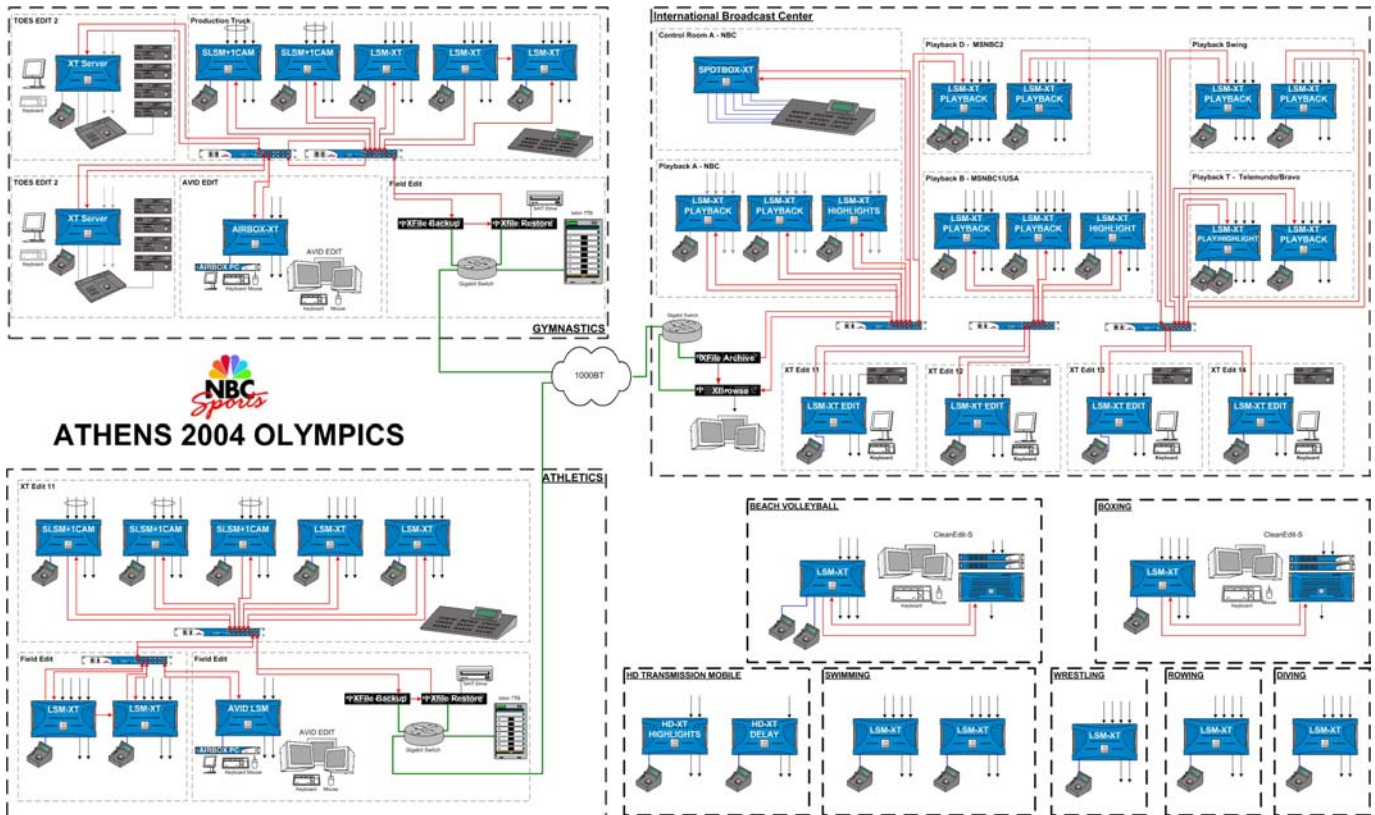


EVS SportNet at the Heart of the NBC Olympic Coverage

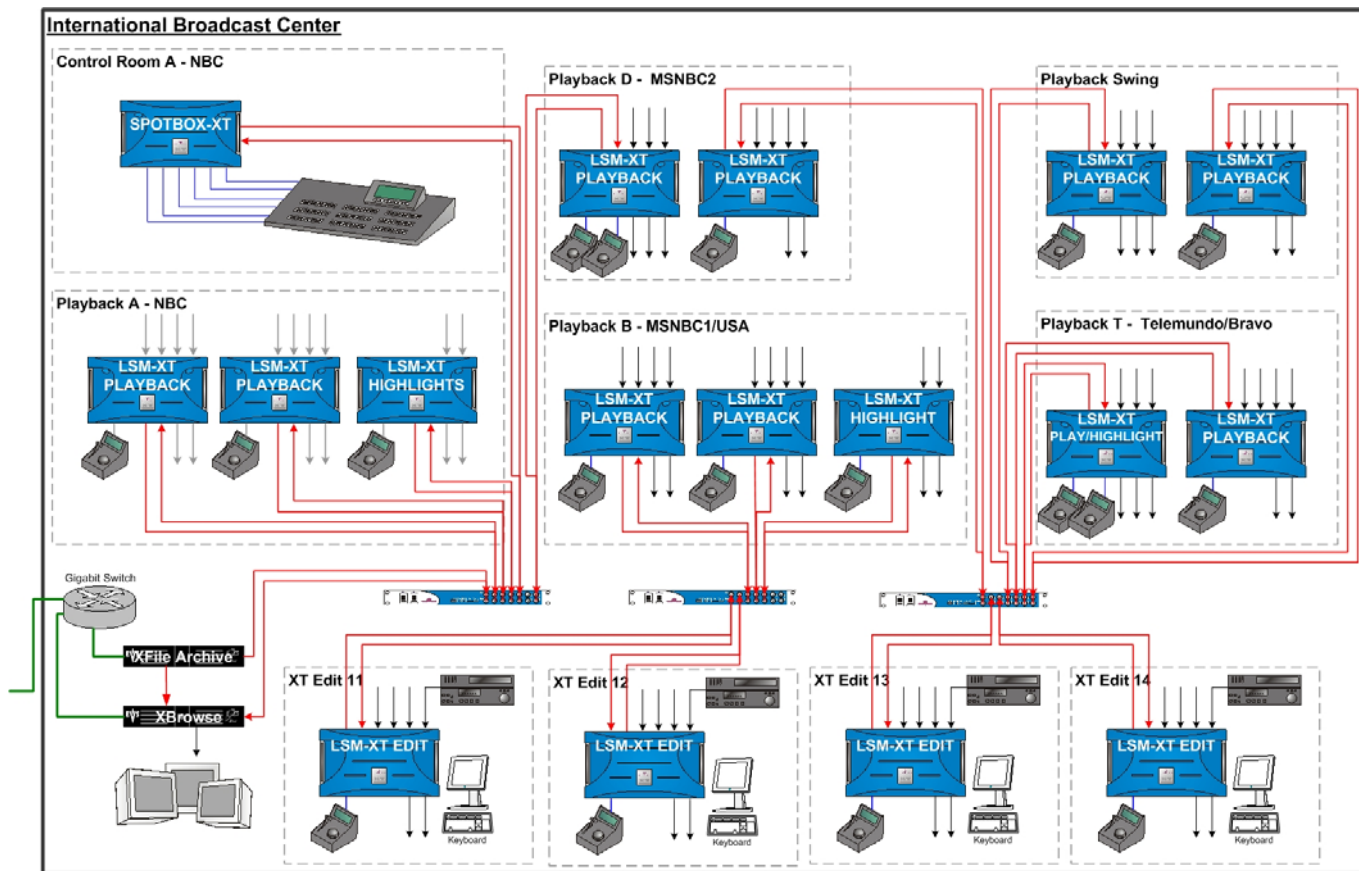
As the 2004 Olympic Games came to an end in Athens, NBC had embarked on an unprecedented mission as they provided 24-hour coverage of the Games across several networks. NBC, MSNBC, CNBC, USA, Bravo, Telemundo and NBC HDTV affiliates had broadcasted a total of 1,200 hours of coverage by the end of the Games. In the middle of it all, EVS provided the necessary confidence to make it happen as the XT servers were at the center of the NBC production.



“We have been working closely with EVS for some time to improve the workflow of our coverage to prepare for Athens,” says Dave Mazza, Senior Vice President of Engineering for NBC Olympics. “We knew that these Games would be a large undertaking and we felt that EVS was up to the task of giving us the flexibility and innovative technology that we were seeking.”

The heart of the NBC broadcast was at the International Broadcast Center (IBC). The EVS network at the IBC consisted of edit and broadcast rooms. Each edit room was used to perform advanced editing and quick turnarounds for programs that aired on the numerous NBC networks. The remote venues covered the events live and created hundreds of clips of the action as it occurred. The coverage was then sent to the IBC edit rooms for the editing prior to broadcast to air. As a piece was completed on the XT, a copy was mailed to another server for a back-up during

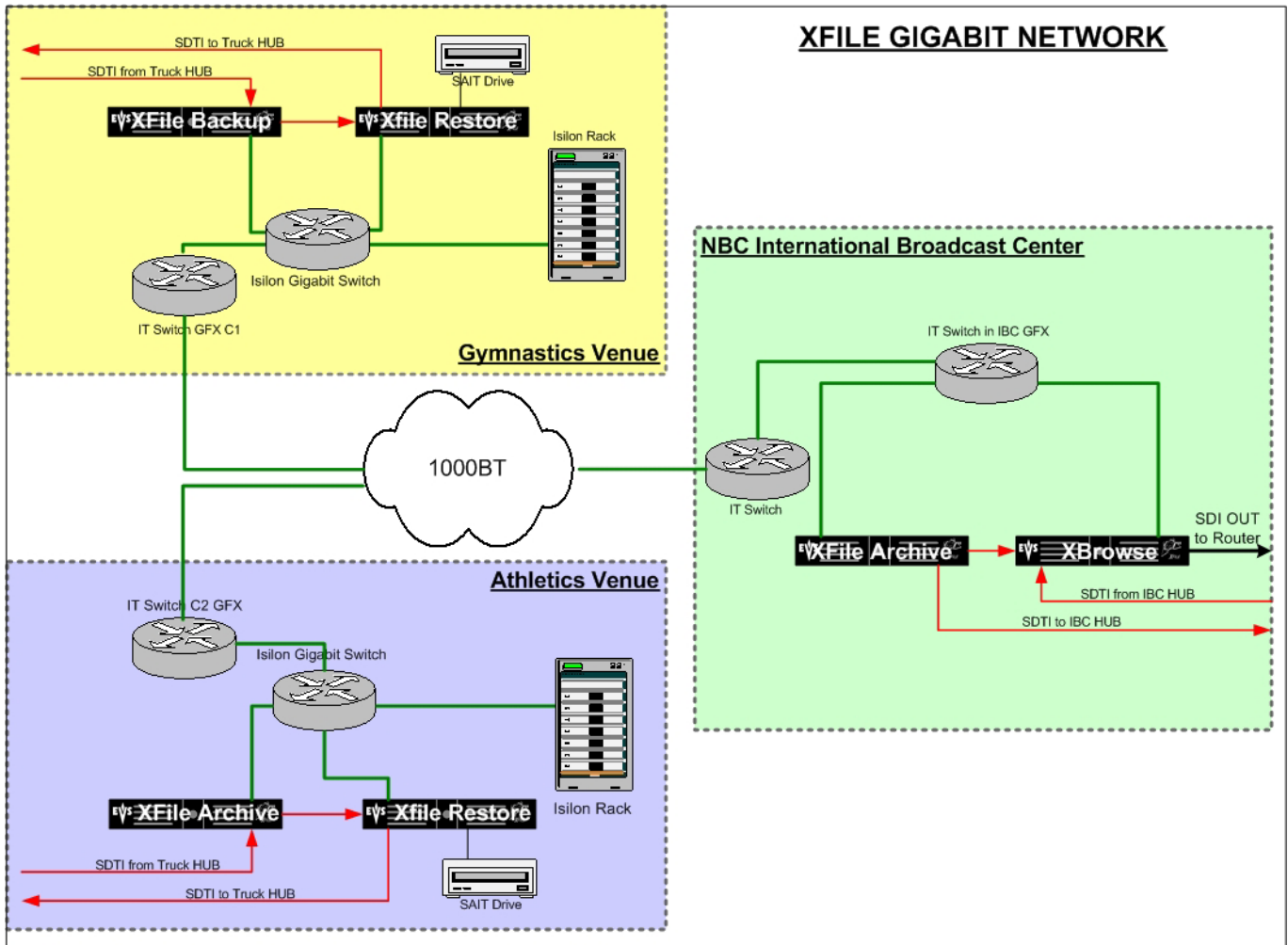
broadcast. These finished pieces then resided on the appropriate servers in the broadcast rooms that eventually aired that particular coverage.



The NBC Playback control room was also utilizing the SpotBox XT, which was integrated with the switcher to provide direct control to the graphics and effects. The SpotBox was tied to the SDTI network, which allowed clips to be easily created through the network into the SpotBox. This allowed the TD less time to worry about the load of the server and more time to set up the switcher.

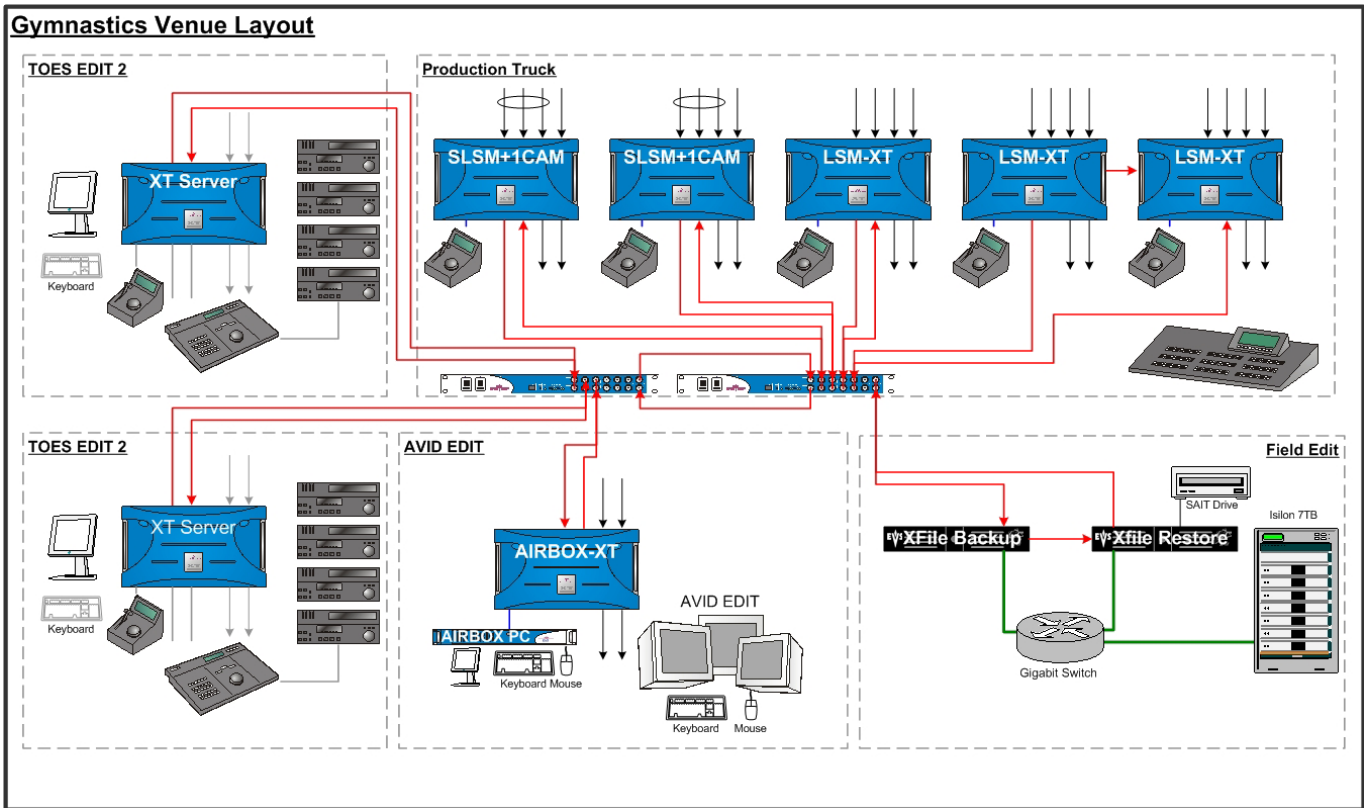
“EVS has been a big part of large scale sporting events for some time,” said Fred Garroy, General Manager of EVS Americas. “We have great experience with working under pressure and delivering the best product. The XT server has become a very powerful tool and development gained from feedback at these large, special events allows EVS to improve on that quality.”

The XBrowse located at the IBC was linked with Gigabit connectivity to the XFiles at both the Gymnastics and Athletics venues. This connection allowed the IBC access to any footage that had been archived at these remote venues. This footage could then be pulled to the local storage of the XBrowse and used on any server within the XT network. This remote access allowed footage to be available to the editors without the need to wait for tape dubs to be created and brought back to the IBC.



At the venues, the EVS XT servers consisted of several 6-Channel configurations, including Super-motion, for ingest and editing of highlight packages. The XFile was an integral part in the infrastructure at the two largest venues – Gymnastics and Athletics Track and Field – as it is being used to archive all the ingested media.

The network of XT servers used the XFile Gigabit Ethernet gateway to interface with Isilon drive array clusters that provided 10TB of near-line storage to the venue coverage. Clips from each day’s events were being archived to discreet folders so that material could be easily searched and restored as needed throughout the events. This same large archive of footage was linked to the IBC through the same Gigabit switch, allowing the direct access to the media.



These large venues were also taking advantage of the tape-less environment to allow instant access to media across the network to feed to editors for high end packages. The AirBox XT servers provided editors an easy interface to quickly grab the necessary clips they needed for their edits on the AVID. In addition, the Tape AD had a discreet channel to preview clips and highlights through the Airbox Control as well.

Also tied to the XFile and Isilon cluster was a SAIT tape back-up system that was being used to digitally archive the clipped material and has returned back to Stamford after the Games ended. Each digital tape provided 0.5 TB of archived material that can later be restored to EVS servers.

"The XFile has played an important part in the success of our coverage in Athens", said Matt Adams, Director of Technology for NBC Olympics. "The ability to move away from tape and using near-line access through the XFile and Isilon configuration has allowed for quick access to material throughout the event. The time to shuffle through loads of tape and finding the best material is gone as the XFile allows us to search through the metadata information of clipped material from throughout the events."



The Boxing and Beach Volleyball venues used the EVS Sport Server running the CleanEdit NLE software allowing fast editing and quick turnarounds of finished pieces. The CleanEdit interface was especially versatile as it allowed editing from both XT content acquired through the SDTI network as well as MPEG2 streams ingested locally at the Sport Server.

The established reliability and versatility of the XT servers and Sportnet network were the catalyst for the NBC decision to trust their record Olympic coverage to be carried by the EVS servers.

About EVS

EVS Broadcast Equipment has been committed to the international television community, developing digital video disk recording technology since the company's inception in 1994. EVS' revolutionary disk-based slow-motion replay devices include the Live Slow Motion system (LSM), which is second to none and has evolved into a worldwide industry standard. The newest range of general-purpose video servers includes models designed for live broadcast applications as well as for integration in an automated play-out environment. The EVS group currently employs over 165 people on a dozen different sites around the world. EVS products are being sold in more than 60 countries.

For more information on our full product range and solutions, please visit EVS online at www.evs.tv.

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About NBC Olympics

NBC's unprecedented 24-hour, around-the-clock coverage of the 2004 Olympic Games from Athens will total 1,210 hours on seven NBC platforms -- NBC, MSNBC, CNBC, USA, Bravo, Telemundo and NBC HDTV affiliates -- offering more Olympic coverage than the combined total from the last five previous Summer Olympics. Over the 17 days of the Athens Games (Aug. 13-29), NBC's coverage will average more than 70 hours per day and offer the most in-depth Olympic coverage in history. For the first time in U.S. broadcast history the networks of NBC will provide some coverage of every one of the 28 Summer Olympic sports. Telemundo's Spanish-language broadcast will be the first non-English language Olympic broadcast in U.S. television history. NBC owns the exclusive U.S. media rights for five consecutive Summer and Winter Olympics from 2000 through 2012 and has exclusively broadcast every Summer Olympics since 1988.