

TRANSMISSION TIMES





NAB 2023 in Las Vegas will be celebrating 100 years of innovation this month.

We've been busy since NAB 2022 and PSSI has accumulated a string of successes that will demonstrate to both new and existing customers that we can take care of their transmission needs. **Here's what PSSI has done since last year's conference:**

- Major power upgrade at PSSI International Teleport (PIT)
- Telstra/NHL deals and partnership expansion
- Built extensive co-location partnership with Endeavor Streaming at PIT
- Developed an international IP Network with Top Rank Boxing
- Brokered deal with NBC Sports to provide multi-camera transmissions via satellite for centralized productions on golf events
- Hired more field engineers and PIT TOC operators
- Deployed new WWE tractor, new Sprinters and a large ap C-band truck
- Landmark events: Masters, Super Bowl, Wrestlemania, the WWE Crown Jewel show in Saudi Arabia, NASCAR's Clash at the Coliseum, the Oscars, the Grammys and so much more
- Exclusive satellite transmission provider for Thursday Night Football and Sunday Night Football
- Large-scale antenna installations and upgrades to HSN and WWE headquarters

Powering Up at PIT

PSSI International Teleport (PIT) has upgraded its power infrastructure with new, state-of-the-art technology. This upgrade, which went online last month, has doubled both PIT's current capacity and the amount of backup power available to clients.

PIT worked with an electrical engineering group to design and upgrade the power infrastructure, which includes new ground transformers, generators, transfer switches and more. The input power to the facility — a 480-volt, 1,200- amp service — travels through a Liebert high-energy surge current diversion system.

The backup power is provided by two newly installed Caterpillar 750 kW generators. The generators have associated fuel tanks that house approximately 2,000 gallons of fuel. Both of these power sources feed into two newly installed ASCO 7000 Series 480-volt transfer switches. The 480-volt main breaker feeds into a new Toshiba G9000 Series 500 kVA UPS system.

The system is designed with two strings of batteries for redundancy in case of a battery failure. All panels and switch gear connecting the equipment were also newly installed with Square D I-Line series panels.

"We are excited that this upgrade will allow us to provide our clients with the best possible service as we continue to grow," said William Sciolla, vice president of PSSI International Teleport. "We are committed to excellence as we continue to pursue new ideas and technologies to deliver a superior level of live broadcast solutions for our customers."





Engineer of the Quarter: Frank Scola

Please tell us about your journey to your current role at PSSI.

A My journey started around 2010 where I was a camera operator for a local company that primarily did collegiate sports productions. I then took a role with NES where I learned to uplink satellite feeds for large events. After roles in Colorado and Massachusetts, including working in the fast-paced world of news coverage, I was presented with a fantastic opportunity I couldn't say no to, which was my role at PSSI working at both the PSSI shop in Las Vegas and the UFC Apex running the Broadcasting Operations Center. Almost two years later I'm still in this role and it has proven to be a wonderful opportunity to grow, learn and succeed.

Please tell us a little bit about your daily work at PSSI. What happens at the UFC Apex Facility in terms of all the transmission pathways?

At the UFC Apex there is a lot of daily responsibility to stay on top of the engineering and transmission services. The project managers put in place all the bookings. My primary job is to execute those plans across many transmission pathways including IP, Fiber and satellite to deliver our feeds all over the world. Internet streaming has become essential in today's viewership across all industries, and we have a close working relationship with Endeavor Streaming to deliver their feeds into the PIT where the signals are ingested. We have fiber connectivity all over the world, which is very useful as the UFC puts on worldwide events and our signals need to have redundancy. In combination with IP and fiber connectivity, we use satellite on every job to deliver our primary signals to upwards of 70 takers that then get distributed to millions of viewers across the globe.

What are your favorite things about working in this industry?

A My favorite things about working in this industry is the ever-evolving technology we are using combined with tried-and-true methods of signal delivery while having a role in major events that millions of people are watching on a regular basis.



What are your favorite PSSI memories?

A One of my favorite PSSI memories is traveling to Abu Dhabi where we put on a Pay Per View event out of the UAE. It was nice to see a different culture of foods, people, and environment. I gained a different perspective of the world being able to see a new culture and way of living.

O If not this career, what?

A There's a strong chance I would've fallen into the movie/video game industry. I went to school at Springfield College for my Computer Graphics bachelor's degree where I focused on 3D animation and traditional art.

Q Please tell us a bit about your family.

A I come from a large, tight knit family that is based on traditional values and hard work. I was raised to show up on time, stay late when needed and over deliver on my tasks from an early age, which has led me to where I am at now in life.

What's something people might be surprised to learn about you?

A Something interesting about myself that may surprise others would be that I'm very interested in the world of economics and stock markets all over the world, not just the US based markets.