



Other Basketball Leagues

American Basketball Association (ABA)

Team: Anderson Champions

Principal Owner: Jesse Wilkerson and Bobby Wilkerson

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Anderson High School Wigwam in Anderson, Indiana

Team: Arkansas Fantastics

Principal Owner: Charles Wilkerson

Arena: Northside High School

Team: Atlanta Vision

Principal Owner: Quentin and Akilah Townsend, Carter Patterson, and Brian Richey

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Suwannee Sports Academy

Team: Aurora Force

Principal Owner: Kenny Battle

Arena: Marion Academy

Team: Baltimore Pearls

Principal Owner: Matthew E. Bradby

Arena: Northwestern Senior High School

Team: Beijing Aoshen Olympian

Principal Owner: Xin Li, George Pickering (U.S. Contact)

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Felix Events Center at Azusa Pacific University

Team: Big Valley Shockwave

Principal Owner: Catrice J. Claxton

Arena: Modesto Junior College

Team: The Boston Blizzard

Principal Owner: EMC Enterprises, LLC
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Alfreda Harris Gymnasium

Team: Brooklyn Comets

Principle Owner: Daisy Brand, Elton Brand (former L.A. Clipper)
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Kingsborough Community College

Team: Buffalo Silverbacks

Principal Owner: Vincent Lesh

Arena: Buffalo State College's Sports Arena

UPDATE: In September 2007, Vincent Lesh purchased the team from ProLink Sports Marketing.

Team: Chicago Throwbackss

Principal Owner: George Bellevue
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Emil and Patricia Jones Convocation Center

UPDATE : In September 2007, the team announced they would be playing their games at Tim Grover's new 60,000 sq. ft. facility in Chicago. Tim Grover is Michael Jordan's trainer. This facility has five basketball courts, main court seating of 1,600, new clear shot clocks, a barber shop, nail salon, auto detail shop, weight room, and therapeutic court for injured players.

Team: Cometas de Chicago

Principal Owner: Javier Haggar

Team: Corning Bulldogs

Principal Owner: James R. Schutz, Jeannine DeLine

Arena : Corning Community College

Team: Detroit Panthers

Principal Owner: Kevin A. Carter and Bart Scott

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Cobo Arena

[Facility Website](#)

Team: First State Fusion

Principal Owner: Bob Reed

Arena: Memorial Hall, Delaware State University

UPDATE : In September 2007 it was announced that First State Fusion was the winning name for the Name Your Team Contest held by the team.

Team: Fresno Legends

Arena: TBD

UPDATE: This new expansion team will begin play in December 2008.

Team: Gallup Outlaws

Principal Owner: Keith and Debora Money

Arena: Gallup Junior High School

Team: Georgia Gwizzlies

Principal Owner: Pelican Properties; Embry Malone

Arena: Macon Centerplex Coliseum

Team: Halifax Rainmen

Principal Owner: Andre Levingston

Arena: Metro Centre

Team: Hawaii Hurricanes

Principal Owners: Hawaii Basketball, Inc.; Andrew Moss and Ira Harge, Jr.

Team: Henderson All Starz

Principal Owners: Tyrone Nesby
[Team Website](#)

Team: Houston Takers

Principal Owner: Larry Donnell Leonard II
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Reagan Pavillion

Team: Jacksonville Jam

Principal Owner: Felix Krupczynski
[Team Website](#)

Arena: University of North Florida Arena

Team: Jersey Express

Principal Owner: Marsha Blount and Jacqueline Halyard

Arena: Drew University

UPDATE : In May 2008, the team announced that the Morristown Neighborhood House is the official try-out facility for the Jersey Express.

Team: Kentucky Retros

Principal Owner: Steve Van Waes

Team: King County Royals

Principal Owner: John Dominguez

Arena: North Seattle Community College

Team: Las Vegas PROLYMs

Principal Owner: Todd Triplett

[Team Website](#)

Team: Los Angeles Push

Principal Owner: Donyé Mitchell, Todd Mitchell

[Team Website](#)

UPDATE: This expansion team is set to begin play in December 2008.

Team: Long Beach Breakers

Principal Owner: Carl Williams

[Team Website](#)

Team: Manchester Millrats

Principal Owner: Jason Briggs

[Team Website](#)

Arena: The Fieldhouse

UPDATE: The Cape Cod Frenzy have become the Manchester Millrats and will play in Manchester, NH. In September 2007, the team announced a strategic partnership with the SportsZone Athletic Complex in Derry, NH. This facility is 95,000sq. ft., fully air-conditioned indoor sports facility. The facility will boast three hardwood courts. This facility hosted the October scrimmages and practices.

The team's home facility will be the Fieldhouse on the campus of Southern New Hampshire University.

Team: Maywood Buzz

Principal Owner: Jaime Garcia
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Maywood Activity Center

Team: Miami Tropics

Principal Owner: Imperiali Organization; Art Alvarez
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Health & Sports Center at Barry University

Team: Mississippi Miracles

Principal Owner: Annie P. Williams
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Washington County Convention Center

Team: Monterrey Veneno

Principal Owner: Salvadore Rojo, Roberto Mayer, Hugo Diaz, Alfredo Gonzalez and Salvador Thomas

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Monterrey Gym

Team: Montreal Royal

Front Office: Luc Filiatrault

Arena: Centre Pierre Charbonneau

Team: Nashville Broncs

Principal Owner: Scott Lumley

[Team Website](#)

UPDATE : This new expansion team will begin play in the 2008-2009 season.

Team: Norfolk Navigators

Principal Owner: James Keys

[Team Website](#)

Team: Ontario Red Wolves

Principal Owner: Michael Kelly

Arena: Hershey Centre

Team: Orange County Gladiators

Principal Owner: David R. Clarke

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Aliso Niguel High School

Team: Orlando Aces

Principle Owner: Todd Triplett

Arena: Downtown Recreation Center

Team: Palm Beach Imperials

Principal Owner: Imperiali Organization; Dan Mangru

[Team Website](#)

Arena: The Burrow at Florida Atlantic University

Team: Peoria Kings

Principal Owner: Jim McCaughey, Bill McCaughey, and Mike Van Antwerp

Arena: Peoria RiverPlex

Team: Phoenix Fury

Principal Owner: Xavier X Mitchell, Charles Key

Arena: Greenway Gymnasium

UPDATE: This new expansion team was announced in June 2008. The team is choosing to play in the Greenway Gymnasium because it is smaller, seating 2,000, and because they have a partnership with the local school.

Team: Quad Cities Riverhawks

Principal Owner: Tom McGinn

Arena: Wharton Field House

Team: Quebec Kebekwa

Principal Owner: Club de basketball professionnel de Quebec Inc.

[Team Website](#)

Arena: PEPS Athletic Complex at Université Laval

Team: Reno Sharpshooters

Principal Owner: Greg Newman

Arena: The Stadium

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Team has committed to structuring the organization so that it can have additional local owners.

Team: Richmond Ballerz

Principal Owner: Ann Iverson and George Christopher

Arena: U-Turn Sports Performance Academy

Team: Rio Grande Valley (RGV) Silverados

Principal Owner: Art Gonzalez and Kevin Mitchell

[Team Website](#)

Arena: McAllen Convention Center

Date Built: 2007

Facility Cost (millions): \$50

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Rochester Fire

Principal Owner: Anthony Rodriques, Al DeBoer, Hal Henderson, Joe Weis, and Jim Bier

Arena: Mayo Civic Center

Date Built: 1984

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Rome, GA Knights

Principal Owners: Alexis Presinos, Elena Brown, and Pat Martin

Arena: Winthrop-King Centre

Team: Sacramento Heatwave

Principal Owner: Reggie Davis and Greg Chambers
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Cosumnes River College

Team: San Diego Wildcats

Principal Owner: Anthony Lacey, Matty Allison, and Charles Hoge
[Team Website](#)

Arena: San Diego High School

Team: Sauk Valley Rollers

Principal Owner: Tom McGinn
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Sauk Valley Community College

Team: St. Louis Stunners

Principal Owner: Stunners Basketball & Entertainment, Inc
[Team Website](#)

Arena: St. Louis Community College

Team: Strong Island Sound

Principal Owner: Darren Cioffi and Michele Wuestman
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Suffolk County Community College

Team: Syracuse Bullies

Principal Owner: Nicholas Fitts

Arena: War Memorial at Oncenter

UPDATE: In February of this year the ABA approved the team's move to Rochester, NY. The Bullies will begin playing there next season.

Team: Tennessee Mud Frogs

Principal Owner: Patrick Chatman

Arena: Howard School of Academics and Technology

Team: Texas Tycoons

Principal Owner: Charles Key

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Mountain View College

Team: Tijuana Dragons

Front Office: Carlos Atilano

Arena: Auditorio Fausto Gutierrez Moreno

Team: Vermont Frost Heaves

Principal Owner: Alexander Wolff

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Barre Auditorium and Burlington Memorial Auditorium

Team: Washington Raptors

Principal Owner: Regina Joseph

Arena: Centralia College, Morton High School, Winlock High School, Oakville High School

Team: West Texas Whirlwinds

Principal Owner: Cleveland Phelps

Arena: Carver Center

Continental Basketball Association (CBA)

Team: Albany Patroons

Principal Owner: Benito R. Fernandez

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Washington Avenue Armory

Date Built: Late 1890s as a munitions depot.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In July 2008 the team sued the troubled summer league it used to belong to, complaining of an alleged breach of contract. The Patroons franchise is seeking \$285,000 from the Connecticut-based league. The team says that dollar figure accounts for "increased costs to participate in the [league], decreased ticket sales for home games, decreased advertising revenue, decreased media coverage and virtually no revenue for the 2007 [league] season."

Team: Atlanta Krunk

Principal Owner: Gary Perry, Lavon Mercer, and Ricky Brown

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Christenberry Fieldhouse

UPDATE: After a dismal 2007-2008 season, the new owners decided to move the team to Augusta. The team, now called the Augusta Groove, will be playing in the Premier Basketball League this coming season.

Team: Butte Daredevils

Principal Owner: Apex Sportstainment

Arena: Butte Civic Center

Team: Great Falls Explorers

Principal Owner: Michael Tuckman

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Four Seasons Arena

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Michael Tuckman, president of West Coast Sports LLC, purchased the team in November 2007. In mid-February 2008, after a disagreement over the lease arrangement including \$12,000 to \$16,000 owed to the Four Seasons Arena, the Explorers were barred from the arena until all debts were settled. The Explorers played subsequent games at area high school gymnasiums including Fairfield High and Cascade High until later that month when the Explorers ceased operations citing arena issues.

Team: Indiana Alley Cats

Principal Owner: Trinity Sports & Entertainment Group

Arena: Anderson High School Wigwam

UPDATE: The Trinity Sports & Entertainment Group revealed that it is planning to move the team to Indianapolis.

Team: Lawton/Fort Sill Calvary

Principal Owner: Mike Brown, Phil Kennedy, Hossein Moini, John Zelbst

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Great Plains Coliseum

[Facility Website](#)

Update: Following the 2007-2008 season, the Oklahoma Calvary changed their name to the Lawton/Fort Sill Calvary.

Team: Minot Sky Rockets

Principal Owner: Apex Sportstainment

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Minot Municipal Auditorium

Date Built: 1954

Team: Pittsburgh Xplosion

Principal Owner: Freddie Lewis and Richard Hersperger

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Mellon Arena

Date Built: 1961

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: June 20, 2008, the Bank of New York Mellon has reached an agreement with the Penguins to extend its naming rights deal to Mellon Arena by one year to 2010.

NAMING RIGHTS: Mellon Financial Corp. bought the naming rights to the former Civic Arena in 1999 for \$18 M over ten years; the deal expires in 2009.

Team: Vancouver Dragons

Principal Owner: Michael Tuckman

Arena: PNE Agrodome

Date Built: 1963

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Vancouver Dragons plan to launch the team after the conclusion of the 2010 Winter Olympic games in Vancouver.

Team: Yakama Sun Kings

Principal Owner: Yakama Indian Nation

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Yakima SunDome

Date Built: 1990

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Although the Yakama Indian Nation announced they had shut down team operations in April 2008, due to the franchise's financial losses, potential investors continue to meet with the team's owners with a desire to keep the team afloat.

National Basketball Developmental League (NBDL)

Team: Albuquerque Thunderbirds

Principal Owner: Southwest Basketball, LLC; David Kahn

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Tingley Coliseum

Date Built: 1957, after seventeen years of construction.

Facility Cost: \$500,000

Facility Financing: Paid for with Work Project Administration money.

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Anaheim Arsenal

Principal Owner: Tom & Louise Jones, Gino Kwok, and Roy Englebrecht

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Anaheim Convention Center

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Arkansas RimRockers

Principal Owner: Larry Crain

Arena: Alltel Arena

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions): \$80

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The arena will host portions of the first and second rounds of the NCAA Men's Division I Basketball Tournament in March 2008 and the SEC Gymnastics Championships in 2007.

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

Team: Austin Toros

Principal Owner: David Kahn; Southwest Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Austin Convention Center

Date Built: 1992

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Bakersfield Jam

Principal Owner: Bakersfield Professional Sports, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Rabobank Arena

Date Built: 1998

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Colorado 14ers

Principal Owner: Timothy D. Wiens and John Frew

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Broomfield Event Center

Date Built: 2006

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Dakota Wizards

Principal Owner: Steve McCormick and Bill Sorensen
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Bismarck Civic Center
[Facility Website](#)

Team: Idaho Stampede

Principle Owner: Bill Ilett
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Qwest Arena
Date Built: 1997
Facility Costs: \$50 M
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2008 it was reported that the NBA has changed the Sonics' D-League affiliate from the Idaho Stampede to the Tulsa 66ers, a "not-so-subtle hint on where the NBA expects the [Sonics] to be playing in the future." The Sonics had been affiliated with the Stampede since '05.

Qwest Arena hosted the NBA D-League Showcase which was held on January 14-17, 2008 which had all the NBA D-League teams play for 4 days, and showed their talent in front of National TV (NBA TV) and scouts from all around the country.

NAMING RIGHTS: At the end of 2004, Bank of America chose not to renew its \$1 M 10-year naming rights deal. Qwest Communications signed a naming rights deal with Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22 in October 2005 for \$4 M over 15 years.

Team: Los Angeles D-Fenders

Principle Owner: Los Angeles Lakers
[Team Website](#)

Arena: Staples Center
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost (millions): \$375
Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed: 19%
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](#)

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

Team: Sioux Falls Skyforce

Principal Owner: D. Greg Heineman

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Sioux Falls Arena

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: Sioux Falls Arena will host The Summit League 2009 and 2010 Men's Basketball Tournaments.

Team: Tulsa 66ers

Principal Owner: Southwest Basketball, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Tulsa Expo Square Pavilion

Date Built: 1966

Facility Cost (millions): \$3.5

Facility Financing: Paid for with a bond issue.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: As of June 2008, the team is now the D-League affiliate of the Seattle Sonics.

United States Basketball League (USBL)

The USBL will not have a 2008 season.

Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA)

Team: Chicago Sky

Principal Owner: Michael Alter

Year Established: 2006

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price (\$/Mil): \$10 M

Arena: UIC Pavilion

Date Built: 1982

Facility Cost (millions): \$10

[Facility Website](#)

Team: Connecticut Sun

Principal Owner: Mohegan Indian Tribe

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Mohegan Sun Arena

Date Built: 2001

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: On July 9, 2008, Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) Commissioner Rich Ensor said that the league is "considering holding" a MAAC basketball tournament between 2012-2014 at a casino, and Mohegan Sun Casino in Connecticut is "one of several sites being considered."

Team: Detroit Shock

Affiliate: Detroit Pistons

Principal Owner: William Davidson

[Team Website](#)

Arena: The Palace of Auburn Hills

Date Built: 1988

Facility Cost (millions): \$70

Facility Financing: Privately financed by a bank loan and equity contribution by team ownership.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In July 2007 the Michigan Legislature approved "special tax breaks for Michigan Int'l Speedway (MIS), the Palace of Auburn Hills and Comerica Park. The Palace got tax credits totaling as much as nearly \$7[M] through 2012 if it spends at least \$25[M] on renovations.

In November 2007, Palace Sports & Entertainment (PSE) signed a three-and-a-half-year naming rights deal with Ameriprise Financial for the 20,000-square-foot club in The Palace of Auburn Hills' Comcast Pavilion at the north entrance. The club, formerly known as the ERSA Club, will be called the Ameriprise Financial Club (PSE).

In 2008, Centerplate, the company managing the Palace's concessions, suffered a first quarter loss of \$11.2 million. The company is looking into a possible sale, saying that it will explore all of the options that would make sense given the current economic and competitive environment.

NAMING RIGHTS: In 1998 the owners of The Palace hired a marketing company to negotiate the rights to rename the arena, but no deal ever developed. As of July 2008, there are no plans to sell the naming rights to the Palace.

Team: Houston Comets

Principal Owner: Hilton Koch

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Reliant Arena

Date Built: 1974

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The team moved from the 18,300 seat Toyota Center to the 5,800 seat Reliant Arena before the start of the 2008 season. Within Reliant Arena, the team will "introduce several Comets elements," including the Kim Perrot Memorial Locker Room and Cooper's Corner VIP Entrance, named in honor of former WNBAer Cynthia Cooper.

NAMING RIGHTS: Reliant Arena is part of a collection of venues collectively called Reliant Park. Reliant Energy has a 32 year, \$300 million naming rights agreement with the entire complex; the deal expires in 2032.

Team: Indiana Fever

Affiliate: Indiana Pacers

Principal Owner: Melvin and Herbert Simon

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Conseco Fieldhouse

Date Built: 1999

Facility Cost (millions): \$183

Facility Financing: Financing for the facility is a public/private partnership. Public contributions totaled \$79 M, which included \$50 M from a professional sports developmental tax district around the new facility, \$4.7 M in infrastructure, \$9.3 M from Capital Improvement Board cash reserves and \$7 M from the Circle Centre Mall revenues. The Pacer contributed \$57 M and other private sources paid for the rest.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Conseco, an insurance and financial services company, is paying \$40 M over 20 years for the naming rights, which expire in 2019.

Team: Los Angeles Sparks

Affiliate: Los Angeles Lakers

Principal Owner: Carla Christofferson and Kathy Goodman

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price: \$10 M (2007)

Arena: 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](#)

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

Team: Minnesota Lynx

Affiliate: Minnesota Timberwolves

Principal Owner: Glen Taylor

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Target Center

Date Built: 1990

Facility Cost (millions): \$104

Facility Financing: Financed through a tax exempt bond issue.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In February 2008, City Council Member Lisa Goodman confirmed that the Target Center will have a green roof, and members of the Community Planning and Economic Development staff have started to go out and bid on green-roof options. Goodman said there are three options for the 100,000 square-foot-roof: a 20,000-square-foot- green roof, a 100,000-square-foot green roof, and the preferred option of a higher-intensity 20,000-square-foot exterior green roof and an 80,000-square foot interior green roof.

NAMING RIGHTS: Target was paying \$18.8 M over 15 years for the naming rights that expired in 2005. The agreement appears to have been extended because the venue has retained the Target name.

Team: New York Liberty

Affiliate: New York Knicks

Principal Owner: Cablevision

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Madison Square Garden

Date Built: 1968

Facility Cost (millions): \$43

Facility Financing: \$200 M in renovations completed in 1991.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In December of 2007, Madison Square Garden acquired the 86-year-old Chicago Theatre on State Street in Chicago. The purchase price was unavailable.

Additionally, in February 2008 the N.Y. City Council passed a resolution asking the Legislature to revoke a permanent property tax exemption Madison Square Garden has enjoyed for more than 25 years.

NAMING RIGHTS: Madison Square Garden's history is probably the most significant reason the owners have stated that they would never sell the naming rights to the arena. The history began when Madison Square Garden I opened in 1879. The current Madison Square Garden, Madison Square Garden IV, opened in 1968.

Team: Phoenix Mercury

Affiliate: Phoenix Suns

Principal Owner: Robert Sarver

[Team Website](#)

Arena: US Airways Center

Date Built: 1992

Facility Cost (millions): \$90

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: In October 2007 the Suns announced that the Center's renovated media facilities would be renamed the Al McCoy Media Center, recognizing the play-by-play man's 35 years with the team. In November 2007, the NBA awarded the Phoenix and U.S. Airways Center the '09 NBA All-Star Game.

In addition, in February 2008 the Suns announced that Verve would be the sponsor of the new Verve Lounge and the US Airways Center.

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: Sacramento Monarchs

Affiliate: Sacramento Kings

Principal Owner: Maloof Sports & Entertainment, owned by Gavin and Joseph Maloof

[Team Website](#)

Arena: ARCO Arena
Date Built: 1988
Facility Cost (millions): \$40
Facility Financing: Privately financed.
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In May 2008, the NBA and Cal Expo agreed to pursue a new arena deal for the NBA Kings. The parties agreed to solve the financial dilemma at Cal Expo and replace creaky Arco Arena, all without approaching voters about a new tax.

NAMING RIGHTS: ARCO is paying \$750,000 per year for ten years for the naming rights that expire in 2007. The naming rights deal was originally signed in 1985 as a 99-year deal for only \$7.5 M. In 1997, the deal was renegotiated. Since then ARCO was bought by British Petroleum, but the company is going to keep the ARCO name because of its recognition on the west coast.

Team: San Antonio Silver Stars

Affiliate: San Antonio Spurs
Principal Owner: Peter Holt
[Team Website](#)

Arena: AT&T Center
Date Built: 2002
Facility Cost (millions): \$175
Facility Financing: \$146.5 M was generated through a county tax increase and an increase in hotel and rental car taxes. SS&E contributed \$28.5 M themselves, which they raised through a \$1.00 increase in ticket fees for NBA games and a \$1.00 parking surcharge.
[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: In June 2008, Spurs Sports and Entertainment announced that it has entered into an agreement with CPS Energy for the AT&T Center to be powered solely by Windtricity for the next two years. According to CEO Peter Holt, the agreement is all part of an initiative to make the AT&T Center the greenest arena in the country. Also, the Spurs will look at reorganization possibilities under the leadership of its principal owner and two other top executives after the resignation of Spurs Sports & Entertainment Executive VP/Business Operations. Holt says he plans to be more active in the day-to-day operations.

NAMING RIGHTS: AT&T is paying \$41 M for 20 years for the naming rights that expire in 2022.

Team: Seattle Storm

Principal Owner: Force 10 Hoops, LLC

[Team Website](#)

Arena: Key Arena

Date Built: 1995

Facility Cost (millions): \$94

Facility Financing: The arena cost the city \$75 M and the Supersonics \$19 M.

[Facility Website](#)

UPDATE: The Storm was the sister team of the Seattle SuperSonics until February 28, 2008, when the team was sold to an independent ownership group in Seattle. The Storm will stay in Seattle when the Sonics move to Oklahoma City.

NAMING RIGHTS: Key Bank is paying \$15.1 M over 15 years for the naming rights that expire in 2010.

Team: Washington Mystics

Affiliate: Washington Wizards

Principal Owner: Sheila Johnson and Ted Leonsis, owners of Holdings LLC

[Team Website](#)

Most Recent Purchase Price: \$10 M

Arena: Verizon Center

Date Built: 1997

Facility Cost (millions): \$260

Facility Financing: Private loans financed the building. The District of Columbia provided \$60 M in infrastructure costs.

[Facility Website](#)

NAMING RIGHTS: Verizon is paying \$44 M over 15 years for the naming rights that expire in 2017. The name of the arena changed from the MCI Center to the Verizon Center in March 2006. The change was the result of Verizon's merger with MCI.

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