The New Fan Experience Is Here
Meeting the demands of a new generation of fans

Fans go to a live event to be part of a tribal experience: to connect to the action, to connect with their favorite stars, to connect with other fans, and to be part of something bigger than themselves.
What’s driving new fan expectations?

The short answer is the “consumerization” of technology. Fans have HD video, surround sound, multiple screens, and mobile devices at home, enabling them to create the experience they want. Teams and stadium owners, more than ever before, are competing against this expanded home experience and looking for ways to create the superior, interactive experience that fans demand.

Fans expect media-rich experiences

One in every three college students and young employees believes the Internet is as important as air, water, food, and shelter. More than half would rather lose their wallet or purse than lose their smartphone or mobile device.¹

The world around us is more connected than ever and there is no sign of slowing down. By 2021, there will be more than nearly 12 billion mobile-connected devices, highlighting new opportunities for consumer engagement. As a result, mobility is becoming a requirement, not a preference.²

Over 80% of fans desire a more immersive and content rich experience when attending a live event. Live video, real time statistics, alternate camera angles and replays on demand keep fans engaged everywhere. They want to remain on top of all the action when walking the concourse, standing in a concessions line, enjoying a premium suite or club or from the comfort of their own seat.

Passionate fans expect to stay connected

97% of fans bring a mobile device to events, and they expect to be connected. Mobile applications enable fans to immerse themselves in the passion of the event, accessing relevant content, event information, exclusive offers and promotions and more that deliver a more customized experience. They want to share their experiences and engage with their friends and the global fan community on Twitter, Facebook, Instagram and other social media while they’re at the event, not after.
Ignite the passion

The action on the field or on the stage is what fans are most passionate about and that experience is the exclusive domain of the stadium. Ignite that passion while giving them everything they can have at home. Surpass their expectations with an even more compelling in-stadium experience.

Keep them connected

Fans come equipped with their own devices and they expect reliable mobile connectivity to communicate with friends and to view and participate in custom-created, exclusive in-venue content, such as replays, special interviews, merchandise or refreshment deal alerts, trivia contests, and fan club memberships.

Keep them engaged

Immerse them in the action. Synchronize content from the big screen, to digital displays, all the way down to mobile devices to engage fans in ways they’ve never experienced before. Empower your fans to create the interactive and personalized multimedia experience they crave. Whether they’re in their seats, buying food at a concession stand, or on-the-go, they will participate in and share live event-day action like never before.
Capture new business opportunities

Venues around the world have achieved tremendous success by targeting delivery of high-definition event video and digital content across hundreds or thousands of displays. Extend that success down to the individual level and touch tens of thousands of fans on their mobile devices to achieve new revenue-generating opportunities. And in the process, capture new data and insights into fan behavior to further customize experiences and offers to their liking.

Sponsorship and advertising
Sponsors and advertisers can tailor their messages to select audiences—from the VIP and club areas to the general concourses and even down to the individual level—providing unprecedented segmentation capabilities to deliver the right message to the right audience at the right time.

Customized and targeted promotions
Turn every event into a customized experience with branded digital content. Control and manage messages, event information, and promotions to run at any specific time on any specific screen. Build digital menu boards with items and pricing based on fan demographics or around a specific time during the event.

Improved safety
Safety and order are essential to creating a satisfying event experience for employees and guests on event days. Instantly turn your digital content into real-time directional messaging, significantly improving evacuation times, traffic management, and more.

Exclusive fan services
Mobility and connectivity solutions give fans the opportunity to participate in—and pay for—exclusive, in-stadium services such as special video channels or instant access to team stats. You can even sell excess inventory of premium seats or VIP Club access with instant upgrades.
At the core

Underneath it all, a Cisco Digital Network Architecture (DNA) makes all these experiences and opportunities possible. A single, sustainable, secure network designed in partnership with leading sports and entertainment properties around the world. Together, we have developed solutions that help overcome today’s challenges, while providing a platform that is flexible and reliable enough to support new opportunities and fuel innovation.

Your intelligent network also helps you reduce ongoing network support costs and streamline operational processes by utilizing a single platform for all building management systems. It not only opens and closes your gates and monitors your lighting, sound, and temperature all at the push of a button, but it also proactively monitors building systems and energy usage to reduce operating expenses and begin creating a zero-carbon-footprint facility.

Investing in the future

Our continuous research and development investments, specialized innovation engineering, and focus on delivering the best fan experience have uniquely positioned Cisco as the only company in the world that can offer a customized digital platform built for the sports and entertainment industry.
A history of innovation

Our tailored solutions have helped more than 350 stadiums in 40 countries worldwide transform their business—each hosting hundreds of events every year and delighting millions of fans. They’re all giving fans more reasons to come early, stay longer, and spend more.

We can help you provide a proven impact on your fan experience and profitability, too.

Dedicated to your success

Fans will always want to connect with the action on the field or stage. But how they are connecting is changing faster than ever. Our industry-focused engineering, solutions, and services teams fully understand these market trends and can help you seize all the opportunities.

Cisco experts not only work with you on the planning and execution of these complex environments; our content strategy and services team enables you to realize your full business potential with these solutions. No matter how basic or sophisticated your venue is technologically—whether it needs an upgrade or to be designed and built from scratch—our experts are here to help you transform your business.
To learn more about the world’s preferred platform for Sports and Entertainment innovation, visit us at:
http://www.cisco.com/go/sports

Deliver Differentiated, Revenue-Generating Fan Experiences
Cisco Vision for Sports & Entertainment:
Transform your venue with HD video and custom content.
http://www.cisco.com/go/ciscovisionsports

Cisco Connected Stadium Wi-Fi:
Convert reliable connectivity for fans into new levels of fan engagement and insight.
http://www.cisco.com/web/go/connectedstadiumwifi

Enable New Venue Services with Greater Efficiency and Effectiveness
Cisco Connected Stadium:
Build a single, intelligent platform for innovation at the core of your digital network architecture.
http://www.cisco.com/go/connectedstadium

Contact us at: ask-ciscosports@cisco.com
Follow us on Twitter: @CiscoSESG

2. Cisco Visual Networking Index (VNI) Global Mobile Data Traffic Forecast, Cisco, 2016-2021