



Wynn Las Vegas Race and Sports Book

"I felt that this was a small gamble for us but I liked SVSi's documentation and professionalism. I can see this as the future standard for any distributed video here and I will spec SVSi for all casino TV feeds as we remodel and expand."

Remo Minor, Manager of Sound and Video Communications, Wynn Las Vegas



By Vegas standards, Remo Minor placed a very small wager indeed. But the payoff was huge and far-reaching.

Minor, Manager of Sound and Video Communications at the Wynn Las Vegas, was in search of a solution to replace an older, maxed out, and problematic system in the resort's Sports Book. The popular venue features 100 individual horse racing carrels and additional seating in its adjacent Sports and VIP Lounges, bar area, and Zouzacrackers Deli.

"We wanted to go to HD and add more TVs in the future, and to be able to extend our feed into other areas of the hotel property," he says. "I wanted a solution that would help us grow in a financially feasible way."

That solution arrived as a conversion project from an analog system to an SVSi high definition digital matrix router. The system has some 66 inputs and 131 outputs. Twenty-four of the inputs are for traditional TV sources from satellite and cable boxes. The remainders are for horse race track feeds. All TVs can display feeds from either sports or horse racing. There are 64 total TV screens in the race and sports area, with ten in the Deli. The additional outputs are used for preview monitors in the control room, 34 feeds to the horse racing carrels, and six additional feeds to the poker room.

"Remo had been eyeing SVSi's technology and also had looked at some traditional AV matrix systems," says Bart Wood, Director of Sales, Strategic Accounts, SVSi. "He realized that because of the size the matrix, the SVSi system would achieve all of his goals at an affordable cost."

The Wynn hotel is one of Las Vegas' most luxurious resorts and the sports book at the property is the most upscale place in town to place a bet or watch a game. Gamblers can watch the action on plasma TVs and three 12-foot-by-12-foot big screens. An adjacent bar features TVs and plenty of seating including plush banquettes. The sports book at Wynn is also located adjacent to the Zouzacrackers deli for those who want to grab a bite to eat while watching the game.



In addition to the encoders and decoders, the system has a central control server, the SVSi N8002, which acts as a liaison between the Crestron control system and the SVSi devices to maintain large number of open IP socket connections required by the network powered matrix, Wood says. "The control room boasts a Planar video wall powered by multiple SVSi N2510 wall processors. Any and all sources are available for preview on the wall."

Minor was introduced to the SVSi matrix by Mike Dirks, Senior Design Engineer, FBP Systems, Inc., who had worked previously with SVSi products. "Mike submitted SVSi, along with four other products, to compare costs and decide what would be used in the new system," says Bradley Jones, FBP Operations Director. "When Remo saw the FBP and SVSi demos he was impressed. The SVSi system provides a flexible system with a dynamic amount of inputs and outputs without the need to change switcher architecture. Now, Remo has the flexibility

he needs to add racetrack inputs and other new feeds. He has a scalable system over twisted pair or fiber.

It was clear on his own walkthrough with Minor that SVSi was a good fit, Wood said. "The matrix is large, and with 131 outputs a traditional matrix would have required a large investment in both money and valuable real estate in the rack room. SVSi uses traditional network switches as the matrix chassis. A network switch is arguably the most efficient and reliable matrix system ever built, not to mention it is standards-based and non-proprietary with 48 ports in a single rack space."

The installation required immediate expansion from the head-end to side bar and deli located near the book. "This and any future expansion is easily accomplished by adding a 10 gig uplink from the head-end to a switch located in the expansion space," he says. "This 10 gig uplink allows all 66 inputs to now be available to that local switch."

A challenge for casino/sports book projects is the 24/7, no downtime factor installation schedule requiring the simultaneous operation of both legacy and new systems. FBP's installation, which was largely handled over three nights, from 10 p.m. until 6 a.m., was coordinated by Project Manager Phil Plourde. "It was extremely easy using the built-in SVSi software which allowed the engineers to provide a spreadsheet prior to install to the installation team," Jones says. "When the installation team loaded the spreadsheet into the SVSi processor, the processor identified and loaded all field devices based on the MAC addresses."





Wood says SVSi will be seeing the installation of similar matrix systems in the near future for sports books elsewhere. “We already have several of these systems in play, expanding the matrices like spider webs throughout the facilities. Our products are chosen for their switching efficiency and expandability in numbers of one. We are the perfect fit for casino sports books as well as for campus-based installations for higher education and the corporate enterprise client. And we are much less expensive.”

Minor is well aware that managers from other Las Vegas Strip casinos have visited the Wynn specifically to check out its SVSi system. “As we have done in other areas, the Wynn properties set the example that others eventually follow. This SVSi system is exactly what I wanted by providing the capability for us to distribute our video anywhere on the property within reach of our computer networking system.

“We’ve used it for a party in our Encore Theater with a feed for a betting lobby station, for March Madness, the Kentucky Derby and Preakness, and for a feed into our Allegro restaurant,” he says. “I will spec it to deliver as we add new venues and for certain hotel areas without a satellite signal; the cost to put in a backbone for SVSi is only a couple of thousand dollars. Even our picture quality has improved and I’m very pleased.”

Perhaps the best nod to the SVSi system came to FBP, Jones says. “Remo told us that this year’s was the first Super Bowl event he had ever held that went off without a hitch.”

N2121 Stand-Alone Encoder Rear View



N2221 Stand-Alone Decoder Rear View



N2000 Series
JPEG2000 Digital Cinema Grade



N2510 Windowing Processor



N-Command N8002 Controller

