schneider, Jeff Clarke, Flynn Kile, Perry Coughlin, John Craparo, Bob Davis, Tim McClure, Charles McMurtry, Bret Plymire, Tom Hogan, Glyn Milburn, Jeff Hunt, Andre Wadsworth, Leonard Davis, Mike Williams, Mark Brunell, Tony Boselli, and Deion Sanders.

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Frank Erwin Center

Date Built: 1977

Facility Cost (millions): \$34

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Chicago Rush

Principal Owner: Mike Ditka, Arthur Price, Peter Levin, and Alan M. Levin

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Allstate Arena

Date Built: 1979 (renovated in 1999)

Facility Cost (millions): Renovation cost \$20 M

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Allstate Insurance Company is paying \$10 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2009. In addition, Allstate paid \$20 million to renovate the arena in 1999.

Team: Colorado Crush

Principal Owner: Pat Bowlen, E. Stanley Kroenke, John Elway and Michael Young

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Pepsi Center

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions): \$164.5

Facility Financing: Financed mostly through private loans. The team also received \$15 M from Liberty Media, \$4.5 M for infrastructure, \$2.25 M in construction sales tax rebates and \$2.1 M annually in property tax exemptions.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Nuggets owner, Stan Kroenke had a penthouse built atop the Pepsi Center. The two-story penthouse is located on the northwest side of the arena. One of the penthouse's four balconies is rumored to be 1120 square feet, which is larger than some of the available apartments downtown in that area. The penthouse also has four bedrooms, a nap room, exercise

room and an outdoor hot tub. The loft is approximately 12,000 square feet and will be used whenever Kroenke is in town and also for visiting dignitaries.

NAMING RIGHTS: Pepsi is paying \$68 M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019.

Team: Columbus Destroyers

Principal Owner: John H. McConnell, Jim Renacci, Steve Germain, and Joey Galloway

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Nationwide Arena

Date Built: 2000

Facility Cost (millions): \$150

Facility Financing: Nationwide Insurance contributed 90% of the \$150 M costs and Dispatch Printing Co. contributed 10%.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Nationwide acquired the naming rights to the arena indefinitely as part of a deal to provide 90% of the financing for the arena's construction. The naming rights deal is not traditional but it is the largest central Ohio has seen.

Team: Dallas Desperados

Principal Owner: Jerry Jones

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: American Airlines Center

Date Built: 2001

Facility Cost (millions): \$420

Facility Financing: The city capped its spending at \$125 M. The Mavericks owner, Mark Cuban and Stars owner, Tom Hicks, covered the remaining amount. Team owners spent \$295 M in private investment dollars. The funds to repay the public portion of the financing are coming from a 5% car rental tax, 2% hotel tax and a \$3.4 M per-year lease agreement with the teams for 30 years.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The American Airlines Center is equipped as a state-of-the-art Wi-Fi access venue. The fans in premium-section seats can order food, drinks and security personnel using PDAs. In addition, the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) just opened a station at the American Airlines Center, thus connecting the Center to downtown Dallas.

NAMING RIGHTS: With one of the largest naming rights deals, American Airlines is paying \$195 M over 30 years for the naming rights that expire in 2031. In 2003, when American Airlines restructured to prevent filing for bankruptcy, the annual payments were restructured as well.

Team: Georgia Force
Principal Owner: Arthur M. Blank
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Philips Arena
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost (millions): \$213.5

Facility Financing: The facility was financed through \$149.5 M in government-backed bonds to be paid back at \$12.5 M a year for 30 years. A 3% car rental tax was created to pay for \$62 M of the public infrastructure costs and Time Warner contributed \$20 M for the remaining infrastructure costs.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Philips Arena will receive \$10 million worth of renovations to attract diners, season ticket-holders, and families. A new Hangtime Lodge will be constructed at \$2.7 million to attract conventioners. Five million dollars will go toward reconstructing Headlines Bar & Grill. Previously it was used for large groups but will be transformed into a sit-down restaurant. Furthermore, \$1.5 million will be used to add children's activities to make the arena more family-friendly.

NAMING RIGHTS: Philips Electronics is paying \$180 M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019.

Team: Grand Rapids Rampage
Principal Owner: Dan DeVos
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Van Andel Arena
Date Built: 1996
Facility Cost (millions): \$75
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Huntington Club, a new VIP club opened this year at Van Andel Arena, offering sports fans a new venue to get a meal and a drink. The construction cost for the club was \$350,000 and was built in what is now the Arena's largest banquet room.

NAMING RIGHTS: Centennial Wireless has agreed to terms on a naming rights deal for the field at Van Andel Arena, known as Centennial Wireless Field at Van Andel Arena. Additionally, Centennial Wireless will be title sponsor of the Grand Rapids Rampage home opener, known as the Centennial Wireless Kickoff Classic. The deal runs through the 2008 season.

Team: Kansas City Brigade
Principal Owner: Tyler Prochnow and Neil Smith
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Kemper Arena
Date Built: 1974
Facility Cost (millions): \$23
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Brigade will have new home when it opens the 2008 season. A 20,000 seat, voter approved venue will open in October 2007. The venue will cost \$276 million. Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG) will contribute \$50 M to the cost and will have a 35-year contract to manage the venue. Most of the remaining costs will be covered by a \$1.50/night hotel surcharge and a \$4/day car rental tax.

NAMING RIGHTS: The naming rights for the new venue have already been sold to Sprint. The agreement is reported to be worth \$62.5 M. The arena will be named the Sprint Center.

Team: Las Vegas Gladiators
Principal Owner: Jim Ferraro
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Orleans Arena
Date Built: 2003
Facility Cost (millions): \$85
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The team announced before its 2007 season that it would be moving from the Thomas & Mack Center to the Orleans Arena, which is part of the larger Orleans Hotel & Casino.

Team: Los Angeles Avengers
Principal Owner: Casey Wasserman
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Staples Center
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost (millions): \$375
Facility Financing: Bank of America underwrote a \$305 M loan to finance construction. The city provided \$38.5 M in bonds and \$20 M in Los Angeles Convention Center reserves. This money will eventually be repaid through arena revenues. An additional \$12 M in tax incremental financing was also provided by the city's Community Redevelopment Agency.
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In September 2005, AEG set in motion a \$2.5 billion deal for the construction of LA Live. LA Live is a downtown development project next to the AEG owned Staples Center that combines theaters, nightclubs, shops, an ESPN studio, condominiums and hotels. In June 2007, AEG secured Wachovia Bank as a founding partner but did not disclose the amount the bank will finance. MacFarlane, an urban real estate development investor, will also finance the project offering \$400 million. The remainder of the financing will be provided by the city and through

Live's condominium sales. AEG believes that this will revitalize the downtown area and is expected to be completed in 2010.

NAMING RIGHTS: Staples, an office supply company, is paying \$100 M over 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2019.

Team: Nashville Kats

Principal Owner: K.S. Adams, Jr.

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Sommet Arena

Date Built: 1997

Facility Cost (millions): \$144

Facility Financing: General obligation bonds issued by the City of Nashville.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: In May 2007, the Nashville Predators LLC signed a long-term naming rights deal with the Franklin-based Sommet Group. Sommet (pronounced So-May) Group is a collection of companies whose services include human resources administration, payroll processing, and insurance and risk management. Details of the deal were not released, but the naming rights deal has raised conjecture that the Predators may remain in Nashville despite relocation rumors.

Team: New Orleans Voodoo

Principal Owner: Tom Benson & Rita Benson LeBlanc

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: New Orleans Arena

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions): \$100

Facility Financing: Publicly funded with revenue bonds.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: After Hurricane Katrina in 2005, the New Orleans Arena underwent heavy reconstruction and the New Orleans Voodoo suspended operations for the 2006 season. The team came back strong this season becoming the first team in the league's 21 year history to sell out its season tickets.

Team: New York Dragons

Principal Owner: Charles B. Wang & Sanjay Kumar

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Nassau Coliseum

Date Built: 1972

Facility Cost (millions): \$31.3

Facility Financing: Funded through tax-exempt bond issue.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Charles Wang, majority owner of the Dragons, has signed an agreement with Nassau County officials to develop the 77-acre property around the Nassau Veterans Memorial Coliseum in Uniondale. The development will include a 60-story tower, \$200 M in renovations to the arena, and a new 50,000-square foot athletic complex. Construction is set to begin in 2006 or 2007 and finish by 2009. The highlight of the development is what will be the tallest building on Long Island, which will house a five-star hotel, luxury condominiums, and a 10,000-square foot observatory deck. The development will also include a 110,000-square foot conference center and additional residential structures.

Team: Orlando Predators

Principal Owner: A group of a dozen investors

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Amway Arena (formerly TD Waterhouse Centre)

Date Built: 1989

Facility Cost (millions): \$102

Facility Financing: Publicly financed.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In Spring 2007, the Florida Senate unveiled a plan to split \$100 million three-ways to help fund or renovate its Florida arenas, including St. Pete Times Forum, Amway Arena, and Tropicana Field. Furthermore, the Florida House of Representatives approved a plan that authorizes a \$2 million-a-year rebate over 30 years for a new Magic arena and a renovated arena for the Tampa Bay Lightning hockey team.

NAMING RIGHTS: The TD Waterhouse Centre was renamed Amway Arena following a \$7.8 million, five-year naming rights deal with Orlando Magic. The city will receive \$2.1 million from the deal, which will be used for building improvements.

Team: Philadelphia Soul

Principal Owner: Bon Jovi & Craig A. Spencer

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Wachovia Center

Date Built: 1996

Facility Cost (millions): \$206

Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 11%

Facility Financing: \$140 M was financed through a private bank. Comcast contributed \$45 M, and \$30 M will come from the naming rights revenue. The state provided \$17 M and the City of Philadelphia is lending \$8.5 M for infrastructure improvements. Additionally, \$10 M came from state capital redevelopment assistance funding for general site improvements.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Wachovia Center underwent a \$7.5 M renovation. All of the Center's 100 suites were renovated and a new center-hung scoreboard was also added as part of the renovations.

NAMING RIGHTS: CoreStates Bank purchased the naming-rights, for the Center and the Spectrum for \$1.4 M a year until 2023. CoreStates was acquired by First Union, which then merged with Wachovia Bank in 2001, keeping the Wachovia name. In 2003 the Center and Spectrum acquired the new name.

Team: San Jose SaberCats

Principal Owner: San Jose SaberCats, LP

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: HP Pavilion at San Jose

Date Built: 1993

Facility Cost (millions): \$162.5

Facility Financing: \$132.5 M funded by the City of San Jose; \$30 M funded by HP Pavilion Management

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: San Jose Mayor Chuck Reed endorsed new subsidies for the San Jose Sharks (NFL) to buy better audio and visual equipment for the HP Pavilion. The new equipment, including a scoreboard, a sound system, and a flashing light display to ring the arena's interior, will cost \$16.5 million. The city and the team will each pay for half of the costs.

NAMING RIGHTS: Hewlett-Packard is paying \$47 M over 15 years for the naming rights that expire in 2016. HP will pay an additional \$800,000 per year if San Jose acquires an NBA team.

Team: Tampa Bay Storm

Principal Owner: Peter C. Woody Kern

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: St. Pete Times Forum

Date Built: 1996

Facility Cost (millions): \$160

Facility Financing: Construction and infrastructure costs were paid by a combination of private money from the Tampa Bay Lightning of the NHL (\$66 M) and public money (\$94 M).

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In Spring 2007, the Florida Senate unveiled a plan to split \$100 million three-ways to help fund or renovate its Florida arenas, including St. Pete Times Forum, Amway Arena, and Tropicana Field. Furthermore, the Florida House of Representatives approved a plan that authorizes a \$2 million-a-year rebate over 30 years for a new Magic arena and a renovated arena for the Tampa Bay Lightning hockey team.

NAMING RIGHTS: The St. Petersburg Times is paying \$25.2 M over 12 years for the naming rights that expire in 2014. In September 2004, McDonald's bought the naming rights to the

Forum's ticket office for an undisclosed amount. The ticket office is now called the McDonald's Box Office.

Team: Utah Blaze

Principal Owner: John Garff, Robert Garff, and Jason Jones

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Energy Systems Arena (formerly the Delta Center)

Date Built: 1991

Facility Cost (millions): \$94

Facility Financing: Mostly financed by team owner. The city donated the land and \$20 M for parking and support facilities.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In November 2006, Jazz owner Larry Miller sold the arena naming rights to controversial EnergySystems, a company that specializes in disposing of nuclear waste, for an undisclosed amount over a ten year period. The EnergySystems Arena name change has led many consumers to boycott Miller's other businesses, such as movie theaters, car dealerships, and a television station.

NAMING RIGHTS: EnergySystems bought the naming rights for an undisclosed amount, which expires in 2016.

League: Arena Football League 2 (AF2)

Team: Alabama Steeldogs

Principal Owner: Buddy King & Scott Meyers

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Birmingham-Jefferson Convention Complex

Date Built: 1974

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In 2007, the team changed its name from the Birmingham Steeldogs to the Alabama Steeldogs to identify more with its fan base. In addition, the team is searching for new ownership for the 2008 season. The Steeldogs' current owners would like to keep the team in Alabama, but they need another owner to take a significant portion of the team to do that.

Team: Albany Conquest

Principal Owner: Dr. Walter Robb

[Team Website](#)

Arena: The Times Union

Date Built: 1990

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Last year the county signed a \$3.5 M 10-year naming-rights contract with the Times Union which will expire in 2016. The newspaper agreed to pay \$350,000 a year, as well as provide advertising and other promotional benefits.

Team: Amarillo Dusters

Principal Owner: Texas Panhandle Football LLC

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Amarillo National Bank Field

Date Built: 1960's

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Amarillo National Bank acquired the field naming rights for the 2006 season at the Amarillo Civic Center. The field will be known as Amarillo National Bank Field. The terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

Team: Arkansas Twisters

Principal Owner: Tim Berryman

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Alltel Arena

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions): \$83

Facility Financing: Proceeds from a one-year, one-cent sales tax in Pulaski County were contributed to building the new arena. Twenty million dollars were given from the State of Arkansas, \$10 M from suite lease agreements, and \$15.7 M in interest income from invested funds.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Alltel is paying \$7 M over 15 years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.

Team: Bakersfield Blitz

Principal Owner: Bakersfield Sports Partners

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Rabobank Arena

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (millions): \$38

Facility Financing: Publicly financed by the City of Bakersfield.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Rabobank has acquired the naming rights for the arena. The 10-year deal is worth \$2.5 M and expires in 2015.

Team: Bossier/Shreveport Battlewings

Principal Owner: Dan Newman, Jerry Anderson, and Boyd Barker

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: CenturyTel Center

Date Built: 2000

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: CenturyTel has a 10-year, \$5 M naming rights deal for the Center.

Team: Central Valley Coyotes

Principal Owner: Santa Rosa Rancheria Tachi-Yokut Tribe

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Selland Arena

Date Built: 1966

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Selland Arena underwent \$15 million in renovations in the past year. Seating was expanded to hold 8,400 fans, the locker rooms were remodeled, and the scoreboard and video board were replaced.

Team: Cincinnati Jungle Kats

Principal Owner:

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: U.S. Bank Arena

Date Built: 1975

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Jungle Kats was a new expansion team that had its inaugural season in 2007.

NAMING RIGHTS: U.S. Bank is currently under a 10-year, \$3 M naming rights deal for the arena.

Team: Florida Firecats

Principal Owner: Andrew Vallozzi

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Germain Arena

Date Built: 1998

Facility Cost (millions): \$25

Facility Financing: The venue was privately financed.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Germain Motor Company is paying \$7 M over 20 years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2018.

Team: Green Bay Blizzard

Principal Owner: Brian Noble

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Resch Center

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (millions): \$49

Facility Financing: Financed primarily through an 8% room rental tax at the Resch Center and KI Convention Center. \$5 M came from various naming rights opportunities throughout the Center. \$1 M from the State of Wisconsin and the Village of Ashwaubenon. Additional funding came from the sale of bricks to fill the plaza in front of the Center.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: The Resch Center is named after Dick Resch, president of KI. Resch and KI donated \$5 M in cash and furnishings for the Resch Center and the KI Convention Center, located next door to the Center.

Team: Louisville Fire

Principal Owner: Louisville Fire Arena Football Ownership Group; headed by Will Wolford

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Freedom Hall
Date Built: 1956

UPDATE: Freedom Hall is part of a larger complex, The Kentucky Exposition Center, which recently received a \$52 million expansion in October 2006. The Expo Center added 166,500 square feet of exhibit space and 57,000 square feet of meeting and conference space. Phase two will cost an additional \$50 million and is expected to be completed in fall 2007.

Team: Lubbock Renegades
Principal Owner:
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: City Bank Coliseum
Date Built: 1971
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Renegades finished their first AF2 season in 2007.

NAMING RIGHTS: The City Bank Coliseum renewed its partnership and naming rights agreement with the Lubbock Municipal Coliseum into 2010. The specifics of the naming right deal were not revealed.

Team: Macon Knights
Principal Owner: Beverly Olson
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Macon Coliseum
Date Built: 1968 (renovated in 1996)
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: After shutting down for the 2006 season, AF2 will be back in Macon for the 2008 season.

Team: Mahoning Valley Thunder
Principal Owner: Dr. Michael Slyk, Dr. Jon Saadey and Tim Chesney
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Chevrolet Centre
Date Built: 2005
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Valley Thunder is an expansion team that concluded their its inaugural season in 2007.

Team: Manchester Wolves
Principal Owner: Steve Schubert, Angello Mazella, Dick Anagnost, Don Winterton, Jim

Watson, C.B. Sullivan, and Steve Grzywacz

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Verizon Wireless Arena

Date Built: 2001

Facility Cost (millions): \$67

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Verizon is paying \$11.4 M over 15 years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2016.

Team: Oklahoma City Yard Dawgz

Principal Owner: Phil Miller

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Oklahoma City Ford Center

Date Built: 2002

Facility Cost (millions): \$89

Facility Financing: The Ford Center was publicly financed by a temporary one-cent sales tax.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In September 2007, Phil Miller purchased the Yard Dawgz franchise from the Tulsa based SBC Pro Sports, LLC. Phil Miller will now serve as owner/operator of Pro Sports Ventures, Inc., the parent company for the franchise.

NAMING RIGHTS: Coinciding with its opening in 2002, Ford Motor Co. has a 15-year, \$8.1 M naming rights deal for the Center.

Team: Quad City Steamwheelers

Principal Owner: Jim Foster

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: i-wireless Center (formerly The Mark of the Quad Cities)

Date Built: 1993

Facility Cost (millions): \$36

Facility Financing: The arena was funded by \$28 M from a state grant, \$6.1 M from general obligation bonds and \$2 M in private funds.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In the fall of 2006, Jim Foster sold the Quad City Steamwheelers franchise to Mike Bawden of Bawden & Lareau Public Relations. The terms of the deal were not disclosed.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Mark of the Quad Cities will now be known as the i-wireless center as of June 2007. The Iowa-based cellular telephone company is paying \$4.25 million over the next ten years.

Team: Rio Grande Valley Dorados

Principal Owner: Rio Grande Valley Professional Football, Ltd.

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Dodge Arena

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (millions): \$20

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Dodge has a 10-year, \$2 M naming rights deal for the arena. The deal runs through 2012.

Team: South Georgia Wildcats

Principal Owner: Stuart Brown, Silvio Fazzini, Mike Flynn, Jeff Harlow, John Hunt, Edwin Mulitalo, Kyle Richardson, Mike Storen, and Frank Wainright

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Albany Civic Center

Date Built: 1983

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2006, it was announced that John W. Hunt Jr. would replace Mike Storen as the Wildcats managing partner. Storen will continue to serve as a team liason.

Team: Spokane Shock

Principal Owner: Brady Nelson

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Spokane Arena

Date Built: 1994

Facility Cost (millions): \$44.5

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Shock was an expansion franchise that began play in 2006. Group Health entered a \$75,000 contract obtaining exclusive advertising rights among health insurance providers, medical providers, and hospitals for the Spokane Arena.

Team: Stockton Lightning

Principal Owner: Michael Reinsdorf

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Stockton Arena

Date Built: 2005

Facility Cost (millions): \$64

Facility Financing: Publicly financed by the City of Stockton.

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Tennessee Valley Vipers
Principal Owner: HSV Sports, LLC
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Von Braun Center
Date Built: 1975
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Vipers returned to Huntsville in 2006, following a one year absence. The Vipers played in Huntsville from 2000-2004, until the team left the AF2 and went to a new indoor football league. The Team also changed its name to the Raptors and moved to Rockford, Illinois. The owner of the new Vipers, HSV Sports, LLC, was granted the rights to the Vipers' name, trademarks and history.

NAMING RIGHTS: The facility is named in honor of Wernher von Braun, a former German rocket scientist, who after World War II, laid the foundation for the United States space program, which was thought by the locals to put Huntsville on the map.

Team: Tulsa Talons
Principal Owner: Henry Primeaux, Sr. and Paul Ross
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Tulsa Convention Center
Date Built: 1962
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Tulsa Convention Center will undergo both an expansion and renovation, which is scheduled to be completed in 2008. The expansion will include a 35,000-square-foot ballroom and 20,000 square feet of meeting space. There are rumors the Talons will stop operation during this time until the Convention Center is completed.

Team: Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Pioneers
Principal Owner: Big Win Ventures
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Wachovia Arena
Date Built: 1999
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The 8,300-seat facility is managed by SMG and has been recognized by many magazines as one of the best in the country for arenas under a 10,000-seat capacity.

NAMING RIGHTS: Wachovia is paying \$2.3 M over 10 years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2009.

League: Canadian Football League (CFL)

Team: B.C. Lions

Principal Owner: David Braley

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: B.C. Place Stadium

Date Built: 1983

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The B.C. Place Stadium is the future host of the 2010 Winter Olympic Games Opening and Closing Ceremonies.

Team: Calgary Stampeders

Principal Owner: Ted Hellard

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: McMahon Stadium

Date Built: 1960

UPDATE: In 2006, McMahon Stadium received an upgrade with artificial turf in hopes of becoming home to more sports, in particular World Class soccer.

Team: Edmonton Eskimos

Principal Owner: Publicly owned

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Commonwealth Stadium

Date Built: 1978

Facility Cost (millions): \$20.9 (\$22.2 renovation in 2001)

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The stadium houses a \$6.2 million Jumbo Tron, the largest and most advanced system of its kind in the world. Furthermore, the Commonwealth Stadium has the only all natural grass field in the Canadian Football League (CFL).

Team: Hamilton Tiger-Cats

Principal Owner: Robert F. Young

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Owner Bob Young announced that he bought the former Hamilton Squash Club to house the club's business, ticket, and retail center. This change will move team operations back into the downtown. Young bought the 42,000 square-foot building for \$3 million and will invest another \$1 million in the building to be used for renovations.

Team: Montreal Alouettes

Principal Owner: Robert Wetenhall

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Percival Molson Memorial Stadium

Date Built: 1915

Facility Website

UPDATE: The city of Montreal will contribute \$30 million toward the Percival Molson Memorial Stadium's expansion. The Alouettes hope to add 5,000 seats to their 20,202 seat stadium. The project is expected to be completed by 2009 and the team hopes the expansion will produce an additional \$2.5 million per year.

Team: Ottawa Renegades

Principal Owner: Randy Gilles

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Frank Clair Stadium

Date Built: 1908

UPDATE: The Renegades did not participate in the 2006-2007 seasons. Operations were suspended until new ownership can be found. The CFL recently ended negotiations with a group led by William Palmer regarding the Renegades return to the capital city. CFL Commissioner Mark Cohon said several other groups have expressed strong interest in the franchise and the CFL will now concentrate on them. The Renegades will not return until the CFL is certain the team will remain stable for a long time.

Team: Saskatchewan Roughriders

Principal Owner: Community owned

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Mosaic Stadium at Taylor Field

Date Built: 1946

UPDATE: The Saskatchewan Roughriders have imposed their own smoking ban at their Stadium during CFL games. Not only is there a concern for non-smokers, but the stadium managers believe that it could potentially damage the stadium's turf.

NAMING RIGHTS: In June 2006, The Mosaic Company entered a 10-year naming rights deal worth \$3.75 M.

Team: Toronto Argonauts

Principal Owner: David Cynamon and Howard Sokolowski

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Rogers Centre

Date Built: 1989

Facility Cost (millions): \$570 Canadian

Facility Financing: The Rogers Centre was financed with \$360 M from local government, \$150 M from 30 corporations and \$60 M from luxury seat fees.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Toronto Argonauts owners are considering the possibility of moving the team to BMO Field, home of Major League Soccer's (MLS) Toronto FC, but the owners are still in the early stages of investigating their options.

Team: Winnipeg Blue Bombers

Principal Owner: Lyle Bauer

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Canada Inns Stadium

Date Built: 1953

UPDATE: The Winnipeg Football Club has been making plans to either renovate its existing Canada Inns Stadium or build an entirely new stadium. The board of directors sought architectural and financial consultants for various plans. The club will propose its project to prospective partners soon.

NAMING RIGHTS: Canada Inns has a 10-year, \$1.750 M naming rights deal for the home of the Blue Bombers.

League: National Indoor Football League (NIFL)

Team: Atlanta Thoroughbreds

Principal Owner: NIFL

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: John H. Lewis Gymnasium

Date Built:

UPDATE: After its first season in 2007, the Atlanta Thoroughbreds are in financial debt. There is discussion that the team will move to a new league and possibly a new location.

Team: Beaumont Drillers

Principal Owner: Roy Reap

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Ford Arena

Date Built: 2003

UPDATE: Nextel has become the exclusive wireless provider of the Beaumont Drillers. As part of the deal, Drillers' players will wear a Nextel patch on their jerseys. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

NAMING RIGHTS: Ford is paying \$1.25 M over five years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2008.

Team: Cincinnati Marshals

Principal Owner: Cincinnati Indoor Football Club LLC

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: US Bank Arena

Date Built: 1975

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: U.S. Bank is currently under a 10-year, \$3 M naming rights deal for the arena.

Team: Colorado Springs Wild Riders

Principal Owner: NIFL

Stadium: Colorado Sports Center

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The team played its inaugural season in 2007. The Wild Riders were originally named the Colorado Candoos but was changed before the beginning of the season.

Team: Columbia Stingers

Principal Owner: Tony Pewonski

Stadium: Colonial Center

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Before the Stingers began their inaugural 2007 season, concerns were raised about owner Tony Pewonski's business practices. Employees of Pewonski's former teams have filed lawsuits against him alleging that Pewonski owes them thousands of dollars in salaries that were never paid. Stingers spokesperson Wendi Caraballo says that Pewonski is not longer associated with the team due to concerns raised by his prior business dealings.

Team: Fayetteville Guard

Principal Owner: Richard King

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Crown Coliseum

Date Built: 1997

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Fayetteville County Manager James Martin says there are not enough funds this year to expand convention space at the Crown Expo Center, the larger entity of the Crown Coliseum. But Martin hopes that in a few years the county can spend \$5 million on new heating and cooling systems for the arena.

Team: Greensboro Revolution

Principal Owner: Tony Pewonski

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Greensboro Coliseum

Date Built: 1959

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Owner Tony Pewonski says that he is unsure the team will be able to play in 2008.

Team: San Antonio Steers

Principal Owner: Mark Richer (General Manager)

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: San Antonio Rose Palace

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The San Antonio Steers played their inaugural season in 2007.

Team: San Bernardino Bucking Bulls

Principal Owner: Jamie LaMunyon

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: NOS Event Center (Orange Pavilion)

Date Built: 1995

[Facility Website](#)

Team: San Diego Shockwave

Principal Owner: Robert and Jeff Sprowls

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Cox Arena

Date Built: 1997

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: After the Shockwave completed its inaugural season in 2007, the team has decided to cease operation for a year while the west division builds strong national recognition. The Shockwave will return in 2009, but in the meantime has been researching the possibility of building a new sports complex.

Team: Tri-Valley Ranchers

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Alameda County Fairgrounds (Amador Pavilion)

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Wyoming Cavalry

Principal Owner: Casper Professional Football, LLC Casper

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Casper Events Center

Date Built: 1982

[Facility Website](#)

League: United Indoor Football League

Team: Billings Outlaws

Principal Owner: Wally Yovetich

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: MetraPark Arena

Date Built: 1975

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Yellowstone County commissioners are exploring a way to improve their MetraPark Arena. The commissioners would like to replace the worn seat cushions, replace the bleachers, and to repair the roof. The estimated cost to make the repairs is \$1.4 million.

Team: Bloomington Extreme

Principal Owner: Ed Brady

[Team Website](#)

Arena: US Cellular Coliseum

Date Built: 2006

Facility Cost (millions): \$37

Facility Financing: Funded by the City of Bloomington

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Colorado Ice

Principal Owner: Danny DeGrande

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Budweiser Events Center

Date Built: 2003

Facility Cost (millions): \$60

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Colorado Ice was a 2007 United Indoor Football League expansion team.

Team: Evansville Bluecats

Principal Owner: Ed Voliva, Ann Voliva, John Voliva, and Tara Voliva

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Roberts Stadium

Date Built: 1956

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In 2007, the arena hired a consultant to determine whether the arena needs renovating and how much the upgrades would cost. The arena received its last renovation in 1990.

Team: Lexington Horsemen

Principal Owner: Lennie and Vicki House

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Rupp Arena

Date Built: 1976

Facility Cost (millions): \$53

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Horsemen's future is unclear since the team has been unable to generate revenue. Owner Lennie House is considering ceasing operation before the 2008 season.

Team: Ohio Valley Greyhounds

Principal Owner: Lou Stein

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Wesbanco Arena

Date Built: 1981

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In 2005, George Kellas, former managing partner of the Ohio Valley Greyhounds, put the team up for sale on eBay. Kellas's asking price was \$135,000. Lou Stein bought the team but the details of the sale were not disclosed.

Team: Omaha Beef

Principal Owner: Noodle Development and Duane Davis

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Omaha Civic Auditorium

Date Built: 1954

Facility Cost (millions): \$25 M renovation completed in 1997.

[Facility Website](#)

Team: River City Rage

Principal Owner: Tye Elliott and MAC Meetings and Events

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Family Arena

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions):

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Rock River Raptors

Principal Owner: Rob Lowe and Dave DeSanti

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Rockford Metro Centre

Date Built: 1979

Facility Cost (millions): \$3.8 M renovation was completed in 2005.

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Sioux City Bandits

Principal Owner: Bob Scott

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Gateway Arena at the Tyson Events Center

Date Built: 2003

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Sioux Falls Storm

Principal Owner: Kent & Laura Vucurevich

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Sioux Falls Arena

Date Built:

[Facility Website](#)

Intense Football League

Team: Alaska Wild

Principal Owner: David Weatherholt

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Sullivan Arena

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The 2007 season was the first for the Alaska Wild.

Team: Centex Barracudas

Principal Owner : Dr. Frederick Barnett

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Bell County Expo Center

Date Built:

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Bell County Expo Center officials are pushing for a renovation in the near future to compete with other arenas and to attract bigger events. The officials believe the renovations would cost around \$15 million. To pay for the renovation, the county would impose a 2-3% hotel tax increase.

Team: Corpus Christi Hammerheads

Principal Owner: Chad Dittman

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Central Pavilion Arena

Date Built: 2006

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Hammerheads were not asked to come back to the American Bank Center after their lease expired after the 2006 season. The team played at the new Central Pavilion Arena in Robstown, Texas for the 2007 season.

Team: Frisco Thunder

Principal Owner : Jake and Vinita Reed

[Team Website](#)

Stadium: DeJa Blue Arena

Date Built: 1997

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: DeJa Blue, the bottled water brand sold by Dr. Pepper, owns the naming rights to the arena, but the terms have not been disclosed.

Team: Katy Ruff Riders
Principal Owner : Brandon Smith
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Leonard E. Merrell
Date Built: 2005
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Katy Ruff Riders were a new IFL expansion team for the 2007 season.

Team: Louisiana Swashbucklers
Principal Owner: Thom Hager & Brenda Hager
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: James E. Sudduth Coliseum
Date Built: N/A
Facility Website

Team: Odessa Roughnecks
Principal Owner: Tommy Benizio & Abby Benizio
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: Ector County Coliseum
Arena: Ector County Coliseum
Date Built: 1954 (renovated in 1991)
Facility Cost (millions): \$1.6 M for renovations.

UPDATE: Ector County Commissioners approved \$38.1 million in city renovations. One million will be used to install a new air conditioning system in the Coliseum, and an additional \$85,000 will be used to build a new stage. The county plans to pay for these renovations by raising taxes.

Team: San Angelo Stampede Express
Principal Owner: Darlene Jones & Patsy McIntire
[Team Website](#)

Stadium: San Angelo Coliseum
Date Built: N/A