Sports Facility Reports

Sports Facility Reports, Volume 10, Appendix 4.1

Other Hockey Leagues

American Hockey League (AHL) (AAA)

Team: Abbotsford Heat

Affiliate: Calgary Flames
Principal Owner: Calgary Flames
Team Website

Arena: Abbotsford Entertainment & Sports Centre
Date Built: 2009
Cost: $64.7 million
Facility Website

UPDATE: The Calgary Flames decided to move the team closer to home and left the Quad Cities region of Illinois to move the team to Abbotsford which constructed a new arena. The organization did a fan vote in creating a name for the team with the winner being the Heat. Abbotsford will be the farthest western city to be awarded an AHL team, and as part of the agreement to allow the team to transfer cities, Heat ownership agreed to pay travel costs for the visiting teams.

Team: Adirondack Phantoms
**Affiliate:** Philadelphia Flyers  
**Principal Owner:** Brooks Group  
[Team Website](#)  

**Arena:** Glens Falls Civic Center  
**Date Built:** 1979  
**Cost:** $7 million  
[Facility Website](#)  

**UPDATE:** With the Wachovia Spectrum being demolished to make room for Philly Live!, the Phantoms needed to find a new home. Glen Falls was the winner as the city and Civic Center have a rich history of hosting sporting teams and events. The Phantom will be the first AHL team to call the center home since the Red Wings minor league affiliate left in 1999.

**Team:** Albany River Rats  

**Affiliate:** Carolina Hurricanes  
**Principal Owner:** Walter Robb  
[Team Website](#)  

**Arena:** Times Union Center  
**Date Built:** 1990  
**Cost:** $68 million  
[Facility Website](#)  

**UPDATE:** In February, 2009, four River Rat players and the team's radio commentator were seriously injured in a bus crash. The more seriously injury was a broken neck, however, all individuals are expected to make a full recovery.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In January 2007, 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:** Binghamton Senators  

**Affiliate:** Ottawa Senators  
**Principal Owner:** Thomas Mitchell (also the Executive Vice President of Operations)  
[Team Website](#)
**Arena:** Broome County Veterans Memorial Arena  
**Date Built:** 1973  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** In February 2007, the Binghamton Senators reached a new five year lease to use Broome County's Veterans Memorial Arena, which prompted a five year extension of Binghamton's affiliation agreement with the Ottawa Senators. Both deals will run through 2012. Per the lease, the B-Senators will pay the county $2,000 for the use of the Arena for each home game, and the Senators will also pay an escalating price per ticket each year for the next five years ($0.10 per ticket in year one, increasing by ten cents in each year). Plans are underway to remedy a problem that was created when the Binghamton Government Plaza Parking Garage closed. About 180 season ticket holders and employees use the parking garage for all home games. In November 2008, the team also honored its one-millionth fan by awarding a prize package including a two day Norwegian cruise.

**Team:** Bridgeport Sound Tigers  

**Affiliate:** New York Islanders  
**Principal Owner:** Charles Wang  
**Team Website**

**Arena:** Bridgeport Arena at Harbor Yard  
**Date Built:** 2001  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $35  
**Facility Financing:** 100% publicly funded.  
**Facility Website**

**Team:** Chicago Wolves  

**Affiliate:** Atlanta Thrashers  
**Principal Owners:** Don Levin, William Meyers and Seth Gold  
**Team Website**

**Arena:** Allstate Arena  
**Date Built:** 1980 (renovated in 1999)  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $11  
**Facility Website**
UPDATE: Once again in the 2008-09 season, the Chicago Wolves will be the only AHL team to broadcast all eighty regular season games and playoffs on the television with its agreement with Comcast.

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. As 2009 approaches, it is likely both sides are preparing to discuss an extension of the naming rights to the arena.

Team: Grand Rapids Griffins

Affiliate: Detroit Red Wings
Principal Owner: Dan DeVos and David Van Andel
Team Website

Arena: Van Andel Arena
Date Built: 1996
Facility Cost (millions): $75
Facility Financing: DeVos paid $15 M, the Van Andels paid $11.5 M, $8.5 M was paid for by other private interests and state taxes were used to fund the remainder.
Facility Website

UPDATE: The Griffins were recognized by the AHL for their off-the-ice work during the 2008-09 season. The team won the inaugural Team Business Service Award for the Western Conference for community service and overall ticket sales growth. The team also had their highest attendance since the 2000-01 season and ranked first in the amount of money donated and raised for charities.

NAMING RIGHTS: Grand Action was responsible for securing the name to the Van Andel Arena, named for Amway founder, Jay Van Andel, who gave $11.5 M toward the arena.

Team: Hamilton Bulldogs

Affiliate: Montreal Canadiens
Principal Owner: Michael Andlauer
Team Website

Arena: Copps Coliseum
Date Built: 1985
Facility Cost (millions): $42.7
Facility Financing: The city borrowed $17.79 M from the Ontario Municipal Board, $8 M came from federal and provincial government contributions, $10.9 M from taxpayers and city reserves, and $3.5 M came from public contributions.

UPDATE: In May 2007, it was announced that Jim Balsillie had reached a tentative agreement to buy the Nashville Predators. Balsillie had stated that he would move the Predators to Hamilton, Ontario, as there is an exit clause in Nashville's lease with the Sommet Center that can be activated if attendance does not improve. Balsillie's company, Golden Horseshoe Sports & Entertainment had secured exclusive rights to bring an NHL team to Copps Coliseum. In June 2008, William Del Biaggio, the [now former] owner of a minority share of the Predators, tentatively agreed to sell his portion to Balsillie, however the NHL cautioned against the deal, and no deal was reached. Speculation continued through 2008 and early-2009 as Balsillie was looking to purchase the Phoenix Coyotes and move them to Hamilton. It remains to be seen if Balsillie will be successful in any attempt to move a team to the Copps Coliseum. If NHL hockey comes to the Copps Coliseum, Andlauer has worked close with the Canadiens to create a short list of cities the club could then move to.

NAMING RIGHTS: The coliseum is named after Vic Copps, a long-time Hamilton mayor and father of federal Heritage Minister Sheila Copps. In 2001, Ontario considered selling the naming rights of the coliseum to generate more revenue, but the city ceased its search after Sheila Copps claimed a name change would be an insult to her father Vic.

Team: Hartford Wolf Pack

Affiliate: New York Rangers
Principal Owner: Madison Square Garden L.P.
Team Website

Arena: XL Center
Date Built: 1975 (Heavily renovated in 1980 after the original roof collapsed).
Facility Cost (millions): $75 M
Facility Website

UPDATE: Rumors persist from Mayor Eddie Perez that the city is investigating the feasibility of building a new stadium. The current lease runs through 2013 and must be turned over to the city at the expiration of the lease. Perez has asked representatives of city, state, regional, and corporate entities to determine the level of private sector support for a world-class facility to host NBA, NHL, and AHL teams, as well as the UConn Huskies. Expected costs are between $300 and $400 million. A study already shows the XL Center site as the preferred location because of its strong opportunities for development. The push from Mayor Perez comes after the Urban...
Land Institute told the city that a new arena would not be in its best interest, and reinventing the XL Center makes the most sense.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: While terms were not released, XL Capital Insurance has purchased the naming rights to the Coliseum in December 2007, and has re-named the coliseum XL Center. The deal is for six years and expected to reach upwards of seven figures, allowing XL to place its logo on the front of the building, as well as the playing surface.

**Team: Hershey Bears**

*Affiliate*: Washington Capitals  
*Principal Owner*: Hershey Entertainment & Resorts Company  
[Team Website](#)

*Arena*: GIANT Center  
*Date Built*: 2002  
*Facility Cost (millions)*: $95 M for the arena, roads, parking lots, and infrastructures; $65 M for the arena itself.  
*Publicly Financed*: 40%  
*Facility Financing*: The State contributed $25 M towards building the arena.  
[Facility Website](#)

**NAMING RIGHTS**: The Capitals and Bears agreed to extend their affiliation agreement through the 2009-10 season with an option for 2010-11. Furthermore, the GIANT Center has reached a deal with Pepsi Co. to provide all beverages in the arena. The arena previously had Coca-Cola products. The team set a GIANT Center record by drawing 10,860 fans to the June 10, 2009 Game 5 Calder Cup finals.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Giant Food, a grocery store chain, is paying $4.5 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2012.

**Team: Houston Aeros**

*Affiliate*: Minnesota Wild  
*Principal Owner*: Minnesota Sports & Entertainment (Craig Leipold)  
[Team Website](#)

*Arena*: Toyota Center  
*Date Built*: 2003
**Facility Cost (millions):** $235

**Facility Financing:** The city spent $20 M on the land for the arena. The sports authority sold $182 M in bonds to build the arena and secured $125 M of that with money from hotel and car rental taxes. The garage project is paid for by a private business. The Rockets are responsible for cost overruns and have pledged to spend $20 M on enhancements.

**UPDATE:** Bob Naegle agreed to sell the Wild, and all of its assets which includes the Aeros, to Craig Leipold, the former owner of the Nashville Predators in January 2008. The price was reportedly between $250 and $260 million. The NHL Board of Governors officially approved the sale on April 10, 2008.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In July 2003, the Rockets signed a 20-year, $100 million deal with Gulf States Toyota Inc., which will expire in 2023. The major lure for Toyota to sign the naming rights deal with Houston was the NBA's Houston Rockets signing of Yao Ming, who is very popular in the Asian market. While Toyota Motor Sales USA and Toyota Motor Corporation in Japan signed off on the deal and will fund an undisclosed portion of the purchase, Gulf States Toyota and the dealerships that it represents will be paying most of the fee. While the naming rights deal is for 20 years, it can be extended to 30 years to match the deal that the Rockets currently have to stay in the arena.

**Team:** Lake Erie Monsters

**Affiliate:** Colorado Avalanche  
**Principal Owner:** Dan Gilbert  
**Team Website**

**Arena:** Quicken Loans Arena  
**Date Built:** 1994  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $100  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** Veritix will become the exclusive primary and secondary ticket provider for the Lake Erie Monsters, along with Quicken Arena events, and the Cleveland Cavaliers.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Naming rights for the Quicken Loans Arena was part of the $375 M purchase deal from Gordon Gund in 2005 of the Cleveland Cavaliers and their properties.

**Team:** Lowell Devils
**Affiliate:** New Jersey Devils  
**Principal Owner:** New Jersey Devils  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Paul E. Tsongas Arena  
**Date Built:** 1998  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $28 Million  
**Facility Financing:** $4 Million from Lowell, Massachusetts, $4 Million from UMass-Lowell Campus, and $20 Million from the State of Massachusetts  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** Lowell has extended their lease with the Tsongas Arena through 2010. The new lease has the team paying $275,000 per year to use the arena. Arena authorities are searching for a new company to manage marketing, booking, promotions, and/or concessions at Tsongas Arena. The finalists are SMG, who has operated the arena for five years but its contract expires on June 30, 2008, VenuWorks, Boston Culinary Group, the current food and beverage concessions provider who also has its contract expire on June 30, 2008, and Unidine Corp. Currently, Tsongas Arena pays SMG $100,000 per year. The University of Massachusetts Lowell and the City of Lowell are at a disagreement of who should have control of the arena. The university feels as if the city is treating them as a tenant and not a partner in the building. This has lead to discussions about the land the building occupies to be transferred from city to university control.

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**Team:** Manchester Monarchs

**Affiliate:** Los Angeles Kings  
**Principal Owner:** Anschutz Entertainment Group (AEG)  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Verizon Wireless Arena  
**Date Built:** 2001  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $67  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** While officials have debated the possibility of moving to a new arena, the current lease with the Verizon Wireless Arena extends to 2015, and it would be too costly to end the lease early and move into a new facility. Debate began when the Los Angeles Kings GM Dean Lombardi mentioned the Monarchs may join the Kings in the Kings' move to their new arena being built in Ontario, California.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Verizon is paying $11.4 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2016.
Team: Manitoba Moose

**Affiliate:** Vancouver Canucks  
**Principal Owner:** True North Sports & Entertainment Limited; headed by Kevin Maclean  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** MTS Centre  
**Date Built:** 2004  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $133.5 Canadian; $126 US  
**Facility Financing:** The public sector contributed $40.5 M and the remaining $93 M came from private entities.  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In early 2009, the Vancouver Canucks and the Manitoba Moose renewed their affiliation agreement through the 2011-12 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Manitoba Telecom Services (MTS) is paying $7 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.

Team: Milwaukee Admirals

**Affiliate:** Nashville Predators  
**Principal Owner:** Milwaukee Admirals, LLC  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** Bradley Center  
**Date Built:** 1988  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $90  
**Facility Financing:** Money for the arena was donated by the Pettit family as a gift to the people of Wisconsin and in memory of Jane Bradley Pettit's father Harry Lynde Bradley.  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** In January 2008, the Admirals and the Bradley Center came to an agreement on an extension of their current lease. The previous lease allowed the Admirals to play games at the Bradley Center for free. The new lease continues to allow the Admirals to play games for free on Sunday through Thursday, while adding language that the Admirals must pay $2,500 for each Friday game and $10,000 for each Saturday game. Additionally, the Admirals will receive additional revenue from recent Bradley Center improvements such as Club Cambria, the Courtside Club, and upgraded advertising and entertainment systems. The Bradley Center will
also receive ten percent of all merchandise sales at Admirals games in excess of $230,000 per season. The new deal is a four-year lease, retroactive to the 2006-07 season, thus will expire in 2010. Talk still remains of finding a viable option to build a new downtown arena. Wisconsin Governor Jim Doyle recently included a provision in the state budget for $5 million in state bonding supporting the renovation of the Bradley Center, and the Bradley Center board agreed to raise the remaining $18 million needed on its own.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** There was talk in April 2008 of selling the naming rights to the Bradley Center, which could generate up to $2 million annually. However, management scrapped those plans when members of the Pettit family, whose $90 million bequest allowed the stadium to be built, felt it would diminish Harry and Jane (Pettit) Bradley's legacy.

**Team: Norfolk Admirals**

*Affiliate:* Tampa Bay Lightning  
*Principal Owner:* Norfolk Tides Baseball Club; managing partner Ken Young  
*Team Website*

**Arena:** Norfolk Scope Arena  
**Date Built:** 1971  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $28.1 ($23 federally funded)  
*Facility Website*

**UPDATE:** In April 2007, the Norfolk Admirals announced a five-year NHL affiliate agreement with the Tampa Bay Lightning. The Norfolk Admirals used to be affiliated with the Chicago Blackhawks. Furthermore, a five year deal was announced with ESPN Radio to air all regular season games through the 2011-12 season. City officials commissioned a study to determine what to do with the Scope Arena. It found that building a new stadium would cost too much ($230 million), as would a major renovation ($77 million). Thus, the city decided to spend around $9 million to upgrade the arena.

**Team: Peoria Rivermen**

*Affiliate:* St. Louis Blues  
*Principal Owner:* Sports Capital Partners Worldwide  
*Team Website*

**Arena:** Carver Arena at Peoria Civic Center  
**Date Built:** 1982
Facility Cost (millions): $64
Facility Website

**UPDATE:** Renovations have recently been completed at the Peoria Civic Center, which includes the Carver Arena. The $55 M revitalization plan was finalized for the Carver Arena and Peoria Civic Center in 2005. The project was financed through the city's Hotel/Restaurant/Amusement (HRA) taxes.

The SCP Worldwide, the owner of the St. Louis Blues, purchased the Rivermen for an undisclosed price. The front office was kept on staff and now report to Marty Brooks who is the Executive Vice President of the Blues.

**Team: Portland Pirates**

**Affiliate:** Buffalo Sabres  
**Principal Owner:** Portland Pirates, LLC; headed by Brian Petrovek  
**Team Website**

**Arena:** Cumberland County Civic Center  
**Date Built:** 1977  
**Facility Costs (millions):** $5  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** The Anaheim Ducks have announced that beginning with the 2008-09 season, they will no longer affiliate with the Pirates, and will take over the affiliation with the AHL franchise in Des Moines, Iowa. In June 2008, the Pirates announced a new affiliation agreement with the Buffalo Sabres that will keep the affiliation until 2011. After commissioning a firm to determine the viability of renovating the Civic Center for $175,000, the Civic Center Board of Trustees selected Struever Bros., Eccles & Rouse to develop a phased renovation project that would add seats, improve access for the disabled, and expand amenities such as concession stands and bathrooms. City government has twice voted down proposals to build a new stadium to replace the Civic Center.

**Team: Providence Bruins**

**Affiliate:** Boston Bruins  
**Principal Owner:** H. Larue Renfroe  
**Team Website**
**Arena:** Dunkin' Donuts Center  
**Date Built:** 1972  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $13  
**Facility Financing:** Publicly funded.  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** An extension of the affiliation agreement was reached between the teams that runs through 2016. Furthermore, completion of phase two of the three-part $80 million renovation project was completed in November 2007. While construction will continue for the next eleven months, the Pirates were able to play in the arena after phase two completed. The Dunkin' Donuts Center was completely closed for six months. Phase one included a new ice surface, compressors, boards and glass, and other structural aspects. Phase two included a new front of the building and lobby, the main concourse made wider, new food courts, restrooms, and family restrooms created. Furthermore, two new wings were added on each side of the building, as well as new seats which will take place during phase three.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Dunkin' Donuts is paying $8.65 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2011.

**Team:** Rochester Americans

**Affiliate:** Florida Panthers  
**Principal Owner:** Curt Styres (60%) & Steve Donner (40%)  
**Team Website**

**Arena:** Blue Cross Arena at the War Memorial  
**Date Built:** 1955  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $7.5 M ($41 M renovation and expansion completed in 1998).  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** In May 2008, the AHL approved the sale of 60% of Donner's 100% share of the team to Styres. The price was not released; however it was expected to be about $6.5 million. The sale comes after city officials stated they would not offer a new lease to the Americans if Donner remained in control of the team. In June 2008, the Sabres and the Americans announced they will end their twenty-nine year affiliation. Florida took over the affiliation of the team running through the 2010-11 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Blue Cross is paying $2.975 M over fifteen years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

**Team:** Rockford IceHogs
Affiliation: Chicago Blackhawks
Principal Owner: Centre Events, Dr. Kris Tumilowicz, and Craig Drecktrah
Team Website

Arena: Rockford MetroCentre
Date Built: 1979
Facility Cost (millions): $3.8 M renovation was completed in 2005.
Facility Website

Team: San Antonio Rampage

Affiliate: Phoenix Coyotes
Principal Owner: Spurs Sports and Entertainment
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. The Spurs 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

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

Team: Springfield Falcons

Affiliate: Edmonton Oilers
Principal Owner: Springfield Pro Hockey, LLC
Team Website

Arena: MassMutual Center
Date Built: 1972
Facility Cost (millions): A $71 M renovation of the existing building was completed in 2005.
Facility Website
**UPDATE**: The team saw a very healthy ticket sale increase of 13.5% for the 2008-2009 season.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company is paying $5 M for a naming rights deal that began in 2005.

**Team: Syracuse Crunch**

**Affiliate**: Columbus Blue Jackets  
**Principal Owner**: Howard Dolgon  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: War Memorial at Oncenter Complex  
**Date Built**: 1951  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE**: Within the 2008 Proposed Budget that County Executive Nicholas Pirro created is a plan to renovate the War Memorial at Oncenter Complex. An estimated $7 million is required to complete the proposed renovations and is planned to be financed through county bonding and room occupancy taxes. After noted American actor Paul Newman's death in 2008, the team raised a banner with his name and jersey number from the movie Slap Shot to the rafters. Parts of the movie were filmed on location in the War Memorial at Oncenter Complex.

**Team: Texas Stars**

**Affiliate**: Dallas Stars  
**Principal Owner**: Dallas Stars  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: Cedar Park Center  
**Date Built**: 2009  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $55 million  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE**: The team is set to debut for the 2009-2010 season in a newly constructed arena in the Austin suburb.

**Team: Toronto Marlies**
Affiliate: Toronto Maple Leafs
Principal Owner: Maple Leafs Sports & Entertainment
Team Website

Arena: Ricoh Coliseum
Date Built: 1921
Facility Website

UPDATE: Beginning in the 2009-10 season, the Marlies and the Toronto Maple Leafs will be practicing in the new Lakeshore Lions Arena. It is the first arena to be built in Toronto in 25 years. The project is expected to cost $33.65 million, funded primarily through private equity and fundraising efforts. The new arena will have four ice pads (three NHL size and one Olympic size).

NAMING RIGHTS: Ricoh Canada Inc. is paying $10 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

Team: Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins

Affiliate: Pittsburgh Penguins
Principal Owner: Pittsburgh Penguins
Team Website

Arena: Wachovia Arena at Casey Plaza
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost (millions): $44
Facility Website

UPDATE: The Penguins are having difficulties collecting agreed sponsorship revenue as team sponsors are being hit hard by the credit crunch or going out of business. The team is working with its sponsors and hopeful that the majority of expected revenues will be paid.

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

Team: Worcester Sharks
**Affiliate:** San Jose Sharks

**Principal Owner:** San Jose Sports and Entertainment Enterprises; headed by Greg Jamison, President & CEO.

[Team Website](#)

**Arena:** DCU Center

**Date Built:** 1982

[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE:** The Worcester Sharks and the DCU Center was selected by the AHL to host the 2009 All-Star Classic. The PlanetUSA All Stars defeated Team Canada 14-11, in the highest scoring AHL game in history. After condensation rose from the hockey rink through the basketball court during a game in October 2007, a complete upgrade program has been planned to install a highly sophisticated dehumidifying system. The financing plan created a Special District Finance Zone that will collect money by hotel/motel occupancy taxes, food and beverage taxes, and sales taxes. Other renovations are planned for the DCU Center, the Hilton Garden Inn, the Residence Inn by Marriott, and the Major Taylor Boulevard parking garage after former Governor Mitt Romney signed a bill authorizing the Special District Finance Zone and up to $30 million in bonds.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Digital Federal Credit Union is paying $5.2 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2014.
Central Hockey League (CHL) (AA)

Team: Allen Americans

Owner: Steve Duchesne
Team Website

Arena: Allen Event Center
Date Built: 2009
Facility Cost (millions): $70 million (includes two parking garages)
Facility Financing: The city provided $47 million in bonds with the remaining $23 million coming from the MGHerring Group. MGHerring will be reimbursed by the city with revenue from the facility
Facility Website

UPDATE: The AHL Allen team was named the Americans after voting was completed by city residences. The team scheduled to start play in September, 2009, in the all new Allen Event Center look to establish a rivalry in the CHL with the other five Texas teams.

Team: Amarillo Gorillas

Owner: Randy Sanders
Team Website

Arena: Amarillo Civic Center
Date Built: 1964
Facility Financing: In 1999 a $10 M bond was approved for a new arena at the fair grounds and renovations to the Civic Center. Private donations funded the remaining amount totaling $19.6 M in construction for the two buildings. The construction was completed in 2003. The bond was secured by a 2% hotel tax and a 5% car rental tax.
Facility Website

Team: Arizona Sundogs
**Affiliate:** Phoenix Coyotes (NHL), San Antonio Rampage (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Eric Lacroix and Shawn P. Fowler

**Most Recent Purchase Price (millions):** $1

**Team Website**

**Arena:** Tim's Toyota Center  
**Date Built:** 2006  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $25  
**Facility Financing:** Prescott Valley paid $3 M for the arena with 2% of the local sales tax generated within an adjacent entertainment area set aside each year to cover debt service on the private-sector bonds used to finance the arena.

**Facility Website**

**NAMING RIGHTS:** With the opening of the building, Tim's Toyota, a local Toyota dealership in Prescott Valley, Arizona, purchased the naming rights to the Center. Terms remain undisclosed.

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**Team: Bossier-Shreveport Mudbugs**

**Principal Owner:** John Madden and Rob Walker

**Team Website**

**Arena:** Century Tel Center  
**Date Built:** 2000  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $56.5  
**Facility Financing:** Paid for by the city

**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** The team lost its affiliation with the Buffalo Sabres and Florida Panthers.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** CenturyTel is paying $5 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2010.

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**Team: Colorado Eagles**

**Principal Owner:** Martin Lind & Ralph Backstrom

**Team Website**
**Arena**: Budweiser Event Center  
**Date Built**: 2003  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $60  
**Facility Website**

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Budweiser is paying $1.5 M over twenty years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2023.

**Team**: Corpus Christi IceRays

**Principal Owner**: Tim Lange  
**Team Website**

**Arena**: American Bank Center  
**Date Built**: 2004  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $50  
**Facility Financing**: Funded by a 1/8th cent sales tax approved by Corpus Christi voters in November 2000.  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE**: After W. D. Frank sold the team in 2008 to Tim Lange, Lange decided to change the team name. Gone was the shortened Rayz, replaced with the team's original name IceRays. The IceRays name is derived from the different species of stingrays who inhabit the nearby Gulf of Mexico.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: American Bank secured a 10-year naming rights agreement that expires in 2014. The terms of the agreement were not disclosed.

**Team**: Laredo Bucks

**Principal Owner**: Glenn Hart and Julian "Kiki" DeAyala  
**Team Website**

**Arena**: Laredo Entertainment Center  
**Date Built**: 2002  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $36.5  
**Facility Financing**: Publicly financed through a sales tax increase.  
**Facility Website**
UPDATE: The team rewarded longtime General Manager and Coach Terry Ruskowski a lifetime contract. The 2009-2010 CHL All Star game will be hosted by the Laredo Bucks under an usual format. The format will consist of the top players from four teams in South Texas (Laredo Bucks, Corpus Christi IceRays, & Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees) vs. the remainder of the CHL All Stars.

Team: Mississippi RiverKings

Affiliate: Hartford Wolf Pack (AHL), New York Rangers (NHL)
Principal Owner: Maddox Hockey, Inc.
Team Website

Arena: Desoto Civic Center
Date Built: 2000
Facility Cost (millions): $27.5
Facility Website

Team: Missouri Mavericks

Principal Owner: Independence Professional Hockey, LLC (Matt Adams, Mark Adams, Mike Carper, Brad Lund)
Team Website

Arena: Independence Events Center
Date Built: Expected November, 2009 opening
Facility Cost (millions): $60 million
Facility Website

UPDATE: The new expansion team is getting ready to take the ice in a new arena for the 2009-2010 season.

Team: New Mexico Scorpions
**Principal Owner:** Scorpions Hockey Club, LLC (Lead by former NHL players Dave Ellett and Brian Savage)

**Team Website**

**Arena:** Santa Ana Star Center

**Date Built:** 2006

**Facility Cost (millions):** $47

**Facility Website**

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The team suspended operations for the 2009-2010 season as the owner attempts to sell the team.

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**Team: Odessa Jackalopes**

**Affiliate:** New York Islanders (NHL) & Bridgeport Sound Tigers (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Miles Prentice and Bob Richmond

**Team Website**

**Arena:** Ector County Coliseum

**Date Built:** 1954 (renovated in 1991)

**Facility Cost (millions):** $1.6 M for renovations.

**UPDATE:** In late 2007, the Jackalopes and the county of Ector agreed to a five year extension of their lease in Ector County Coliseum. Included in the lease was an approval for a business office for the Jackalopes to be built at the Coliseum. City officials expect the expansion to cost around $350,000, but all costs are going to be paid for by the Jackalopes. The Coliseum already finished a $4.1 million renovation of the air conditioning unit within in April 2008.

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**Team: Rapid City Rush**

**Principal Owner:** Scott Mueller, Barry Peterson, and Donnie Ward

**Team Website**

**Arena:** Rushmore Plaza Civic Center Arena

**Date Built:** 1977

**Facility Website**
Team: Rio Grande Valley Killer Bees

Principal Owner: Joe Sakulenzki
Team Website

Arena: Dodge Arena
Date Built: 2003
Facility Cost (millions): $23
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: Dodge is paying $2 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.

Team: Rocky Mountain Rage

Principal Owner: Tim Wiens and John Frew
Team Website

Arena: Broomfield Event Center
Date Built: 2006
Facility Cost (millions): $45
Facility Financing: The Event Center was financed through tax revenues generated by real estate development.
Facility Website

UPDATE: The team suspended operations for the 2009-2010 season, but remain in good standing with the CHL as the team looks to resume play for the 2010-2011 season.

Team: Texas Brahmas

Principal Owner: Stuart Fraser, Dr. Salvatore Trazzera, Frank Trazzera, Knute Anderson and Jim Makens
Team Website

Arena: NYTEX Sports Centre
Facility Website
UPDATE: The team returned to action after a one-year hiatus from the CHL for the 2007-08 season. The Brahmas and NYTEX Sports reached a leasing contract allowing the team to play at the former Blue Line Ice Complex in North Richland Hills in suburban Forth Worth, Texas. The arena had been closed for three years, however the lease allowed NYTEX to take over operations in the city center, as well as develop surrounding land. A library opened in March 2008, and a recreation center is planned for 2010. The team won the Ray Miron President's Cup in the 2008-2009 season.

NAMING RIGHTS: NYTEX Sports is a management firm located in New York and Texas. NYTEX purchased the stadium in March of 2007, and renamed it NYTEX Centre in June of the same year.

Team: Tulsa Oilers

Principal Owner: Jeff Lund
Team Website

Arena: Bank of Oklahoma Center (BOK Center)
Date Built: 2008
Facility Cost (millions): $178,000,000
Facility Website

UPDATE: In the spring of 2009, the BOK Center and the Oilers agreed to an undisclosed long-term lease agreement.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Bank of Oklahoma purchased naming rights for $11 million over 20 years.

Team: Wichita Thunder

Owner: Brian Slagel
Team Website

Arena: Kansas Coliseum
Date Built: 1977
Facility Cost (millions): $10
Current Facility Website
New Facility Website
UPDATE: The Thunder expect to move to the near completed Intrust Bank Arena when it opens in 2009 or 2010. The arena is budgeted to cost $185 million and is financed by a $.01 increase in the county sales tax. The increase, which expired in December 2007, was approved by a 52% majority vote. The current plan is for the arena to open in January 2010, however, the arena may be ready for occupancy by November 2009.

NAMING RIGHTS: Intrust Bank purchased naming rights for the incomplete arena in January 2008. It paid $8.75 million for 25 years. Furthermore, Cessna Aircraft Company will pay $3 million over 20 years to name an adjacent outdoor plaza.
East Coast Hockey League (ECHL) (AA)

Team: Alaska Aces

Affiliates: St. Louis Blues (NHL), Peoria Rivermen (AHL)
Principal Owner: Terry Parks
Team Website

Arena: Sullivan Arena
Date Built: 1983
Facility Website

UPDATE: The team won the National Conference Championship but lost in the Kelly Cup finals in seven games during the 2008-2009 season. The arena is in need of major upgrades, but funds have been difficult to obtain.

NAMING RIGHTS: The Arena is named after former Anchorage mayor George M. Sullivan and is now owned by the Municipality of Anchorage.

Team: Bakersfield Condors

Affiliates: Anaheim Ducks (NHL)
Principal Owner: Jonathan Fleisig
Team Website

Arena: Rabobank Arena
Date Built: 1998
Facility Cost (millions): $38
Facility Financing: Publicly financed by the City of Bakersfield.
Facility Website

UPDATE: In May 2008, the Anaheim Ducks and the Condors agreed to an affiliation agreement for the upcoming ECHL season. The teams AHL partner Des Moines is facing a year suspension from the league this upcoming season.

NAMING RIGHTS: Rabobank acquired naming rights to the then Centennial Gardens Convention Center in 2005. It is reported the agreement was for ten years and $250,000 per year.
Team: Charlotte Checkers

*Affiliates:* New York Rangers (NHL) and Hartford Wolf Pack (AHL)
*Principal Owner:* Michael Kahn

**Team Website**

**Affiliates:** Time Warner Cable Arena
**Date Built:** 2003
**Facility Cost (millions):** $265
**Percentage of Arena Publicly Financed:** 100%
**Facility Financing:** Two bonds, backed by revenue from city tourist taxes. Bank of America, Duke Energy, and Wachovia underwrote $100 M in exchange for approximately $50 M from the sale of real estate downtown, where the venue is located. $16.8 M came from exclusive food and beverage rights, and a 3% seat tax at events in city arenas generated $15 M. The balance came from the team.

**Facility Website**

**NAMING RIGHTS:** In April 2008, Time Warner Cable announced it purchased the naming rights of the arena. Financial terms were not released.

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Team: Cincinnati Cyclones

*Affiliates:* Montreal Canadiens (NHL), Nashville Predators (NHL), Hamilton Bulldogs (AHL), and Milwaukee Admirals (AHL)
*Principal Owner:* Nederlander Entertainment

**Team Website**

**Affiliates:** U.S. Bank Arena
**Date Built:** 1975
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** In August 2007, the Cyclones announced they had signed a one-year affiliation agreement with the Predators and Admirals. Furthermore, there have been preliminary discussions of building a new arena on the border of downtown Cincinnati to replace U.S. Bank Arena; however, no concrete plans have been proposed.

Before the 2008-09 season, the team signed Coach Chuck Weber and Asst. Coach Dean Stork to multi-year extensions and Weber also received a Vice-President designation.

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

*Affiliates:* Toronto Marlies (AHL), Toronto Maple Leafs (NHL)
*Principal Owner:* Dr. Ezra Riber and Sam Imbeau
*Team Website*

*Arena:* Carolina Coliseum
*Date Built:* 1968
*Facility Website*

**UPDATE:** The team is waiting on the construction of a new arena and are voluntarily sitting out the 2009-2010 season, its second season in a row it will not participate in play.

Team: Elmira Jackals

*Affiliates:* Ottawa Senators (NHL) and Binghamton Senators (AHL)
*Principal Owner:* Dr. Mostafa Afr
*Team Website*

*Arena:* First Arena
*Date Built:* 2000
*Facility Cost (millions):* $15.5
*Facility Financing:* Lauridon Sports Management, Inc., officials agreed to put $7.25 million into the arena. State aid, a loan from the U.S. Housing and Urban Development Department, and revenue from the Chemung County hotel room tax would make up the remaining $8.25 million.
*Facility Website*

**UPDATE:** The team will be the affiliate of the Senators this season switching from the Columbus Blue Jackets.

Team: Florida Everblades

*Affiliates:* Carolina Hurricanes (NHL), Florida Panthers (NHL), Albany River Rats (AHL), and Rochester Americans (AHL)
**Principal Owner:** Craig Bush, Peter Karmanos Jr., and Thomas Thewes

[Team Website]

**Arena:** Germain Arena
**Date Built:** 1998
**Facility Cost (millions):** $25

[Facility Website]

**UPDATE:** The owners of Germain Arena have offered to sell the arena to Lee County for $36 million, $20 million of which would be funded by 20-year municipal bonds. The remaining $16 million would be covered by a $1.5 million annual lease payment the current owners of the Arena would make to the county. The deal has not been completed, but talks persist.

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

**Team: Gwinnett Gladiators**

**Affiliates:** Atlanta Thrashers (NHL), Chicago Blackhawks (NHL), Chicago Wolves (AHL), Rockford IceHogs (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Gwinnett County Hockey, LLC

[Team Website]

**Arena:** Gwinnett Center
**Date Built:** 2003
**Facility Cost (millions):** $65

**Facility Financing:** Funded by Gwinnett County.

[Facility Website]

**Team: Idaho Steelheads**

**Affiliates:** Dallas Stars (NHL), Texas Stars (AHL)

**Principal Owner:** Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22; headed by John Cunningham

[Team Website]

**Arena:** Qwest Arena
**Date Built:** 1997
**Facility Cost (millions):** $50

[Facility Website]
**NAMING RIGHTS:** Qwest Communications signed a naming rights deal with Idaho Sports Properties/Block 22 in October 2005 for $4 million for 15 years.

**Team: Johnstown Chiefs**

*Affiliates:* Colorado Avalanche (NHL), Columbus Blue Jackets (NHL), Lake Erie Monsters (AHL), Syracuse Crunch (AHL)  
*Principal Owner:* Neil Smith and Ned Nakles  
*Team Website*  

**Arena:** Cambria County War Memorial Arena  
**Date Built:** 1950  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** The famous hockey movie Slap Shot was filmed in Johnstown and the Cambria County War Memorial Arena. In the movie, the team was known as the Charlestown Chiefs and the now Johnstown Chiefs readily jumped on the idea to tie their team name into the movie. The Chiefs are the only ECHL team that plays in its original town and with its original name.

**Team: Kalamazoo Wings**

*Affiliate:* TBA  
*Principal Owner:* Mr. William Johnston  
*Team Website*  

**Arena:** Wings Stadium  
**Date Built:** 1974  
**Facility Website**

**Team: Las Vegas Wranglers**

*Affiliate:* Calgary Flames (NHL), Abbotsford Heat (AHL)  
*Principal Owner:* Chandar Sports; headed by Charles Davenport and includes Jonathan Fleisig  
*Team Website*
**Arena**: Orleans Arena  
**Date Built**: 1996  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE**: The Las Vegas Review-Journal awarded the Wranglers Best Local Sports Team in 2009.

**Team**: Ontario Reign

**Affiliates**: Los Angeles Kings (NHL), Manchester Monarchs (AHL)  
**Principal Owner**: Anschutz Entertainment Group  
**Team Website**

**Arena**: Citizens Business Bank Arena  
**Date Built**: 2008  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $130  
**Facility Financing**:  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE**: The team had a total attendance of 210,801 during the 2008-2009 season over 36 home games. The average of 5,856 fans per game was second highest in the league.

**Team**: Reading Royals

**Affiliates**: Toronto Maple Leafs (NHL) and Toronto Marlies (AHL)  
**Principal Owner**: SMG & AEG  
**Team Website**

**Arena**: Sovereign Center  
**Date Built**: 2001  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $25  
**Facility Financing**: $12.5 M came from a state grant, $12.5 M was matched by Burkes County, partially through a 5% hotel room tax.  
**Facility Website**

**NAMING RIGHTS**: Sovereign Bank has a $3 M naming rights deal.
Team: South Carolina Stingrays

Affiliates: Washington Capitals (NHL) and Hershey Bears (AHL)
Principal Owner: Jerry Zucker, Edwin Pearlstine, and the Greenwald Family
Team Website

Affiliates: Washington Capitals (NHL) and Hershey Bears (AHL)
Principal Owner: Jerry Zucker, Edwin Pearlstine, and the Greenwald Family
Team Website

Update: Team officials agreed to an extension of their lease with the North Charleston Coliseum through 2015 at $6,000 per game. The new agreement gives the Stingrays 50% of the revenue generated from concessions at all Stingrays games, up from 25% in the previous lease. Lastly, playoff games will cost the same as regular season games. During the previous lease, playoff games were roughly $1,000 more per game.

Team: Stockton Thunder

Affiliates: Edmonton Oilers (NHL), and Springfield Falcons (AHL)
Principal Owner: Stockton Hockey Franchise Group, Inc
Team Website

Affiliates: Edmonton Oilers (NHL), and Springfield Falcons (AHL)
Principal Owner: Stockton Hockey Franchise Group, Inc
Team Website

Update: To lure the Thunder into playing at the Stockton Arena, city officials agreed to give 30 percent of catering revenue from games to the team. This created a problem, though, since the city earns only 20 percent in catering revenue. This caused the city a total loss of $32,583 in 2007.

Naming Rights: Guaranty Bank, which had previously offered to pay $2.75 million over 7 years to name the arena, pulled its offer in November 2007. The proposal called for a seven year deal in which the bank would pay $392,857 a year. The arena's net income from the arrangement would be $25,000 to $50,000 in the first year and $220,000 in each of the next six years. The remainder appeared to go toward costs. Guaranty Bank pulled their offer after the proposal had become public knowledge before negotiations had progressed. The arena remains named after the city and officials are continuing to look for a buyer.
Team: Toledo Walleye (previously Toledo Storm until 2008)

Affiliates: Detroit Red Wings (NHL), Grand Rapids Griffins (AHL)
Principal Owner: Toledo Mud Hens AAA Baseball
Team Website

Arena: Lucas County Downtown Arena
Date Built: Expected 2009
Facility Cost: $80 to $105 million
Facility Website

UPDATE: Toledo Arena Sports, Inc., owners of the Toledo Mud Hens AAA baseball team, purchased the Toledo Storm in April 2007 with plans of suspending operations until the new stadium being built is opened in 2009. The Toledo Sports Arena was demolished to make way for the Lucas County Downtown Arena, the city's new $85 million multi-purpose arena. The property the new arena will be built on is part of the Marina District, a proposed shopping, residential, and boating project on the Maumee River's East bank and is expected to be complete by the time the 2009 season begins.

Team: Trenton Devils

Affiliates: New Jersey Devils (NHL), Lowell Devils (AHL)
Principal Owner: New Jersey Devils
Team Website

Arena: Sovereign Bank Arena
Date Built: 1999
Facility Cost (millions): $53
Facility Financing: $31.1 M in bonds issued by Mercer County paid for the arena; the remainder came from the city and the state.
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: Sovereign Bank is paying $2.67 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2009.

Team: Utah Grizzlies
**Affiliates:** New York Islanders (NHL) and Bridgeport Sound Tigers (AHL)  
**Principal Owner:** Grizzlier Hockey Corporation Inc.; headed by David Elmore and Donna Tuttle

**Team Website**

**Arena:** The E-Center (West Valley Event Center)  
**Date Built:** 1997  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $58  
**Facility Financing:** $7 M from the Salt Lake City Olympic Committee and $46 M from the City of West Valley secured with bonds.

**Facility Website**

**NAMING RIGHTS:** West Valley City has been unsuccessful in securing a naming rights deal for the E-Center since it was built in 1997.

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**Team: Victoria Salmon Kings**

**Affiliates:** Vancouver Canucks (NHL) and Manitoba Moose (AHL)  
**Principal Owner:** RG Properties

**Team Website**

**Arena:** Save-On-Foods Memorial Centre  
**Date Built:** 2005  
**Facility Cost (millions):** $30  
**Facility Financing:** The city borrowed $30 M to finance the arena.

**Facility Website**

**NAMING RIGHTS:** Save-On-Foods is paying $1.25 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2015.

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**Team: Wheeling Nailers**

**Affiliates:** Pittsburgh Penguins (NHL), Philadelphia Flyers (NHL), Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (AHL)  
**Principal Owner:** Nailers Hockey, LLC

**Team Website**
Arena: WesBanco Arena
Date Built: 1981
Facility Cost (millions): A $3.2 M renovation was completed in 2005.
Facility Website

NAMING RIGHTS: WesBanco is paying $2.3 M over ten years for a naming rights deal that expires in 2013.
Southern Professional Hockey League (SPHL) (AA)

Team: Columbus Cottonmouths

**Principal Owner**: Shelby and Wanda Amos  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: Columbus Civic Center  
**Date Built**: 1996  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE**: Heavy construction will begin around the Columbus Civic Center in the city's flood abatement project. With the increasing amount of storms around the area, the city will spend a total of $39.47 million on the project, which includes improving drainage, widening 6th Avenue, and building a permanent ramp on the far west side of the Civic Center to allow pedestrian access.

Team: Fayetteville FireAntz

**Principal Owner**: Howard Bullard and Kevin MacNaught  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: Cumberland County Crown Coliseum  
**Date Built**: 1997  
[Facility Website](#)

Team: Huntsville Havoc

**Principal Owner**: Huntsville Sports Ventures, LLC  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: Von Braun Center  
**Date Built**: 1975  
[Facility Website](#)
**UPDATE**: It was announced in October 2008, that the arena would undergo a massive $15 million renovation and will be renamed the Propst Arena after the family that donated $5-million to the city for the renovation.

**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: Knoxville Ice Bears**

**Principal Owner**: A local ownership group headed by John Langley and Rita Harris

**Team Website**

**Arena**: James White Civic Coliseum  
**Date Built**: 1961  
**Facility Website**

**Team: Louisiana IceGators**

**Principal Owner**: Danny Smith

**Team Website**

**Arena**: Blackham Coliseum  
**Date Built**: 1950  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $60 M

**UPDATE**: The team is an expansion team for the 2009-2010 season.

**Team: Mississippi Surge**

**Principal Owner**: Coast Hockey LLC (Richard Dedaux, Mike Diaz, Bo Lindsay, Jason Ondriezek, Chuck Thuss, and Steffon Walby)

**Team Website**
**Arena:** Mississippi Coast Coliseum  
**Date Built:** 1977  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** The team is an expansion team for the 2009-2010 season.

**Team:** Pensacola Ice Flyers

**Principal Owner:** Tim Kerr  
**Team Website**

**Arena:** Pensacola Civic Center  
**Date Built:** 1985  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** The team is an expansion team for the 2009-2010 season.
International Hockey League (IHL) (AA)

**UPDATE**: In June 2007, the UHL announced that it would now be known as the International Hockey League (IHL), consisting of six teams (since then the league has grown to eight teams). Rockford left the UHL to become the Chicago Blackhawks' affiliate in the AHL, the Elmira Jackals left for the ECHL, the Quad-City Mallards ceased operations when the Calgary Flames of the NHL announced they were moving their AHL affiliate to Quad-City, and the Chicago Hounds ceased operations due to the inability to negotiate a lease.

League headquarters are located in Rochester, Michigan. On June 27, 2007, a dispersal draft was held among the six IHL teams, selecting players from the four 2006-07 UHL franchises that are no longer part of the newly formed IHL. Paul Pickard was selected to serve as the President, CEO, and President of Stadium Management of the IHL.

A deal with B2 Networks was reached to broadcast all IHL games via broadband for the next three seasons. Terms were not disclosed.

**Team: Bloomington Prairie Thunder**

**Principal Owner**: Tony Lisman  
**Affiliate**: Peoria Riverman (AHL)  
**Team Website**

**Arena**: US Cellular Coliseum  
**Date Built**: 2006  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $37  
**Facility Financing**: Funded by the City of Bloomington.  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE**: The city lost $2.5 million in its first year of operating the U.S. Cellular Coliseum, including $307,786 in the first month alone. The mayor raised taxes but also said that revenue gains need to be made from greater attendance records and more events.

**NAMING RIGHTS**: U.S. Cellular purchased naming rights of the Coliseum in 2005. The agreement calls for $1.75 million over 10 years.

**Team: Dayton Gems**
**Principal Owner**: Richard Bruner & Ryan Yerrick  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: Hara Arena  
**Date Built**: 1964  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE**: The team is an expansion team for the 2009-2010 season.

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**Team: Flint Generals**

**Principal Owner**: Bob Perani  
**Affiliate**: Grand Rapids Griffins (AHL)  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: Perani's Arena and Event Center  
**Date Built**: 1969  
**Facility Cost**: $10  
[Facility Website](#)

**UPDATE**: The Perani Group bought the Generals in June 2007 from Khaled M. Shukairy; the terms of the sale were not released. Furthermore, the Perani Group is in negotiations with Shukairy, who kept the Arena after selling the team to the Perani Group, to purchase the Perani Arena. Shukairy purchased the Arena from the city of Flint in 2002 for $2.2 million.

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**Team: Fort Wayne Komets**

**Principal Owner**: Franke family  
[Team Website](#)

**Arena**: Allen County War Memorial Coliseum  
**Date Built**: 1952  
[Facility Website](#)

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**Team: Muskegon Fury**
**Principal Owner**: Tony Lisman  
[Team Website]

**Arena**: L.C. Walker Arena  
**Date Built**: 1960  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $2  
**Facility Financing**: $1 M from L.C. Walker for the arena, and $1 M from the City of Muskegon for land, utility connections and furnishings for the arena.  
[Facility Website]

**UPDATE**: The L.C. Walker family gave the city permission to sell naming rights to the arena in 2005. Since then, the arena has tried to attract local corporate sponsors, but has been unsuccessful because it does not support a major professional sports team and it is not a new facility.

**Team: Port Huron Icehawks**

**Owner**: Larry W. Kinney  
[Team Website]

**Arena**: McMorran Arena  
**Date Built**: 1962  
**Facility Cost (millions)**: $3.5  
**Facility Financing**: The McMorran Foundation donated the original $1.2 M to build the sports and entertainment center. Over time, the McMorran and Murphy families, who made up the foundation, donated the remainder of the cost.  
[Facility Website]

**UPDATE**: Originally the Port Huron Flags, the team changed its ownership, its league, and its name in 2007. The owners are still negotiating a deal with McMorran Arena, but they are confident they will reach one, which would include a cut of the concession and parking money for the team.

**Team: Quad City Mallards**

**Principal Owner**: QCHT, LLC  
[Team Website]
**Arena:** I Wireless Center  
**Date Built:** 1993  
**Facility Website**

**UPDATE:** The teams predecessors played in the UHL from 1995-2007, but will be considered an expansion team in the IHL beginning in 2009-2010.

**NAMING RIGHTS:** The team announced a 10-year agreement with the wireless service beginning in 2005. Terms were not disclosed.

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